

Wisconsin GOP On Track For A Brutal Primary

Written by Democratic Party of Wisconsin, Brad Bainum
Thursday, 31 May 2018 14:09 -



Republicans may get “civility” at tonight’s forum -- but long-term damage has already been done.



MADISON - Republican Party-endorsed U.S. Senate candidate **Leah Vukmir** and her opponent **Kevin Nicholson**

may put on a show of feigned "civility" at tonight’s Republican Women of Dane County candidate forum -- after all, they

[nearly made it through last month’s Americans for Prosperity debate](#)

without throwing punches. But make no mistake: Wisconsin’s Republican U.S. Senate primary has been defined by Vukmir and Nicholson

[taking increasingly ultraconservative, extreme policy positions while they’ve lobbed escalating personal attacks](#)

at each other.

A veneer of civility at tonight’s forum would surely be a cause for celebration among Wisconsin Republicans. For example: **Former Tommy Thompson aide Bill McCoshen** and **Sen. Ron**

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[ave respectively called for Nicholson](#)

to “[E]ither step out of the race or at least not attack [Vukmir]” and “Please do nothing to harm the other candidate.” Vukmir herself

[echoed that sentiment yesterday](#)

, calling on Nicholson to drop out.



But it doesn't matter if Vukmir and Nicholson somehow manage to have a “respectful” debate tonight. GOP infighting and Vukmir and Nicholson's mutual animosity have for months been the status quo. Vukmir [has made it more than clear](#) that she believes that Wisconsinites can't trust Nicholson. And ignoring Wisconsin Republicans' pleas for post-convention unity, Nicholson has nevertheless [continued to attack Vukmir](#) as “a career politician.”

“Vukmir and Nicholson's brutal infighting has left the Republicans with a lagging party brand and a lack of enthusiasm in their base,” **said Brad Bainum, Democratic Party of Wisconsin spokesperson for the 2018 Senate race**. “No matter tonight's outcome, there's no denying that Wisconsin Republicans' 2018 primary has already surpassed the nastiness of 2012's smackdown.