

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

Eau Claire, Wisconsin
January 26, 1972

It's great to be in Eau Claire today and in the home town of one of the top college basketball teams in the country.

I understand that the Blue and Gold is rated Number One in its category by the AP & UPI.

I love to be with winners -- it gives me a good feeling all over.

It's always a pleasure to speak to a campus audience.

May I say it has become more of a pleasure since the passage of the Twenty-Sixth Amendment to the Constitution.

One of the reasons I enjoy speaking to college audiences is that you are under thirty-five for the most part -- and that means that you are not now and cannot be candidates for the Democratic Presidential nomination in 1972.

You don't know what a relief that can be in a campaign.

All of you here have a responsibility to examine all of the candidates and their stands on the important issues.

The responsibility falls most heavily on all of you because with the enfranchisement of 18 to 21 year olds, the first significant voting bloc in fifty years has been added suddenly to the political balance of this country.

You now have the vote.

What are you going to do with it?

Young people in America have great potential power. I use the word potential because power must be organized and translated into action before it becomes effective.

Young people in America today are not organized.

The bankers are organized.

The farmers are organized.

The unions are organized.

The elderly are organized.

Why not the young?

I've been in politics long enough to tell you that few things will fall into your laps by merely wanting or wishing for them.

You must demonstrate political muscle and fight for what you want and think is right.

Like it or not, you first time voters have become the symbol for the opportunities of this election. We look to you not for a reflection of our discouragement over yesterday, but for a new commitment to tomorrow.

And I ask you today as young men and women who have the opportunity to be enrolled in a university to make a commitment not only to return to work on the agenda of unfinished human needs facing America, but to fight and organize for all young Americans.

Of the nearly 13 million young people between 18 and 21, only 4.5 million are in college. You are a privileged minority of the young in America today.

Do you realize that the federal government spends nearly three times more on college buildings and dormitories than it does on public housing for the poor?

The federal government has a big investment in you and your education. And rightly so. In the President's new budget, total federal outlays for higher education will total \$7.4 billion -- nearly half of the total federal outlays for all education. Nearly \$4 billion is to be spent for student support. Our society has pledged that no qualified student who wants to go to college should be barred from college.

Increasing educational opportunity at all levels must be a national priority.

But from your position of educational privilege, I believe you must ask: what should be done for the millions of young Americans who are not in college classrooms but in factories, on farms, at home, or working in business?

These millions of Americans represent the invisible youth of America:

- invisible to reporters and the television cameras
- hidden from the spotlight of national concern
- and hidden from privilege and educational subsidy.

These men and women are at work -- just like you -- trying to make a life for themselves and trying to make this country take on meaning and purpose.

I believe the time has come for us to stop neglecting millions of young Americans who do not have the opportunity and privilege to receive a college education.

It's time that the invisible youth of America be allowed to share in the federal abundance provided for those in college.

Why shouldn't a young man or woman working in a factory be provided with scholarship funds and educational loans to attend night courses at a community college or university? Why shouldn't any American, of any age, for that matter?

Why shouldn't an unemployed young mother be provided with funds to further her education and why shouldn't she be provided with access to an adequate day care center to give her young child the best care that money can buy while she goes to school?

Why shouldn't a young farmer be given the necessary funds to attend any type of educational institution of his choosing?

I believe education beyond high school in America is a right -- not a privilege. If young Americans don't go to college full time -- if they work instead, or take care of their children -- why should they be barred from further education for financial reasons?

We need a system of educational scholarships and loans earmarked for the youth of America who are not in college, but who want to further their education beyond high school.

To so change our educational system -- to begin to provide educational opportunity of all types to those young Americans whom we automatically exclude from our system of higher education today is one of the great challenges of the 70's.

We can no longer think in terms of a privileged minority that receives all of our attention and all of our treasure.

I intend to pursue this issue because our past and present neglect must be halted if this country is to outline to the fullest extent the talents and skills of all of its young.

You have a role to play in reforming the concept of higher education in America.

You must take your voter registration drives to high schools and vocational schools before these young people leave for jobs and become "invisible."

Political involvement is one of the keys to responsive government and educational reform.

You must also help organize good day care centers in your communities so that all young mothers have the opportunity to leave home for school if they so choose.

You must begin tutoring programs in high schools and junior highs so that students can be helped in obtaining their diplomas and so that they can have contact with people attending college.

You can begin to do all of these things now.

As those receiving a college education while others are unable or excluded from this system, you must become proponents of complete and total educational opportunity for all regardless of occupation.

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REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

'arena of Ideas'

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

White House Motel

EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN

JANUARY 26, 1972

Dr. Ormsby Harvey

IT'S GREAT TO BE IN EAU CLAIRE TODAY AND IN THE HOME TOWN
OF ONE OF THE TOP COLLEGE BASKETBALL TEAMS IN THE COUNTRY.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE BLUE AND GOLD IS RATED NUMBER ONE
IN ITS CATEGORY BY THE AP & UPI.

I LOVE TO BE WITH WINNERS -- IT GIVES ME A GOOD FEELING
ALL OVER.

IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO SPEAK TO A CAMPUS AUDIENCE.

MAY I SAY IT HAS BECOME MORE OF A PLEASURE SINCE THE PASSAGE
OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

ONE OF THE REASONS I ENJOY SPEAKING TO COLLEGE AUDIENCES
IS THAT YOU ARE UNDER THIRTY-FIVE FOR THE MOST PART -- AND THAT
MEANS THAT YOU ARE NOT NOW AND CANNOT BE CANDIDATES FOR THE
DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION IN 1972.

Glad to talk to Audience under 35 - you
can't run for President!

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YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT A RELIEF THAT CAN BE IN A CAMPAIGN.

L ALL OF YOU HERE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO EXAMINE ALL OF THE
CANDIDATES AND THEIR STANDS ON THE IMPORTANT ISSUES.

L THE RESPONSIBILITY FALLS MOST HEAVILY ON ALL OF YOU BECAUSE
WITH THE EMANCIPATION OF 18 TO 21 YEAR OLDS THE FIRST SIGNIFICANT

VOTING BLOC IN FIFTY YEARS HAS BEEN ADDED SUDDENLY TO THE POLITICAL
BALANCE OF THIS COUNTRY.

26th Amendment
new voting block
Register + Voto
Register + Total

L YOU NOW HAVE THE VOTE.

L WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH IT?

L YOUNG PEOPLE IN AMERICA HAVE GREAT POTENTIAL POWER. I USE THE
WORD POTENTIAL BECAUSE POWER MUST BE ORGANIZED AND TRANSLATED INTO
ACTION BEFORE IT BECOMES EFFECTIVE.

But get organized

YOUNG PEOPLE IN AMERICA TODAY ARE NOT ORGANIZED.

THE BANKERS ARE ORGANIZED.

*even football players
are organized*

THE FARMERS ARE ORGANIZED.

THE UNIONS ARE ORGANIZED.

THE ELDERLY ARE ORGANIZED.

WHY NOT THE YOUNG?

I'VE BEEN IN POLITICS LONG ENOUGH TO TELL YOU THAT ^{any} FEW THINGS
WILL FALL INTO YOUR LAPS BY MERELY WANTING OR WISHING FOR THEM.

YOU MUST DEMONSTRATE POLITICAL MUSCLE AND FIGHT FOR WHAT YOU
WANT AND THINK IS RIGHT.

- Work to get in.

LIKE IT OR NOT, YOU FIRST TIME VOTERS HAVE BECOME THE SYMBOL
 FOR THE OPPORTUNITIES OF THIS ELECTION. WE LOOK TO YOU NOT FOR A
 REFLECTION OF OUR DISCOURAGEMENT OVER YESTERDAY, BUT FOR A NEW
COMMITMENT TO TOMORROW. | *yesterday + tomorrow*

AND I ASK YOU TODAY AS YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE THE
 OPPORTUNITY TO BE ENROLLED IN A UNIVERSITY TO MAKE A COMMITMENT
 NOT ONLY ██████████ TO WORK ON THE AGENDA OF UNFINISHED HUMAN
NEEDS FACING AMERICA, BUT TO FIGHT AND ORGANIZE FOR ALL YOUNG
 AMERICANS.

OF THE NEARLY 13 MILLION YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN 18 AND 21,
 ONLY 4.5 MILLION ARE IN COLLEGE. YOU ARE A PRIVILEGED MINORITY
OF THE YOUNG IN AMERICA TODAY.

~~Do you know~~ THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SPENDS NEARLY
four TIMES MORE ON COLLEGE BUILDINGS AND DORMITORIES THAN IT
 DOES ON ~~public~~ ^{low-income} HOUSING FOR THE POOR?

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS A BIG INVESTMENT IN YOU AND YOUR
 EDUCATION, AND RIGHTLY SO IN THE ~~new~~ ^{for fiscal 1973} NEW BUDGET ~~the~~

FEDERAL OUTLAYS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION WILL TOTAL \$7.4 BILLION --
 NEARLY HALF OF THE TOTAL FEDERAL OUTLAYS FOR ALL EDUCATION ^{and} NEARLY
 \$4 BILLION IS TO BE SPENT FOR STUDENT SUPPORT. OUR SOCIETY HAS
 PLEDGED THAT NO QUALIFIED STUDENT WHO WANTS TO GO TO COLLEGE SHOULD
 BE BARRED FROM COLLEGE.

INCREASING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY AT ALL LEVELS MUST BE A
 NATIONAL PRIORITY.

L BUT FROM YOUR POSITION OF EDUCATIONAL PRIVILEGE, I BELIEVE
YOU MUST ASK: WHAT SHOULD BE DONE FOR THE MILLIONS OF YOUNG AMERICANS
WHO ARE NOT IN COLLEGE CLASSROOMS BUT IN FACTORIES, ON FARMS, AT
HOME, OR WORKING IN BUSINESS?

L THESE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS REPRESENT THE INVISIBLE YOUTH
OF AMERICA:

-- INVISIBLE TO REPORTERS AND THE TELEVISION CAMERAS

-- HIDDEN FROM THE SPOTLIGHT OF NATIONAL CONCERN

-- AND HIDDEN FROM PRIVILEGE AND EDUCATIONAL SUBSIDY.

~~L THESE MEN AND WOMEN ARE AT WORK -- JUST LIKE YOU -- TRYING
TO MAKE A LIFE FOR THEMSELVES AND TRYING TO MAKE THIS COUNTRY
TAKE ON MEANING AND PURPOSE.~~

L WHY SHOULDN'T AN UNEMPLOYED YOUNG MOTHER BE PROVIDED WITH FUNDS
TO FURTHER HER EDUCATION AND WHY SHOULDN'T SHE BE PROVIDED WITH
ACCESS TO AN ADEQUATE DAY CARE CENTER TO GIVE HER YOUNG CHILD THE
BEST CARE THAT MONEY CAN BUY WHILE SHE GOES TO SCHOOL?

L WHY SHOULDN'T A YOUNG FARMER BE GIVEN THE NECESSARY FUNDS TO
ATTEND ANY TYPE OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF HIS CHOOSING?

L I BELIEVE EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL IN AMERICA IS A RIGHT --
NOT A PRIVILEGE! IF YOUNG AMERICANS DON'T GO TO COLLEGE FULL TIME --
IF THEY WORK INSTEAD, OR TAKE CARE OF THEIR CHILDREN -- WHY SHOULD
THEY BE BARRED FROM FURTHER EDUCATION FOR FINANCIAL REASONS?

L WE NEED A SYSTEM OF EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND LOANS
EARMARKED FOR THE YOUTH OF AMERICA WHO ARE NOT IN COLLEGE, BUT
WHO WANT TO FURTHER THEIR EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL,

↳ TO SO CHANGE OUR EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM -- TO BEGIN TO PROVIDE
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY OF ALL TYPES TO THOSE YOUNG AMERICANS WHOM
WE AUTOMATICALLY EXCLUDE FROM OUR SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION
TODAY IS ONE OF THE GREAT CHALLENGES OF THE 70'S.

~~WE CAN NO LONGER THINK IN TERMS OF A PRIVILEGED MINORITY~~
~~THAT RECEIVES ALL OF OUR ATTENTION AND ALL OF OUR TREASURE.~~

↳ I INTEND TO PURSUE THIS ISSUE BECAUSE OUR PAST AND PRESENT
NEGLECT MUST BE HALTED IF THIS COUNTRY IS TO OUTLINE TO THE
FULLEST EXTENT THE TALENTS AND SKILLS OF ALL OF ITS YOUNG.

↳ YOU HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY IN REFORMING THE CONCEPT OF HIGHER
EDUCATION IN AMERICA.

L YOU MUST TAKE YOUR VOETER REGISTRATION DRIVES TO HIGH SCHOOLS
AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS BEFORE THESE YOUNG PEOPLE LEAVE FOR JOBS
AND BECOME "INVISIBLE."

L POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT IS ONE OF THE KEYS TO RESPONSIVE
GOVERNMENT AND EDUCATIONAL REFORM.

L YOU MUST ALSO HELP ORGANIZE GOOD DAY CARE CENTERS IN YOUR
COMMUNITIES SO THAT ALL YOUNG MOTHERS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO
LEAVE HOME FOR SCHOOL IF THEY SO CHOOSE.

L YOU MUST BEGIN TUTORING PROGRAMS IN HIGH SCHOOLS AND JUNIOR
HIGHS SO THAT STUDENTS CAN BE HELPED IN OBTAINING THEIR DIPLOMAS
AND SO THAT THEY CAN HAVE CONTACT WITH PEOPLE ATTENDING COLLEGE.

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YOU CAN BEGIN TO DO ALL OF THESE THINGS NOW.

AS THOSE RECEIVING A COLLEGE EDUCATION WHILE OTHERS ARE
UNABLE OR EXCLUDED FROM THIS SYSTEM, YOU MUST BECOME PROPONENTS
OF COMPLETE AND TOTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL REGARDLESS
OF OCCUPATION.

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