

## Case #9:

REALTOR® A was a registered member of Political Party Y and routinely engaged in political discussions on social media and in private conversations. REALTOR® A's conversations and social media posts often included insulting, intimidating, and hostile statements about members of Political Party Z, including aggressively insulting their intelligence, implying they were unpatriotic, and telling them that if they disagreed with him, they should leave the country.

REALTOR® B witnessed numerous instances where REALTOR® A harassed others on the basis of their membership in Political Party Z, and believed that REALTOR® A was using harassing speech. He filed an ethics complaint with the local Association of REALTORS®, alleging REALTOR® A violated Article 10 as interpreted by Standard of Practice 10-5.

- 1. How do you think the Grievance Committee ruled on this complaint? Is there a possible violation of Article 10 or not? Explain your answer:**

---

## Case Study #9 ANSWER:

- The complaint was reviewed by the Association's Grievance Committee, who examined the allegations to determine whether, if taken as true, they would constitute a violation of the Code of Ethics. Ultimately the Grievance Committee dismissed the complaint, as the complainant's sole argument was that REALTOR® A had discriminated against individuals based on their political affiliation with Political Party Z. As political affiliation is not a protected class under Article 10, the allegations in the complaint, even if true, could not constitute a violation of the Code of Ethics.