

# Herman Cain Announcement: Full Text of His Speech

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By [MAGGIE ASTOR](#): Subscribe to Maggie's [RSS feed](#)  
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Herman Cain, whose presidential campaign topped the polls in October only to crash in the face of allegations that he had a 13-year affair and sexually harassed several women in the 1990s, [announced on Saturday](#) that he would withdraw from the race.



(Photo: Reuters) Several Republican presidential candidates have weighed in on whether Herman Cain should stay in the race following allegations of a 13-year affair.

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Below is his announcement, made before several hundred supporters in Atlanta. A small portion of the beginning of his speech is missing.

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"Cain supporters are not warm-weather supporters. ... I can't thank all of you enough for what you've done, how far we have come, the things that we have done, and the things that we have been able to achieve.

The politicians in Washington, D.C., wouldn't do their job. That's why I chose to run. They have failed to provide economic growth. They have failed to get spending under control. They have failed to make us less dependent on foreign oil. These are some of the reasons that inspired me to run for president.

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And if you look at the last 40 years, we've seen that same kind of failure. It's just that the mess has gotten bigger. You were frustrated. I was frustrated. Millions of other people were frustrated, and it was out of that frustration that I made the decision to run, because the people in Washington, D.C., are either playing the blame game or pointing fingers or throwing crumbs to the American people rather than [proposing] bold solutions to fix the problems. America deserves more than that.

I thank you, and I am honored

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Proving this, that we could do this, was one of the greatest things, one of the greatest gifts that you and I could give to this country. I've often said one of America's greatest strengths is its ability to change, and we have created some significant change on this journey so far. I am proof of that and you are proof of that -- because I am proof that a common man could lead this nation; because I consider myself one of you, not one of them political elites. I'm one of you.

Our nation is tired of hearing the politicians blame each other. It's time for solutions. But as false accusations about me continue, they have sidetracked and distracted my ability to present solutions to the American people. Now, I have made mistakes in life. Everybody has. I've made mistakes professionally, personally, as a candidate in terms of how I run my campaign, and I take responsibility for the mistakes that I have made, and I have been the very first to own up to any mistakes that I've made. I handled it my way because that's the type of person that I am.

But because of these false and unproved accusations, it has paid and had a tremendous, painful price on my family. These false and unproved allegations continue to be spun in the media and in the court of public opinion so as to create a cloud of doubt over me and this campaign and my family. That spin hurts. It hurts my wife, it hurts my family, it hurts me and it hurts the American people because you are being denied solutions to our problems.

Here's why it hurts. Because my wife, my family and I -- we know that those false and unproved allegations are not true! ... I am at peace with my God. I am at peace with my wife. And she is at peace with me. And I am at peace with my family, and I am at peace with myself. This is one of the most important things.

Now, that being said, becoming president was Plan A. Before you get discouraged, today I want to describe Plan B. So as of today, with a lot of prayer and soul-searching, I am suspending my presidential campaign. I am suspending my presidential campaign because of the continued distractions, the continued hurt caused on me and my family -- not because we are not fighters; not because I am not a fighter. It's just that when I went through this reassessment of the impact on my

by the deep support of so many people across this country, because it expresses the frustration of so many people across this country.

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I didn't fit the usual description of somebody that ought to be running for president. I had never held public office before. I didn't have high name ID -- right now, my name ID is probably 99.9 -- and I didn't have a trillion dollars. But the force of the people is more powerful than the force of the media! Secondly, we have learned that message is more powerful than money.

And, you know, we proved something else. You see, I grew up in a world of segregated water fountains. ... We showed that you didn't have to have a degree from Harvard in order to run for president. We showed that you didn't have to have a political pedigree to run for president. And one of the biggest things that we have shown is that we the people are still in charge of this country.

And so today, we are one month away from the Iowa caucuses. With over 300 million Americans in our nation, we stand here, I stand here, because of you. And if you look at the top three Republican candidates right now, and you consider the president in the [White House](#), we can say I'm in the final four. We're in the final four! And when you think of where I came from ... and now to be in the final four for the presidency? This is a great nation! That's why this nation is so great. And I tell you what, it's a powerful and humbling position to



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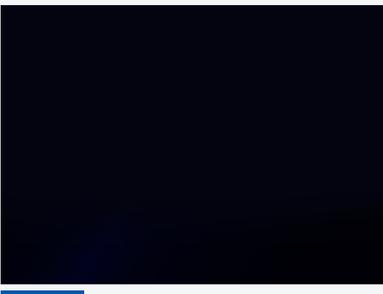
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family first; the impact on you, my supporters -- your support has been unwavering and undying -- as well as the impact on the ability to continue the race, the necessary funds to be competitive, we had to come to this conclusion. We had to come to this conclusion that it would be best to suspend this campaign.

That's the bad news. Here's the good news. The pundits would like for me to shut up, drop out and go away. Well, as my grandmother who lived to be 104 years old used to say when somebody was dead wrong, bless their little hearts. I am not going to be silenced, and I am not going away! And as of today, Plan B. Plan B. And I call it the Cain solutions.com.

You see, there are three audiences out there, folks, that we have dealt with, that I have had to deal with. There's the media class, there's the political class and there's we the people. It is we the people that got us to this point, this far. It is we the people that wants change in Washington, D.C. It is we the people that are responsible for the massive movement that is going on across this country. I call it the citizens' movement, the Tea Party movement, the conservative movement.

Plan B is that I will continue to be a force for the people. That's why today we are launching TheCainSolutions.com, where the people will choose -- not the media, not the politicians -- and the people will show that the people are still in charge of this country. Through this new organization, I will still be promoting the biggest change, transfer of power out of Washington, D.C., back to the people since this nation began, and that is the 9-9-9 plan. It's not going away. I will still be actively supporting and promoting a foreign policy that starts with peace through strength and clarity. I will still be promoting actively an energy independence plan for America. We can and we will become energy-independent.

And I know that many of you are disappointed. I understand that. I know that many of you all are disappointed and I certainly understand that, and I am disappointed that it came to this point, that we had to make this decision. One of the reasons that I ran for president of the United States was so that I could change Washington, D.C., from the inside. Plan B is that we are going to have to change it from the outside. It'll take a little longer. We're going to have to work a little harder. But we will change it from the outside.

One other thing. I will be making an endorsement in the near future. I will be making an endorsement. And I can tell you right now, it will not be the current occupant of the [White House](#). That will not be my endorsement.

America has learned something about this process of running for president. It's a dirty game. It's a dirty, dirty game. But I happen to believe that the American people are sick of this mess, and if I'm not the outsider in there, I happen to believe that the day will come when the American people will reject all of the distractions, all of the false accusations and unproved accusations, and it will make a change, because that's what we've got to do to get real change in this country and get it on the right track.

And as I think about my parents, who raised my brother and I right here in the Atlanta area, they taught us three very valuable lessons: belief in God, belief in ourselves and belief in the greatest country in the world, the United States of America. And even though I have had to suspend my campaign, I have not given up on America, and here's why. Because look at our history. When we have been challenged the most is when we the people have risen to the occasion the most. And I happen to believe that we will do it again, because we the people are still in charge of this country.

Let me leave you with this. I believe these words came from the Pokemon movie. The media pointed that out. I'm not sure who the original author is, so don't go write an article about it, but it says a lot about where I am, where I am with my wife and my family, and where we are as a nation.

Life can be a challenge. Life can seem impossible. It's never easy when there's so much on the line. But you and I can make a difference. There's a mission just for you and me. Just look inside and you will find just what you can do. Just look inside and you will find just what you can do.

I've had to look inside to find what I can do, and here's what I can do. Here's what we can do. We can put "united" back into the United States of America and move the shining city on a hill back to the top of the hilltop where it belongs, and I will never apologize for the greatness of the United States of America. God bless you, thank you, and I love you."

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Rocmax1956

Wow; powerful message! He reminds me of a great man, Martin Luther King! I have respect for this man and Cain. He stood on his ground and the message always remained clear-We the People. I believe that there is not enough education passed on to the new generation and that they should make a greater effort to read the Consitution that our fore fathers wrote. Cain respects and repeats to us the history of our nation and explains to us, eloquently just how south we are heading-but, as the Consitution We the People make those choices and the consequences are present today, and he has shed much light on how that occurred, but, also gives us the hope we need to understand that We can make that change (Michael Jackson: Man in the Mirror),



Rocmax1956

I stand corrected, I meant The Declaration of Independence:

IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men,

deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world

 **Tuffy\_luvvy**

Wait until his gay "friend" betrays him. LOL.

 **Rocmax1956**

Really! Is this really important to post? You sound like some gossipier. Our nation is under much duress...we need a strong leader and your concentration is on this? Get a life

 **WilsonTV**

I am one of the disappointed ones. I had hoped he could weather this latest storm but 1) there wasn't enough time to recover and 2) since a "friend" betrayed him, how could he anticipate other "friends" not betraying him in the future? I believe he was absolutely innocent of these allegations. Now that he has more time, I hope he pursues clearing his name by going after these no-loads that ruined his campaign by bringing up lawsuits against every one of them.

Now, who do you think he will endorse? I believe it will be Newt Gingrich. Gingrich is the best uniter among the remaining candidates (including Obama, of course). I think he became friends with Newt when they held that "debate" which turned out to be more of a panel to state a common goal to fire Obama and set the country straight.

 **Rvoigt**

If you're going to publish Cain's speech why don't you publish it all? Huh? You left out his remark about him being at peace with God, you also did not publish his new web page. This is poor editing, This editing is right in there with Obama's so called transparency campaign promise. Ugggggg.

 **Rocmax1956**

Reading is fundamental! I dont think you read this article fully. Everything is in here buddy

 **Roy**

Weird....i see both of those items here. Maybe they added them back???

 **Oscar Wilde**

Dude...actually read the article before you blast it. Both the website and him being at peace with God are included in the transcript.

 **Cara**

Um, actually, if you do Ctrl-F, both of those things are there.

 **just me**

He totally jipped Donna Summer here. How can he not have looked up who wrote the Pokemon song?

 **Rocmax1956**

Is it really that important? He did say he did not remember, but the point is he used it to make a point. Why get so technical? The message was made, right?

 **Craig List**

The last thing this guy should be doing -- at this point -- is mentioning other women ;) ...to the people that think he is innocent of the charges against him, I have some wooden nickels you might be interested in.... (good lord.)

 **Rocmax1956**

The point was the women and he needed to explain why he was stepping down. Now, if he stepped down and mentioned any other reason...you would have been hitting him with why doesn't he really say that it was about women...make up your mind and stop contradicting yourself....get some education for yourself!

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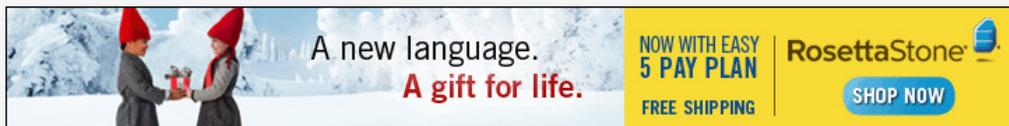
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