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This is Dianne Daniels for Brookings Harbor Voices.

Recently New York Governor Cuomo said, "We're not going to make America great again. It was never that great."  He had two reasons justifying those comments.

First, he implies President Trump's "Make America Great Again" slogan is really a desire to send the US back to a time when blacks and women were second class citizens. The President never suggested nor have his actions borne out any such thing.  He means to re-unleash the ingenuity, productivity and potential of Americans rather than leading from behind and apologizing for perceived past transgressions.

Second, Governor Cuomo expounded, "We have not reached greatness, we will reach greatness when every American is fully engaged, we will reach greatness when discrimination and stereotyping against women … is gone and every woman's full potential is realized and unleashed and every woman is making her full contribution." Evidently, he believes greatness cannot include times when America and Americans were less than perfect.

His staff later modified somewhat his statement saying, "When the President speaks about making America great again - going back in time - he ignores the pain so many endured and that we suffered from slavery, discrimination, segregation, sexism and marginalized women's contributions, The Governor believes that when everyone is fully included and everyone is contributing to their maximum potential, that is when America will achieve maximum greatness."  But, when everyone is fully included, this past pain will still exist, so by his own definition, we can never be great.

Further, no Country ever has and ever will be perfect; the same is true of its people.  It's just wrong-headed to discount all the good America and its people have accomplished because of past imperfection, most of which we've addressed.

Thank you for listening.  And have nice day on the Wild Rivers Coast.