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Dear Editor:

As an independent business woman, white single parent of four children ages 8 - 18 and a life long resident of Louisiana, the results of the upcoming elections have more than a passing interest to me. I have always considered myself part of the silent majority - I can hold my tongue no longer. After watching the '91 political debate on TV Saturday night, it became crystal clear that Louisiana is at a crossroads and the silent majority must speak out now, as well as on election day.

I saw Edwin Edwards, a man I never met or even voted for in the past, as a man who was realistically addressing the momental problems that face this state, a man who was not telling the voters what they wanted to hear but - the truth - what they needed to hear and then how he proposed to lead Louisiana through the very tough times we face, as a man that has the leadership abilities and commitment to overcome the economic struggles of the next four years by bringing diverse groups together to jointly work out our problems and not isolate Louisiana from the rest of our great nation.

I saw David Duke, a man I never met or even voted for, as a man who was exploiting the people's emotions by telling them what they wanted to hear - that he was their "Almighty Savior" he did this by pitting race against race, religion against religion, labor against business, men against women and Louisiana against the nation, all without offering any colution to the problems our state faces. America, including Louisiana, laughed at Archie Bunker's antics, though Archie was never a neo-nazi, David Duke has perfected the character of Archie Bunker to the extreme - Why are we not laughing? It is time that the people of Louisiana saw Duke for what he truly is - a danger to our great state - an isolationist, someone who cannot work through the legislative process, an ineffective leader in our democratic society.

Being a single parent, many of my friends urged me not to publicly speak out against David Duke for fear that some extremist in his organization would harass my household but I feel now is the time I must speak out, now is when it counts - before election day. After the debate on Channel 2, 10:00 o'clock news, an LSU political science professor and former teacher of David Duke, was interviewed. He stated that while attending LSU Duke was fascinated and then became expert on Adolph Hitler and the Third Reich. I hope and pray David Duke is not using this knowledge to manipulate the people of Louisiana, by exploiting their fears and anxieties, into allowing him the ultimate position of power in our state, the office of Governor, to isolate Louisiana from the rest of our nation in order for him to form his own "Fourth Reich".

