

Rocky Anderson Has Been a Consistent, Fierce Fighter for Women’s Rights

Reject the tactics of those who would misrepresent who he is and what he has consistently stood for

Rocky Anderson’s proud record of fighting for women and women’s rights. Few people in Utah (including Salt Lake City’s current Mayor) have spoken up as often and as compellingly as Rocky to challenge misogyny wherever it raises its ugly head—and to advocate for women’s rights and their best interests.

Rocky has always deeply believed in and advocated for equality—and equity—for women. He has fought fiercely for women’s rights in many ways, including his:

Rocky’s Letter to the Editor in *The Salt Lake Tribune*, September 25, 2018

Without ever meeting or hearing the account of Christine Blasey Ford, who has charged Brett Kavanaugh with sexual assault and attempted rape, Utah’s Sen. Orrin Hatch says she must be “mixed up” and that Kavanaugh is a “good man.” Such casual, factually baseless disregard for a woman who very credibly claims she was sexually assaulted is, itself, appalling misconduct.

Kavanaugh might be a better man now, but if he engaged in a sexual assault at any time in his life, he should be disqualified from serving on our nation’s highest court.

The message should be sent, loudly and clearly, particularly to young men, that those who engage in sexual assaults will face serious ramifications for the rest of their lives.

Hatch and all other members of the Senate should demand full accountability rather than provide excuses for perpetrators and seek to discredit those with the courage to expose their abusers.

Rocky Anderson, Salt Lake City

- continued vigorous advocacy for the Equal Rights Amendment,ⁱ
- hundreds of hours of service on the Board of Planned Parenthood Association of Utah (“PPAU”),
- free legal services for PPAU (including successfully suing to obtain a certificate of occupancy for a PPAU clinic in a municipality that refused to issue a certificate because of its opposition to the provision of contraceptive services),
- successful pro bono representation in a class action suit challenging abusive searches of women at the Salt Lake County Jail,
- service as a member and President of the Board of the Utah A.C.L.U. (which

handled many cases involving women’s rights),

- consistent advocacy for reproductive rights and women’s health (see his most recent op-ed regarding the cruelty of Utah’s anti-abortion legislation at

<https://www.sltrib.com/opinion/commentary/2022/11/04/linn-goldberg-rocky-anderson/>),

- often-free representation of incarcerated women who have been abused by jail or prison staff,ⁱⁱ
- pro bono representation of friends and family members of women whose murders went unsolved for over 12 years by the SLCPD, leading to two trials and one conviction for homicide,ⁱⁱⁱ and
- representation of women who have been sexually abused.^{iv}

"I felt like I couldn't get help anywhere until I met Rocky Anderson," Gallegos said.

Marianne Funk, "Families of 3 Slain Women Want Crimes Solved at Last," *The Salt Lake Tribune*, August 25, 1994

"It wouldn't have happened without Rocky. He had the pull," English said. "It was him saying, 'Come on. We can't let this die out.'"

Kristi Albertson, "Answered prayer: 21 years after her daughter was murdered, Martin City mother learns that a suspect has been arrested," *Daily Inter Lake*, January 29, 2007

Rocky has, for decades, consistently and tenaciously fought for the interests of women and has been a loyal ally.

Rocky consistently and powerfully speaks up to challenge misogyny. He has been so disgusted with the misogyny of Donald Trump that he produced two videos to raise awareness about Trump's vile treatment of women, broadly circulating the videos before the last presidential election. See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TVIDGoTDX-U> (short version) and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n8dWO75-UBU> (long version).

Rocky wrote an op-ed, published in *The Salt Lake Tribune*, about Trump's depraved views and treatment of women, and the tolerance of his blatant misogyny by so many Utah politicians and voters. <https://archive.sltrib.com/article.php?id=4452260&itype=CMSID>. He also publicly commented regarding the hypocritical support of Trump, who is universally known as being vile and hateful toward women. <https://www.sltrib.com/opinion/letters/2022/10/30/letter-bright-wrongheaded-mike/>

Personal attacks as a diversion from what really matters in this campaign. As politicians and their supporters will too often do when an esteemed and proven contender enters the race, some of Mayor Erin Mendenhall's supporters have turned to vicious, deceitful personal attacks and negative campaigning as diversions from addressing Mendenhall's ineffective leadership in Salt Lake City.

“Old white man.” When the news media initially reported that Rocky had decided to run for Salt Lake City Mayor (an office he held with distinction from 2000-2008), he was attacked by some on social media as being “an old white man.” Ageism, racism, and sexism in three words—from people who obviously aren’t familiar with, or who want to mislead others about, Rocky’s excellent health, fitness, remarkable capacity for working hard and solving tough problems, or his lengthy, on-going extraordinary record of achievement. It is nothing more than an attempt to avoid any substantive evaluation of the candidates’ relative achievements and qualifications, and a consideration of how Rocky, as Mayor, will vastly improve the quality of life in Salt Lake City.

Misogynist. More surprisingly, Rocky was called a “misogynist” in social media by one of Mendenhall’s friends because Rocky had stated that Mayor Mendenhall has failed our city and that we need proven, effective leadership to solve our serious problems.^v

Rocky’s statement addressed the absence of effective leadership in dealing with unprecedented serious problems facing our residents, our unsheltered population, and our businesses every day. The claim of misogyny was yet another baseless diversion. It also betrayed a double standard because, when she was running for Mayor, Erin Mendenhall leveled the same theme of criticism at then-Mayor Biskupski^{vi}—yet, of course, she was not accused of “misogyny.”

The dirty campaigning has already begun—even before Rocky has formally announced his candidacy. Disappointingly, a whisper campaign, far too typical in Utah politics, appears to have already started.

This should be addressed head-on, *now*—and then everyone who truly cares about the future of Salt Lake City can focus on a campaign that addresses the issues voters most care about. The false accusations, described below, are a distraction from addressing the severe problems facing every person in our city.

This campaign should be primarily about how we can solve our city’s rapidly increasing violent crime, homelessness, drugs, untreated mental illness, filth, deterioration of the environment, destruction of open spaces, poor policing practices, fiscal irresponsibility, and lack of affordable housing. The personal attacks must be answered—and they must cease.

Two former employees. One of the misleading stories being circulated involves the unfounded claims of two people who worked in Rocky’s law office, and whose employment was terminated, Vanessa (a lawyer) and Karen (an office manager and legal-assistant-in-training). Only after they were terminated, these individuals

asserted in a newspaper article that Rocky engaged in “sex discrimination” because he treated an extraordinarily competent and reliable law clerk (a man) differently than he treated an unreliable lawyer (Vanessa), who was ultimately terminated because of the poor quality of her work. After each of them were terminated, in addition to claiming bias, they also claimed, *for the first time*, that they were “uncomfortable” in certain circumstances (e.g., being invited to lunch with Rocky and other staff, waiting for Rocky’s furnace repairman, and working late on occasion)—even though, as they admit, Rocky never engaged in any inappropriate behavior.

The claims of these two women, and *some* of the countervailing evidence, were covered in an article in *The Salt Lake Tribune*.^{vii} (Much of the information and evidence conflicting with the claims was left out of the article, as Rocky described in an op-ed piece he submitted, which the *Tribune* did not publish.^{viii})

There were dozens of published public comments about the article, almost all of which were extremely critical of the *Tribune’s* coverage and/or the lack of substance of the complaints by the two former employees.^{ix} Readers recognized the truth of the situation. In short, there was no impropriety on Rocky’s part. **Gender was never a factor.** The employees were treated fairly and were terminated solely because of job-related matters.

The dishonest representation of a private comment by Rocky about his personal views concerning parenting. Rocky discussed with a good friend, Ted Wilson, his personal views about parenting and the importance of *both parents* spending a lot of time with young children. He was speaking not about “mothers,” as has been misrepresented by Jenny Wilson and her stepmother. Rather, he spoke about “*parents*”—mothers *and* fathers. That conversation was twisted and presented as something very different, to falsely cast Rocky as a sexist who doesn’t think “mothers” of young children should run for public office. That accusation flies in the face of many years of Rocky’s words and actions in the public eye. (This matter is described in an op-ed piece published by *The Salt Lake Tribune* on September 9, 2007, which can be accessed here: https://archive.sltrib.com/story.php?ref=/opinion/ci_6838466.)

Summary

Rocky Anderson has a decades-long record of fighting *against* misogyny and *for* the rights and interests of women. He has a history of working with and for individuals in Salt Lake City of different genders, races, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, religions, ideologies, beliefs, and values. Rocky has spent his adult life and career fighting for those who need an effective, committed advocate, and he

advocates for those who have been most marginalized and oppressed in our community and our world.

The high expectations Rocky has maintained for those working under him have always been set, applied, and enforced equally, without regard to gender.

Now that these matters have been addressed, Mayor Mendenhall and her supporters should refrain from misleading personal attacks. Mayor Mendenhall, Rocky, and any other candidates should focus during their campaigns on their records of achievement, their relative capacities to provide desperately needed leadership to Salt Lake City, and the matters that are of most serious concern to the people of our once-great city: crime, safety, drugs, mental illness, filth, environmental threats, transportation, policing, fiscal responsibility, homelessness, and affordable housing—all matters that significantly impact the quality of life in our community, which has deteriorated tremendously during the past few years.

ⁱ See Rocky’s powerful argument for the ERA in the video here: <https://youtu.be/M9SrR1MGgyc>. Rocky has also argued for the protection against discrimination on account of sexual orientation, which would protect marriage equality, in a slightly revised Equal Rights Amendment. See <https://rockyanderson.org/campaigns/2012-president/misc-archives/a-new-equal-rights-amendment/>.

ⁱⁱ See, e.g., Taylor W. Anderson, “‘I’ll bet it feels like you’re going to die, doesn’t it?’ Salt Lake County jailers thought inmate was withdrawing from heroin before her 2016 death, family says,” *The Salt Lake Tribune*, March 22, 2018 (found at <https://www.sltrib.com/news/politics/2018/03/23/ill-bet-it-feels-like-youre-going-to-die-doesnt-it-salt-lake-county-jailers-thought-inmate-was-withdrawing-from-heroin-before-her-2016-death-family-says/>); Jessica Miller, “Salt Lake County pays \$950K to settle jail death lawsuit—but inmate’s parents say their fight isn’t over,” *The Salt Lake Tribune*, March 17, 2020 (found at <https://www.sltrib.com/news/2020/03/17/salt-lake-county-pays-k/>).

ⁱⁱⁱ See <https://www.deseret.com/1994/8/25/19127208/families-of-3-slain-women-want-crimes-solved-at-last>; https://archive.sltrib.com/story.php?ref=/news/ci_5006744; <https://dailyinterlake.com/news/2007/jan/29/answered-prayer-21-years-after-her-daughter-6/>.

^{iv} See, e.g., Joanna Walters, “Murder trial witness on alleged 1981 rape by prosecutor: ‘He derailed my life’,” *The Guardian*, March 27, 2016; Kaz Weida, “How Utah’s AG

Office Failed a Rape Survivor—Twice,” rant.com, May 5, 2017 (found at <https://rantt.com/rantt-exclusive-how-utahs-ag-office-failed-a-rape-survivor-twice>).

^v *The Salt Lake Tribune* reported as follows:

“I just think she’s in the wrong job. She has failed this community horribly,” Anderson said during a phone interview on Thursday.

. . . .He says he is launching another bid because he feels he has no other choice.

. . . . In short, he is appalled by the city’s response, or lack thereof, to homelessness, which is ruining the quality of life in the city.

“There’s been an utter lack of the willingness to do the work it takes to make this a safe, clean and decent place to live that we’re all proud of. There are human feces and urine all over the city. You go in the Ballpark District, and it smells like a human sewer,” Anderson said.

. . . . A recent survey included Salt Lake City among the most dangerous cities in the U.S. for 2022, with a 26% year-over-year increase in violent crime.

Bryan Schott, “Rocky 3? Anderson says he is running for Salt Lake City mayor again in 2023 – Anderson says current Mayor Erin Mendenhall has ‘totally failed’ to combat the city’s homelessness problem,” *The Salt Lake Tribune*, August 4, 2022 (found at <https://www.sltrib.com/news/politics/2022/08/04/rocky-3-anderson-says-hes/>).

^{vi} *The Salt Lake Tribune* reported on Erin Mendenhall’s statements about Mayor Biskupski as follows:

“In a news release sent out on Tuesday, Mendenhall called Biskupski a ‘failed mayor’ . . . ‘Salt Lake City deserves better leadership, and not just on the Inland Port,’ she [Mendenhall] said. ‘Look at our broken roads. Look at our unsustainable housing market. Look at our air quality. We deserve a mayor who has the expertise to make the city government work for the people, who has the energy to do the hard work, and the experience to work with the community, not against it.’”

Taylor Stevens, “Calling for ‘better council members,’ Biskupski delivers blistering criticism of Salt Lake City Council over inland port,” *The Salt Lake Tribune*, June 18, 2019 (found at <https://www.sltrib.com/news/politics/2019/06/18/salt-lake-city-mayor/>).

vii <https://www.sltrib.com/news/politics/2018/06/16/a-job-at-former-salt-lake-city-mayor-rocky-andersons-law-office-seemed-like-a-dream-but-two-women-say-it-was-a-sexist-nightmare/>

viii The op-ed piece Rocky drafted, which was rejected for publication by the *Salt Lake Tribune*, reads, in part, as follows:

A principal theme of media courses I taught at the University of Utah was the duty of journalists to ferret out and report the truth. The Society of Professional Journalists Ethics Code states: “Seek Truth and Report It. Ethical journalism should be accurate and fair. Journalists should be honest and courageous in gathering, reporting and interpreting information.”

It is not sufficient to engage in stenography journalism by simply quoting different people on different sides and leaving the reader adrift in trying to ascertain the truth.

* * *

On June 17, the *Tribune* ran an extremely long front-page story, with salacious headlines. The article gave vent to two former disgruntled employees of my law office, both of whom were angry when I fired them. The article repeated the women’s empty claims of gender discrimination.

But where was the evidence?

The documentable fact, which the reporter knew, was that the associate lawyer was terminated because of the extremely poor quality of her work product. The reporter was provided a lengthy written description and examples detailing many serious problems with her work. Her work product was the only reason she was treated differently from the male law clerk, whose work has been consistently stellar. Nothing in my dealings with any employees related to gender differences.

The reporter knew the legal assistant I fired had sabotaged our computer on her last day of employment, changing passwords and refusing to provide them to us. That wasn't reported.

One of the former employees falsely claimed I "screamed and yelled" at her. A law clerk was an eye-witness and he told the reporter that he was present, within a few feet of me and the former employee, and I did not scream or yell at anyone. (I didn't.) That wasn't reported.

We also informed the reporter that the two employees, neither of whom had experience in a law office, received higher beginning salaries than others preceding them (including two male associates) in the same positions. That would be of significance for readers to know when the former employees were claiming "discrimination," but it wasn't reported.

Why was all that relevant information omitted from the article? It obviously didn't fit the click-baiting, sensational narrative desired by the reporter or his editors.

None of what was reported was a result of gender discrimination. It was about competence, work ethic, reliability, and trustworthiness.

^{ix} Among the public comments were the following:

Lyndsie Orgill •

I have worked with Rocky, professionally, for almost 20 years. I have found him to be respectful, engaging and driven. He has spent years working with High Road for Human Rights. He is passionate about climate change and I have witnessed his compassion with the homeless downtown. He is a champion for women's rights. He does not make inappropriate or degrading comments about women.

In the dozen visits I had with the staff, in the office and socially, I saw harmony in a group of people that believe in what Rocky has fought for his whole career.

The artwork mentioned in this article is a poster from 1973 by Primo Angeli from the Kronhausen Collection.

laytonian > Lyndsie Orgill •

The only fault I see in Rocky is that he hired an incompetent woman who had to look up the word "subpoena" and who'd apparently been raised in a closet.

MelloVox •

Discrimination now includes not getting a raise you feel you deserve ? Maybe the internet can help you boycott and shame his firm until he settles with you.

Again513 •

So he's a jerk. Okay. Most of the reason the law doesn't apply to small businesses is that lots and lots and lots of bosses are jerks. That's why they start their own business, so they don't have to work with others. So they worked for him for 3 whole months, and got fired? From waitress to office manager, but not paid enough? Not getting a bonus from a year she didn't even work there during? Yeah, the picture of those women speaks volumes about their goals here. It's not illegal to be a jerk, but it will get you a lot of staff turnover.

Walter Mason • a month ago

I have known Rocky since 2012 and have worked with him for most of the time since then. Rocky is passionate and intense. That shouldn't be a surprise to anyone who has lived in Utah in the last twenty years. His dedication to serving the community is beyond dispute, and he doesn't pick easy fights. The challenges Rocky has taken on have required outstanding commitment and resolve. Rocky pushes himself harder than anyone I know. That is the biggest reason for his many wins for this community.

Understandably, to keep up with him in the workplace requires pushing yourself really hard, too. That isn't for everyone. That's ok. Everyone gets to decide their own work ethic. You choose your level of commitment. You choose when to call it a day. You choose when to say "that's good enough." When you're working in a small team and there is a big mismatch in commitment, that's going to lead to conflict. That's ok, too. What's not ok is using that conflict to justify fabricating a story that you're the victim of sexual harassment or discrimination.

Karen and Vanessa say that I was treated differently than they were. That's true. They were fired for cause. I have kept my job. I have also been given more and more responsibility and was paid a bonus before either of them were hired. None of that has anything to do with gender. Karen and Vanessa say Rocky responded to their mistakes differently than he responded to my mistakes—as if the only thing different was that they were female and I was male. That's not it. The mistakes were different. Our work product was different. Our attitudes are different. If they filed an official complaint, the investigation would show that Rocky treated male employees just the same as he treated female employees.

Discrimination, based on gender or otherwise, is an insidious problem that requires all of us to be vigilant. But we have to be focused on the facts, and not drawn into vicious fictions.

Scotsman Hosie > ComTheo • a month ago

Works for me. Especially if the complaints are basically groundless. And by groundless, I mean the apparent overarching 'reach' of the Me Too mentality, that would, itself, break down the more formal employer-employee relationship.

It's apparent these two let their shared gossip, as well as their collective imaginations, get *waaaay* out of hand. Possibly *balked* at being corrected - which will generally lend itself to increased ire from a boss - and who's dedication to office politics apparently overrode any commitment they may have had, towards doing their jobs well

Unless she has political ambitions - in this *pretty anal retentive state* - I'm a bit surprised at Ms Walsh's discomfort, at being made part of a photograph "she didn't want out there." But to try and frame it (no pun intended) as *any kind of harassment* is, in my opinion, unconscionably ridiculous.

Again513 > ComTheo • a month ago

Rocky is well known for being both driven and difficult. Successful small business owners usually are. It makes them very difficult to work for. It's impossible for businesses this small to function without people who simply work well together. It's not about gender or discrimination. It's individuals who have incompatible styles. A waitress and an older woman in a new career appear to have expectations more suited to larger corporations where their personal lives and personalities are not integrated with their work. The boss asking you to meet his furnace man is not sexual harassment. If you don't want to work with him on that kind of personal level, don't. 3 months is a pretty standard trial period. It either works or it doesn't at that point. In a small office, you don't have another department to try. You just part ways.

Sheryl Ehrke Ivey • a month ago

My working relationship with Rocky began as a near full-time volunteer on his 1996 Congressional campaign. Campaigns are by nature, pressure-cookers, bringing out the best and worst of candidates, staff and volunteers. They draw from society the brilliant, committed, passionate, political, opinionated and thoroughly nuttiest among us. Though losing that campaign, I among dozens of others were left with a profound respect for our candidate. Respect for his passion, his work ethic, his honesty, his humor, his kindness, his decency and love of his community.

In 2002 Rocky requested that I manage his Salt Lake City Mayoral re election campaign Fully aware of Rocky's work ethic and long hours, I consulted with my family prior to accepting his offer. I explained that I would, in essence, be MIA for the next 18 months. Thus began one of the most rewarding, exciting, exhausting jobs of my life.

Never, and I repeat, never have I witnessed harassment or sexism in his treatment of staff or volunteer. Rocky is above all, a fair and generous boss. Criticism and praise are doled in equal measure.

Being new to running a political campaign, I erred more times than I can count. I'll repeat myself, Rocky is passionate.

Passionate about all things environmental, the under- represented, the law, injustice. He's "expressive", at times maybe more so than comfortable for some, but to the point of harassment, NEVER. Working 70-90 hours a week with Rocky, I quickly learned that while mistakes were made, taking ownership of those mistakes was paramount. Ownership and the honest desire to correct the problem brought a quick and full pardon from my boss. Those that failed to own their mistakes or blamed other sources do not earn his respect, nor should they. A valuable lesson that served me well through my working years before retirement.

The same can be said for his expectation of long work hours. Rocky is a workhorse. Other than his son, his life revolves around his work. It is true that his passion for the office may not shared by everyone on his staff. In working for Rocky you expect long hours, but never did he deny me the time I needed for family or recreation. And while we're on the subject of "office", Rocky's home has ALWAYS been an extension of his office. Recalling those early days of 1996 all staff and volunteers had multiple opportunities to visit his home for meals, meetings, recovery of additional materials or documents. Some were escorted by Rocky and more sent on a work-driven errand. I've known him to frequently offer his home as refuge to friends, staff and volunteers. An open-door policy of which unknown numbers have found comfort, food and friendship.

Lastly, as a woman of a certain age, I can attest to a 50-year working career of gender discrimination and harassment. I don't know a woman my age who cannot. I NEVER felt or witnessed this in two plus decades of knowing and working with Rocky. He's a tough and demanding boss. But I left his employ having learned valuable lessons, and with far more self-respect, pride and self- confidence than I had prior to my employ with him. And that, my friends, means and says a lot!

Again513 > chantelcooke • a month ago

So the Tribune removed the woman's own statement that she had to hang out in a coffeeshop for hours and call her unemployed boyfriend to ask if she could quit? That's not a "correction". That's altering the story to fit the agenda.

OneLove > chancelcooke • a month ago

It appears to me, that the article mentions and questions whether Walter was treated differently than the women because of his sex.

My point is, that based on my many interactions with Rocky's law firm, Walter is always there with Rocky, long after everyone has gone home, doing quality work. If he got a bonus, I guarantee he earned it.

I have seen Walter and Rocky at work during incredibly stressful times for my case. I know Rocky's high expectations of those who work with him can be intense and challenging. I have witnessed it. But I didn't witness a difference based on the gender of his employees.

Sam S > OneLove • 24 days ago

I also posted something in support of Rocky and it is no longer on here. Truly a shame that this article made front page news. There was nothing in it that backed sexist behaviors. Can we please get news worthy of front page headlines??

Moksha > Moksha • a month ago

BTW, did the reporter fail to mention anything about one of the employees sabotaging the office computer system by changing the password as a parting post-employment gift? That would seem to be a vital piece of information for the readers to know.

chancelcooke > Moksha • a month ago

How do you know this?

Moksha > chancelcooke • a month ago

It showed up in a DISQUS email notice. It seemed like a bit of an oversight of the Tribune reporter not to mention it.

Sam S •

Have known Rocky for over 25 years and worked w/ Walter for 2 years. These accusations can't be further from the truth. So frustrating that individuals can lie like this and actually make front page news. Also a few questions to ask these x-employees: if he was so sexist & so awful why were u still working there? Also, what boss gives a raise after just 2-3 months? He never did anything yet u felt

uncomfortable? Hhmmmmmm...this article is simply another case of two disgruntled employees that were unhappy because they got terminated for legitimate reasons. Working w/ Walter for 2 years was a great experience for me. He was one of the most hard working and most importantly, respectful individuals I have ever been around. I hope that people don't take this article seriously because there is simply no truth to it at all

my_dog_ma • a month ago

What a thin, shameless attempt at click bait. Not liking the new Tribune. When an office squabble becomes front page news, you best come to the table with more than "he called a former employee Blue Hair" or complain that you didn't get a raise after 3 months. I think cases like these make a mockery of women who have truly suffered discrimination -- do these women even know what that is? it doesn't seem like it -- and makes genuine cases more difficult to pursue. Both admit to making mistakes in their work, for which they were rightly berated, and for not being willing to work as hard as they were asked to.

Being asked to do something you are not willing to do, like being dedicated to details, being reliable, committing to a ton of hours, performing tasks you don't want to do (refusing to create an invitation?! as mentioned in the article) is not "hostile" or "discriminatory" -- it's a work place culture you can either accept or not. And frankly, a lawyer (Walsh) should know better. But this article paints them both as whiny slackers, looking for a scape goat.

James Lewis •

This is outrageous -- there is no story here. This is about 2 employees, who happen to be female, who were terminated because they did not meet the expectations placed on them. Just like many employers who have high standards, Rocky has high expectations of his employees -- that is it -- he doesn't treat women who work for him any differently than men. Even a cursory reading of the story makes it evident that there was no sexism involved here -- OMG, did he really take these women to lunch, just like he took his male associate to lunch, and did he really meet them at his home where nothing occurred even by their own description? Where in the hell is the story here? I have known this guy for 40 years, and he has done more good things for this community than anyone I know. He demands a hell of a lot of himself and expects much of his employees, but he has never treated women differently than men, Any suggestion otherwise is just false. I thought I would be the last person to use Trump's favorite expression, but this is truly "FAKE NEWS" -- the Tribune really needs to work harder to find real stories to report instead of this unfair attack on a guy who busts his butt every day to help this community.