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Plagiarism by Melania Trump?

On the fateful day of July 18th, 2016, the wife of the current US President Donald Trump gave a speech to support her husband. However, as Melania Trump finished her passionate speech, the viewers started to draw parallels between her speech and that of ex-First Lady Michelle Obama. Everyone was asking the same question: Is this an act of Plagiarism? This was a serious accusation at the time knowing the fact that the actual act of plagiarism centered around only two paragraphs of the ex-First Lady’s speech (CNN). Either way, Melania Trump has to take a vigorous barrage of criticism as the democrats did all they could to sabotage the Trump campaign at the time. But as we look into the speech, we see three major issues. First, the part of the speech that overlapped was supposed to be personal, rather than political. It was supposed to be a bid to connect personally with the crowd. Second, this was the dialogue overlapping with the opponent’s speech. This was not only troublesome, but it was a clear opportunity for the democrats, which they exploited to the maximum by splashing it across the print and electronic media. Lastly, this was not a small-time stump speech that was supposed to fill the pages of a newspaper. This was the first speech delivered by the future (and current) First Lady at the most important event of Trump’s campaign. All these aforementioned issues inflated the situation to gigantic proportions. However, it was later found that Melania had some help regarding the writing of the speech. So, it was very likely to be the writer's fault that was soon highlighted afterward (Santucci). fortunately, the issue did not manage to dent Trump’s campaign and he ended up being the forty-fifth President of the United States of America. But the question remains: Was the Writer a scapegoat or was it a genuine case and Melania committed plagiarism? (Renstrom)

# Works Cited

CNN. *Did Melania Trump plagiarize Michelle Obama's speech?* 19 July 2016. Youtube.com.

Renstrom, Joelle. "As a teacher, I know plagiarism when I see it." *The Guardian* (2016).

Santucci, John. "Melania Trump's Speechwriter Comes Forward to Apologize." 20 July 2016. *ABC News.* Article.