



October 13, 2016

Mr. Chris Wallace
Fox News Channel
1211 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036

Dear Chris,

I am writing you today on behalf of the 65 million users who turn to Common Sense for trusted information and resources on everything related to their kids. I am also a father of four, including a 12-year-old, with whom I have watched the last two presidential debates.

This campaign is unlike anything we've ever seen, and it is having an impact on kids and families. At Common Sense, we are constantly hearing from parents who are at a loss for how to talk to their kids about what they are seeing and hearing related to the election. In the hours prior to the second debate, Common Sense was bombarded with questions from concerned parents about whether or not they should let their kids watch. Many parents have decided not to allow their kids to watch the debates at all.

That's not OK. Debates provide families with teachable moments about our democracy, from how the candidates differ on issues to why it is important to vote.

During the October 9 debate in St. Louis, the insults, the interruptions, and much of the rhetoric set a poor example for our kids. They were exposed to inappropriate topics, including references to sex tapes, rape, and rating women from 1 to 10 based on their appearance. This came after the first question of this debate from audience member Patrice Brock, which was, "The last debate could have been rated as MA, mature audiences, per TV parental guidelines ... Do you feel you're modeling appropriate and positive behavior for today's youth?" Parents are asking for a change; they need our help to make it happen.

As moderator, you have a unique opportunity to get the conversation back on track. We are asking for one simple thing from you and the candidates: **Remember that kids are watching and act appropriately.**

Why not make a statement at the start of the program that kids and families are watching and that the candidates' comments should reflect that? If a candidate makes inappropriate remarks for an audience that includes kids, why not ask them to stop? Kids may not have a vote, but they have the greatest stake in the election's outcome. Parents shouldn't be worried that a presidential debate could be rated inappropriate for kids under 17.

Chris, please make kids a priority as you decide how the discussion with—and between—the candidates will go. And please hold the candidates accountable for their language and tone throughout the entire debate. Do it for America's children, America's future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Steyer". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

James P. Steyer
CEO and Founder, Common Sense Media