



Imagine...a more peaceful world that respects difference.
We are committed to making that vision a reality.

PRESS RELEASE

FEBRUARY 4, 2016

For Immediate Release

Contact: Nicole Margaretten, Communications Manager, Tanenbaum, nmargaretten@tanenbaum.org, 212-967-7707 x132

Laura Kandle, Executive Office Coordinator, Tanenbaum, lkandle@tanenbaum.org, 212-967-7707 x131
Tanenbaum CEO, Joyce Dubensky is available to speak with the press.

President Obama's Condemnation of Islamophobia is Admirable - and Overdue

New York, NY, February 4, 2016: Yesterday President Obama addressed thousands of American-Muslims at the Islamic Society of Baltimore during his first visit to a mosque in the United to condemn anti-Muslim rhetoric.

“We applaud President Obama for his important demonstration of solidarity with the Muslim community – yet we also believe his speech is long overdue,” said Tanenbaum | Center for Interreligious Understanding CEO Joyce Dubensky. “In this climate of increasing religious bias and discrimination, he has taken an important step forward in demonstrating how respect can be put into practice, as modeled by our First Amendment.”

Tanenbaum said that as citizens, we should encourage our political leaders to unify divisions within Americans, including religious differences. Regarding the upcoming political election, Dubensky stated, “Regardless of political affiliation, it’s the responsibility of our next president to take an early stance against the stereotypes, hate and alienation that result when people think that terrorism and Islam are synonymous.”

Tanenbaum offers a range of educational curricula and other materials including its Combating Extremism resources, which help teachers and individuals address extremism constructively in classrooms and communities.

Tanenbaum is a secular, non-sectarian nonprofit that systematically dismantles religious violence and hatred through Peacemakers in armed conflicts and by tackling religious bullying of students, harassment in workplaces and disparate health treatment for people based on their beliefs. More information about Tanenbaum’s offerings can be found here: <https://tanenbaum.org/>

###