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I WANT EVERYONE TO KNOW WHO I AM, WHICH IS WHY I AM HERE TODAY. I MAKE MY OWN DECISIONS AND I AM NOT ANYONE'S PUPPET. I REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT IT BEFORE I DECIDED TO SPEAK OUT. NOBODY MADE ME DO IT. MEG WHITMAN WAS WRONG WHEN SHE SAID THAT SOMEONE PUT A GUN TO MY HEAD. NOBODY DID. I SPOKE OUT BECAUSE I WANTED PEOPLE TO KNOW WHO MEG WHITMAN REALLY IS AND I AM GLAD THAT I DID SPEAK OUT.

I WANT TO BE HEARD. I WANT PERSONS WHO CLEAN HOMES AND DO THE JOBS THAT OTHER PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO DO TO BE TREATED WITH RESPECT AND WITH DIGNITY. I FEEL THAT WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PAID FOR ALL THE WORK THAT WE DO.

HOUSEKEEPERS ARE HUMAN BEINGS TOO. WE LAUGH, WE CRY, WE HAVE FEELINGS. OUR BLOOD RUNS THROUGH OUR VEINS JUST LIKE IT DOES FOR ANYONE ELSE. I AM NOT DOING THIS ONLY FOR ME, BUT ALSO FOR ALL PERSONS WHO ARE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF BY THEIR EMPLOYERS.

I KNEW THE RISKS OF SPEAKING OUT AND I WAS AFRAID FOR THE SAFETY OF MY FAMILY. DESPITE MY FEAR, I DECIDED TO COME OUT FROM THE SHADOWS -- THE SHADOWS IN WHICH MILLIONS OF PEOPLE LIVE EVERYDAY. IT IS NOT FAIR THAT WE WORK HARD AND THEN GET THROWN AWAY LIKE GARBAGE WITH NO THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO US.

WE HAVE FAMILIES TO SUPPORT JUST LIKE YOU DO. WE ARE HERE, WE NEED YOU -- JUST LIKE YOU NEED US.

MEG, DON'T SAY I WAS PART OF YOUR FAMILY BECAUSE YOU NEVER TREATED ME LIKE I WAS.

NICANDRA DIAZ SANTILLAN

Represented by Gloria Allred

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