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GOP Reaction To Obama's State Of The Union

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In what can only be part of a larger diabolical plan, South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley's GOP rebuttal to the President's State of the Union address was widely accepted as "well done" by both Fox News' and CNN's anchors and analysts. Even CNN contributor Van Jones lauded Governor Haley's moments in the spotlight following the Tuesday night speech.

Despite the teleprompter being a bit high for comfortable eye contact and never actually challenging anything said in the President's address, she successfully delivered more passive-aggressive insults towards the GOP and Trump in her speech than the retired John Boehner has tears. Haley referenced democrats being partly to blame for what is going on in Washington, but

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then, in a move no one saw coming, she added, "We as Republicans need to own that truth. We need to recognize our contributions to the erosion of the public trust in America's leadership. We need to accept that we've played a role in how and why our government is broken."

In an obvious Trump burn, Haley mentioned that the loudest voice in the room isn't always the one to make a difference. She also remarked, "During anxious times, it can be tempting to follow the siren call of the angriest voices. We must resist that temptation."

Well, on a side note, while other hearts and minds were won by Haley, second-tier GOP Presidential hopeful Carly Fiorina wasn't impressed. "Look I don't speak for Nikki Haley and she doesn't speak for me. I think you're correct that it was the wrong note," Fiorina said after the rebuttal.

Fiorina also slammed the State of the Union address by the President, calling him a politician, "Not a leader." Having almost run Hewlett Packard into the ground, Ms. Fiorina is a leading expert in how to *not* be a leader. Apparently very little about Tuesday night impressed her, and we will certainly hear more about it in the not-ready-for-primetime debate with Santorum and Huckabee later this week. Sources say that Rand Paul will be memorialized with an empty chair at the kid table.

Speaking of empty chairs, there was an empty chair near the First Lady's viewing box during the State of the Union, left empty as an honor to those killed by gun violence. The GOP comments on the empty chair varied from Ted Cruz's promise to make the empty chair about abortion to McCain wanting an empty chair for the 250,000 Syrians who have died.

All things considered, perhaps more empty chairs in the right side of the isle is a fantastic idea.

No one was truly as present in a chair at the address as Paul Ryan. Ryan barely moved for the entirety of Mr. Obama's address. At the end, just as he was about to begrudgingly stand for the final applause, his face looked like a cross between Eddie Munster and someone getting bumped by Lady Gaga's elbow at the Golden Globes. He clearly either picked the comfortable chair or was distraught that the President didn't continue to speak for another 30 minutes.

Haley's official rebuttal didn't stop at her fellow party members. She was happily disingenuous towards all kinds of people but was largely given a pass by the Monday-morning-quarterback-pundits thanks to her preface: pointing out her own party's issues.

From typical failed GOP immigration views to the predictable defense of people's inalienable right to be bigots in the face of "modern families," she was sure to touch briefly on veiled insults for all (through subtext, of course) and *still* liberal news analysts commended her on her pre-written rebuttal. That exemplifies a smooth wordsmith talent of the highest degree.

A perfect, shining example of her subtle evil was evidenced in her stinging jab to struggling communities where protests and riots have broken out due to systemic racism. Something that was not even questioned immediately following her speech. Her state, following a racist attack on a church where nine people perished, she says, "was struck with shock, pain, and fear. But our people would not allow hate to win. We didn't have violence, we had vigils. We didn't have riots, we had hugs."

I see what you did there, Governor.

Well played.

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