

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY  
FUNDRAISING DINNER FOR ROBERT MORGAN

Lillington, North Carolina

August 20, 1974

I have come to Harnett County today to be with my good friend Robert Morgan.

Now there are bigger counties and bigger towns in this great state, but Robert Morgan wanted me to come here this evening so that I could meet his people -- the people who have stood behind him for so many years.

I believe in this fine man as you do. I believe in his integrity, his common sense and his commitment to the people of the great state of North Carolina.

I want Robert Morgan with me in Washington. I want him to put to work at the Federal level his twenty-six years of experience in state and local government.

Robert Morgan is a people's lawyer. And I want him to sit in Sam Ervin's Senate seat because I know that he is the man who can continue the great tradition of Sam Ervin -- a distinguished tradition of leadership and dedication to the people of the Tar Heel state.

We need a man like Robert Morgan in the Senate to work with the Democratic majority for all the people of America. There are some tough times ahead for this nation. And Robert Morgan is the type of man who will work tirelessly on the problems of the economy, the environment, protecting the rights of consumers and making America a better and safer place to live. Robert Morgan is the type of man we need in Washington to help restore trust and confidence in our processes of government and politics.

It is wonderful to see such a fine crowd of active enthusiastic Democrats. As members of our great party, you know we have been experiencing a period of intense, sometimes painful, self-examination the past few years.

We have stood in front of a mirror and turned on a piercing light of self-examination and asked ourselves, how can we do better? How can we fulfill our high ideals? How can we remake our party so that it does a more effective job of being the party of the people, the party of the future, the party of promise for every American?

The answers have not always come easily, nor have they always been easy to accept. They have occasionally divided us, caused vigorous disagreements, intense debate. But we have survived, we have grown stronger for our discomfort. We have managed not only to bring our widely different personalities and points of view closer together, but we have also attracted and retained people who formerly were outside the party. They have accepted us, and we them. They hold active and responsible positions, and we have all been enriched by their participation. And I believe that our experiences have made us closer, and will continue to draw us together. We are like a family that has had an argument, and after it is settled, feels more like a family for having shared the pain of dispute.

The currents of change that are sweeping our party are paralleled by similar currents across our nation.

Yes, we have experienced great dissension and great difficulties in the American family. The Democratic Party is a very real part of American life -- we are not above it - away from it -- we are with it.

We have seen the bounty of our great nation mismanaged at home and squandered for short-term advantage abroad.

We have seen shortages and scarcity grow through private greed and government short-sightedness.

We have seen our Constitutional system of delicate checks and balances dangerously tilted in favor of one branch of government at the expense of the others.

We have seen our political processes corrupted.

We have seen political power abused, and money abused as a means of buying power.

We have seen highly placed trustees of the public confidence betray their trust, and act as though they were above the law -- indeed, they have acted as though they were the law.

These experiences, following hard after nearly a decade of dissension within our society at home and in war overseas, have been a heavy burden for the American people and their leaders to withstand.

I am sure that a nation of lesser character and strength would have buckled under such pressures.

But the American people have not lost their confidence or their nerve or their guts.

We have persevered and proven to the world that our Constitution works.

We are a nation nearly 200 years old, and in that time we have withstood other times of difficulty. We are a nation forged in trial and weaned on challenge.

The first 100 years of our existence were spent in moving out beyond the next mountain range, the next untamed forest, the next desert -- building and growing and enduring and overcoming.

We built a nation that spanned a continent and then fought a war that threatened to split in two what we had built, and we went on to heal the breach and build some more.

Our second hundred years have been a period of getting it all together, finding better and better ways of making use of what we gained in our first century. We moved beyond the seas to become the world's leading power and then shouldered the tremendous burdens of that leadership, fighting, winning two world wars and then rebuilding what those wars destroyed far beyond our home soil.

And in the midst of all that, we endured and pulled ourselves out of a Great Depression that not only failed to grind us down, but instead built up our spirit and taught us new ways of achieving stability and a vigorous, healthy nation of commerce and industry.

What is our secret. Why have we always been able to pick ourselves up and jump back into the fight?

Because, Americans have by nature and circumstances always been a people that has learned by its experiences. We are a practical people who do it if it looks like it will work. We live by trial and error, by experimentation.

The American way may be wasteful and at times painful, but on the positive side of the balance, it is a way that provides freedom and stimulates individual initiative.

Look at what we have experienced and what we have achieved: And at every turn, the Democratic Party has provided the leadership that the nation needed under -- Wilson, FDR, Truman, Kennedy and Johnson.

-- Our resources were being plundered in the last century and early in this one. We developed the concepts of conservation, the management of our resources, the techniques of returning when we took, so there would always be more.

-- Our financial institutions in the 1920's were irresponsible, and little concerned about the public good. So we created the Securities Exchange Commission and an excellent system of banking laws.

-- The big railroads and utilities, misused their power and harbored corruption. We wrote regulatory legislation to correct the problems.

-- Our workers were unemployed; we provided jobs and unemployment compensation.

-- Our industries were shut down; we provided loans and credits.

-- Our older citizens were neglected. We wrote the Social Security Act, and the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

-- Some of our citizens were denied the rights and opportunities guaranteed in the Constitution. We passed and enforced civil rights laws.

The lessons we have learned have been learned the hard way, but pain is a teacher whose lectures are remembered.

We might have given up many times in the past were it not for the foundations on which our nation is built.

It is not a foundation of doctrine and dogma, but a foundation of faith and values, reason and experience. And, we must not permit any person, group, or party to destroy our values; to erase our gains by neglect or the abuse of power.

We are to carry this grand experiment in democracy forward, emerge from our present set of trials and difficulties once more renewed, invigorated, and triumphant, we must recapture those values and principles that have served us so well in the past.

We must make ourselves understand the true, intrinsic value of those ideals. They are just as sturdy and dependable as they were when our nation was founded upon them nearly two centuries ago.

"We hold those truths to be self-evident."

We believe in government by laws, not men.

Yes the American people need to be reminded again and again that we in the Democratic Party believe in Government by Laws not men.

We believe in government with integrity, and essential virtue that we demand of our leaders, even as we demand it of ourselves, as individual citizens.

We believe in government by public trust, and that means leaders who deserve our trust, and who fulfill it.

We believe in self-reliance, but tempered by a sense of humanitarianism and compassion.

We believe in achievement; we believe in progress; we believe in work.

And we believe in justice.

Our beliefs have always been closely tied to our aspirations. We have often believed in what we have not yet achieved, and then have gone on to work for it, led onward by our beliefs.

The preamble of the Constitution spells out the faith and aspirations of America: " A more perfect union," "justice," "domestic tranquility," "the common defense," " the general welfare," "the blessings of liberty (for) ourselves and our posterity."

The bill of Rights: the freedom of religion, speech and the press, of petitioning government for redress of grievances; freedom from search and seizure; the right to fair, public, speedy trial by jury, to reasonable bail and fines and without cruel or unusual punishment; it is these rights that are being threatened and violated by people in power.

Not one word of the Constitution protects government from the people, or public officials from the public. The Constitution was written to protect the people from government.

And it was under these guarantees, stirred by our beliefs, led by our dreams, that we built this nation. And it is these guarantees and rights that are being tested today.

Nations are in many ways like children: they go through phases, and these phases continue with adulthood.

As children we learned certain ways of behaving were right and others were wrong, taking the word of our parents.

But as we reached adolescence, we began to question those values and rules, and we tested and challenged. We learned by breaking a few rules and experiencing the consequences. In the end, we had a better appreciation for what we had been taught than we had before. Faith followed blindly keeps you out of trouble, like a wall. But values built on experience open the eyes and set you free.

America has been passing through an adolescence.

It has been testing and questioning. I believe the process has opened our eyes and broken the walls.

They say the repented sinner makes the best Christian.

I believe a reformed America will make a better and stronger America.

We have had no prodigal days, and now we will return, sadder but wiser -- and stronger -- to the values of our fathers.

In the latter days of our nation's youth, our Presidents gave us the New Deal, the New Frontier, the Great Society. Today America is embarked on a New Maturity.

Having seen leaders break rules we had accepted without question, we have learned the reasons for those rules and the consequences of breaking them. We will work to assure that they are not broken in the future. And I am confident that we now have a man in the White House who is committed to uphold the Constitution.

Having seen our resources mismanaged and squandered, we have learned the hard lessons of stewardship, prudence, and conservation.

Having endured the painful experiences of fuel and energy shortage, we will learn to become more self-sufficient.

Having seen surplus shrink to shortage in our agricultural supplies, we will learn the necessity of a national food policy and food reserves for times of scarcity.

Having learned the hard lesson of executive usurpation of legislative power, we will devise means of restoring balance.

Having seen in recent years the cruel and ironical situation of high unemployment and inflation hitting millions of our people at the same time, we must have the will and the courage, to put an end to this.

Having seen our concern for national security and the rule of executive privilege cheapened, distorted and reduced to cover up executive misdeeds, we must and will devise new means of revealing information that the public needs.

Having watched and then gone to court to fight executive impoundment to frustrate the will of Congress, we will write new laws that prevent those kinds of arrogance.

Having seen the excess of fast and loose collection and spending of political campaign funds, we will write laws that can help clean up this process.

We will achieve all this and more, because the American people are disgusted but not disillusioned, angry but not resigned, indignant but not despondent.

The American values still live. The old rules still stand. We need only to bring them back out into the light of the American vision.

The American Vision has always been held by the Democratic Party. And the challenge to the Democratic Party today is to reassert its leadership as the party of the people, "We the People."

It is the Democratic Party that is ready and able to get on with the job of meeting the needs of the people of America.

We are the Party that stands up for the working families of this country. We are the voice of hope and opportunity for them. And we shall take to the people our agenda for action in establishing a strong and stable economy; in providing decent jobs at a living wage; quality health care at the lowest possible cost for all people; good education for our children; clean and safe neighborhoods; a fair tax system; and the right of every American to hope in the future and have a decent opportunity to make the most of his or her abilities.

The Democratic Party stands today for a restoration of American values and for replacing the politics of slogans and rhetoric with the principles of action and performance.

So I am confident of America's future. I do not find reason to despair.

A favorite quotation of mine is from a great American poet, Carl Sandburg. In closing, let me share his words with you:

"I see America, not in the setting sun of a black night of despair ahead of us. I see America in the crimson light of a rising sun, fresh from the burning, creative hand of God. I see great days ahead, great days possible to men and women of will and vision."

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REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

2nd  
Rockefeller  
U. S.  
House.

FUNDRAISING DINNER FOR ROBERT MORGAN

LILLINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA

Harnett  
county  
Tar Heel State

AUGUST 20, 1974

State Rep. Merrald Arnold -  
Nominnee for Court of Appeals

✓ Bill Boxley - Atty Genl  
Alabama

Refus Edmisten  
Atty Genl Candidate

(Sam Erwins chief counsel for 10 years)

I HAVE COME TO HARNETT COUNTY TODAY TO BE WITH MY GOOD

FRIEND ROBERT MORGAN. - *Robert Morgans Home County*

L NOW THERE ARE BIGGER COUNTIES AND BIGGER TOWNS IN THIS  
GREAT STATE, BUT ROBERT MORGAN WANTED ME TO COME HERE THIS  
EVENING SO THAT I COULD MEET HIS PEOPLE -- THE PEOPLE WHO  
HAVE STOOD BEHIND HIM FOR SO MANY YEARS.

L I BELIEVE IN THIS FINE MAN AS YOU DO. L I BELIEVE IN HIS  
INTEGRITY, HIS COMMON SENSE AND HIS COMMITMENT TO THE PEOPLE  
OF THE GREAT STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

L *North Carolina Needs Robert Morgan in Washington*  
I WANT ROBERT MORGAN WITH ME IN WASHINGTON L I WANT HIM  
TO PUT TO WORK AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL HIS TWENTY-SIX YEARS OF  
EXPERIENCE IN STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

ROBERT MORGAN IS A PEOPLE'S LAWYER, AND I WANT HIM TO SIT  
IN SAM ERVIN'S SENATE SEAT BECAUSE I KNOW THAT HE IS THE MAN  
WHO CAN CONTINUE THE GREAT TRADITION OF SAM ERVIN -- A DISTINGUISHED  
TRADITION OF LEADERSHIP AND DEDICATION TO THE PEOPLE OF THE TAR  
HEEL STATE. *and to the Constitution of our Republic*

WE NEED ~~A MAN LIKE~~ ROBERT MORGAN IN THE SENATE TO WORK WITH  
THE DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY FOR ALL THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA. THERE

ARE SOME TOUGH TIMES AHEAD FOR THIS NATION, AND ROBERT MORGAN

IS THE TYPE OF MAN WHO WILL WORK TIRELESSLY <sup>*to eliminate*</sup> ~~ON THE PROBLEMS~~

*waste in government, who will fight for the*  
OF THE ECONOMY, THE ENVIRONMENT, PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF

*farmers, and make*  
CONSUMERS AND MAKING AMERICA A BETTER AND SAFER PLACE TO LIVE.

*Yes, we need Robert Morgan*  
ROBERT MORGAN IS THE TYPE OF MAN WE NEED IN WASHINGTON TO

HELP RESTORE TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN ~~OUR PROCESSES OF~~ GOVERNMENT

AND POLITICS. *Need*

Tonight I want to discuss with you about  
our Party - + our country - I will tell it  
like it is -

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~~It~~ IS WONDERFUL TO SEE SUCH A FINE CROWD OF ACTIVE ENTHUSIASTIC

DEMOCRATS. L AS MEMBERS OF OUR GREAT PARTY, YOU KNOW WE HAVE BEEN

EXPERIENCING A PERIOD OF INTENSE, SOMETIMES PAINFUL, SELF-EXAMINATION

THE PAST FEW YEARS.

L WE HAVE STOOD IN FRONT OF A MIRROR AND TURNED ON A PIERCING  
LIGHT OF SELF-EXAMINATION AND ASKED OURSELVES, HOW CAN WE DO

BETTER? ~~HOW CAN WE FULFILL OUR HIGH IDEALS?~~ HOW CAN WE make

do  
~~REMAKE OUR PARTY SO THAT IT DOES A MORE EFFECTIVE JOB OF BEING~~

THE PARTY OF THE PEOPLE, THE PARTY OF THE FUTURE, THE PARTY OF

performance  
PROMISE FOR EVERY AMERICAN?

L THE ANSWERS HAVE NOT ~~ALWAYS~~ COME EASILY, NOR HAVE THEY

~~ALWAYS~~ BEEN EASY TO ACCEPT. and, THEY HAVE OCCASIONALLY DIVIDED US,

CAUSED VIGOROUS DISAGREEMENTS, INTENSE DEBATE.

*But we have survived - Grown Stronger*

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BUT WE HAVE SURVIVED, WE HAVE GROWN STRONGER FOR OUR DISCOMFORT.

WE HAVE MANAGED NOT ONLY TO BRING OUR WIDELY DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES

AND POINTS OF VIEW CLOSER TOGETHER, BUT WE HAVE ALSO ATTRACTED

AND RETAINED PEOPLE WHO FORMERLY WERE OUTSIDE THE PARTY. THEY

HAVE ACCEPTED US, AND WE THEM. THEY HOLD ACTIVE AND RESPONSIBLE

POSITIONS, AND WE HAVE ALL BEEN ENRICHED BY THEIR PARTICIPATION.

AND I BELIEVE THAT OUR EXPERIENCES HAVE MADE US CLOSER, AND WILL

CONTINUE TO DRAW US TOGETHER. WE ARE LIKE A FAMILY THAT HAS HAD

AN ARGUMENT, AND AFTER IT IS SETTLED, FEELS MORE LIKE A FAMILY

FOR HAVING SHARED THE PAIN OF DISPUTE.

THE CURRENTS OF CHANGE THAT ARE SWEEPING OUR PARTY ARE

PARALLELED BY SIMILAR CURRENTS ACROSS OUR NATION. *Our Country*

*has experienced & continues to experience  
incredible, unbelievable change and  
trouble - So, our Party as a Reflector  
to the Nation, experiences these same difficulties.*

Yes, ~~WE HAVE EXPERIENCED GREAT DISSENSION AND GREAT~~

~~DIFFICULTIES IN THE AMERICAN FAMILY.~~ THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY IS A

VERY REAL PART OF AMERICAN LIFE -- WE ARE NOT ABOVE IT <sup>or</sup> AWAY FROM

IT -- WE ARE WITH IT

*of it. We are a vital part of the American family.*

WE HAVE SEEN THE BOUNTY OF OUR GREAT NATION MISMANAGED

AT HOME AND SQUANDERED FOR SHORT-TERM ADVANTAGE ABROAD.

WE HAVE SEEN SHORTAGES AND SCARCITY GROW THROUGH PRIVATE

GREED AND GOVERNMENT SHORT-SIGHTEDNESS.

WE HAVE SEEN OUR CONSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM OF ~~DELICATE~~ CHECKS

AND BALANCES DANGEROUSLY TILTED IN FAVOR OF ONE BRANCH OF

GOVERNMENT AT THE EXPENSE OF THE OTHERS.

WE HAVE SEEN OUR POLITICAL PROCESSES CORRUPTED.

↳ WE HAVE SEEN POLITICAL POWER ABUSED, AND MONEY ABUSED  
AS A MEANS OF BUYING POWER,

↳ WE HAVE SEEN HIGHLY PLACED TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE  
BETRAY THEIR TRUST, AND ACT AS THOUGH THEY WERE ABOVE THE  
LAW -- INDEED, THEY HAVE ACTED AS THOUGH THEY WERE THE LAW.

↳ THESE EXPERIENCES, FOLLOWING HARD AFTER NEARLY A DECADE  
OF DISSENSION WITHIN OUR SOCIETY AT HOME AND IN WAR OVERSEAS,  
HAVE BEEN A HEAVY BURDEN FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ~~AND THEIR~~  
~~LEADERS TO WITHSTAND~~.

↳ I AM SURE THAT A NATION OF LESSER CHARACTER AND STRENGTH  
WOULD HAVE BUCKLED UNDER SUCH PRESSURES.

↳ BUT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE NOT LOST THEIR CONFIDENCE  
OR THEIR NERVE OR THEIR GUTS.

↳ WE HAVE PERSEVERED AND PROVEN TO THE WORLD THAT OUR  
CONSTITUTION WORKS. - ~~Let me talk to you about~~

↳ WE ARE A NATION NEARLY 200 YEARS OLD, AND IN THAT TIME  
WE HAVE WITHSTOOD OTHER TIMES OF DIFFICULTY. ↳ WE ARE A NATION  
FORGED IN TRIAL AND WEANED ON CHALLENGE.

↳ THE FIRST 100 YEARS OF OUR EXISTENCE WERE SPENT IN MOVING  
OUT BEYOND THE NEXT MOUNTAIN RANGE, THE NEXT UNTAMED FOREST,  
THE NEXT DESERT -- BUILDING AND GROWING AND ENDURING AND  
OVERCOMING!

↳ WE BUILT A NATION THAT SPANNED A CONTINENT AND THEN FOUGHT  
A WAR THAT THREATENED TO SPLIT IN TWO WHAT WE HAD BUILT.

↳ AND WE WENT ON TO HEAL THE BREACH AND BUILD SOME MORE.

OUR SECOND HUNDRED YEARS HAVE BEEN A PERIOD OF GETTING IT  
ALL TOGETHER, FINDING <sup>more</sup> BETTER AND BETTER WAYS OF MAKING USE OF  
WHAT WE GAINED IN OUR FIRST CENTURY. WE MOVED BEYOND THE SEAS  
TO BECOME THE WORLD'S LEADING POWER AND THEN SHOULDERED THE  
TREMENDOUS BURDENS OF THAT LEADERSHIP, FIGHTING <sup>and</sup> WINNING TWO  
WORLD WARS AND THEN REBUILDING WHAT THOSE WARS DESTROYED FAR  
BEYOND OUR HOME SOIL.

AND IN THE MIDST OF ALL THAT, WE ENDURED AND PULLED  
OURSELVES OUT OF A GREAT DEPRESSION THAT NOT ONLY FAILED TO  
GRIND US DOWN, BUT INSTEAD BUILT UP OUR SPIRIT AND TAUGHT US  
NEW WAYS OF ACHIEVING STABILITY AND A VIGOROUS, HEALTHY NATION  
OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

↳ WHAT IS OUR SECRET? WHY HAVE WE ALWAYS BEEN ABLE TO PICK

OURSELVES UP AND JUMP BACK INTO THE FIGHT?

↳ BECAUSE, AMERICANS HAVE BY NATURE AND CIRCUMSTANCES ALWAYS BEEN A PEOPLE THAT HAS LEARNED BY <sup>their</sup> ~~ITS~~ EXPERIENCES. ↳ WE ARE A PRACTICAL PEOPLE WHO DO IT, IF IT LOOKS LIKE IT WILL WORK.

WE LIVE BY TRIAL AND ERROR, BY EXPERIMENTATION

↳ THE AMERICAN WAY MAY BE WASTEFUL AND AT TIMES PAINFUL, BUT ON THE POSITIVE SIDE OF THE BALANCE, <sup>sheet</sup> IT IS A WAY THAT PROVIDES FREEDOM AND STIMULATES INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVE.

↳ LOOK AT WHAT WE HAVE EXPERIENCED AND WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED! AND AT EVERY TURN, THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS PROVIDED THE LEADERSHIP THAT THE NATION NEEDED UNDER -- WILSON, FDR, TRUMAN, KENNEDY AND JOHNSON!

↳ OUR RESOURCES WERE BEING PLUNDERED IN THE LAST CENTURY  
AND EARLY IN THIS ONE, WE DEVELOPED THE CONCEPTS OF CONSER-  
VATION, THE MANAGEMENT OF OUR RESOURCES, THE TECHNIQUES OF  
RETURNING WHEN WE TOOK, SO THERE WOULD ALWAYS BE MORE.

↳ OUR FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, <sup>and the Stock market</sup> IN THE 1920'S WERE  
IRRESPONSIBLE, AND LITTLE CONCERNED ABOUT THE PUBLIC GOOD. ↳ SO  
WE CREATED THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE COMMISSION AND AN EXCELLENT  
SYSTEM OF BANKING LAWS.

↳ THE BIG RAILROADS AND UTILITIES, MISUSED THEIR POWER  
AND HARBORED CORRUPTION, WE WROTE REGULATORY LEGISLATION TO  
CORRECT THE PROBLEMS.

↳ OUR WORKERS WERE UNEMPLOYED; WE PROVIDED JOBS AND  
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.

*our farms were without electricity, we provided REA*

↳ OUR INDUSTRIES WERE SHUT DOWN; WE PROVIDED LOANS

AND CREDITS.

*our children were hungry - we provide school lunches*

↳ OUR OLDER CITIZENS WERE NEGLECTED. WE WROTE THE

SOCIAL SECURITY ACT, AND THE MEDICARE AND MEDICAID PROGRAMS.

↳ SOME OF OUR CITIZENS WERE DENIED THE RIGHTS AND

OPPORTUNITIES GUARANTEED IN THE CONSTITUTION, WE PASSED AND

ENFORCED CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS.

*Yes, we learned our lessons the hard way.*  
~~THE LESSONS WE HAVE LEARNED HAVE BEEN LEARNED THE HARD~~

~~WAY,~~ BUT PAIN IS A TEACHER WHOSE LECTURES ARE REMEMBERED.

↳ WE MIGHT HAVE GIVEN UP MANY TIMES IN THE PAST WERE IT

NOT FOR THE FOUNDATIONS ON WHICH OUR NATION IS BUILT.

~~IT~~ IS NOT A FOUNDATION OF DOCTRINE AND DOGMA, BUT A  
FOUNDATION OF FAITH AND VALUES, REASON AND EXPERIENCE.  
AND, WE MUST NOT PERMIT ANY PERSON, GROUP, <sup>OR</sup> PARTY TO DESTROY  
OUR VALUES; TO ERASE OUR GAINS BY NEGLECT OR THE ABUSE OF  
POWER.

*If we*  
WE ARE TO CARRY THIS GRAND EXPERIMENT IN DEMOCRACY  
FORWARD, EMERGE FROM OUR PRESENT SET OF TRIALS AND  
DIFFICULTIES ONCE MORE RENEWED, INVIGORATED, AND TRIUMPHANT, *then*  
WE MUST RECAPTURE THOSE VALUES AND PRINCIPLES THAT HAVE SERVED  
US SO WELL IN THE PAST.

*L* WE MUST MAKE OURSELVES UNDERSTAND THE TRUE, INTRINSIC  
VALUE OF THOSE IDEALS. *L* THEY ARE JUST AS STURDY AND DEPENDABLE *now*  
AS THEY WERE WHEN OUR NATION WAS FOUNDED UPON THEM NEARLY  
TWO CENTURIES AGO.

"WE HOLD <sup>these</sup> ~~THOSE~~ TRUTHS TO BE SELF-EVIDENT."

↳ WE BELIEVE IN GOVERNMENT BY LAWS, NOT MEN.

YES, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE NEED TO BE REMINDED AGAIN AND

AGAIN THAT WE IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY BELIEVE IN GOVERNMENT

BY LAWS NOT MEN.

↳ WE BELIEVE IN GOVERNMENT WITH INTEGRITY, <sup>and we demand</sup> ~~AND ESSENTIAL~~  
<sup>decency and honesty of our leaders</sup>  
VIRTUE THAT WE DEMAND OF OUR LEADERS, EVEN AS WE DEMAND IT

OF OURSELVES AS INDIVIDUAL CITIZENS.

↳ WE BELIEVE IN GOVERNMENT BY PUBLIC TRUST, AND THAT MEANS  
LEADERS WHO DESERVE OUR TRUST, AND WHO FULLFILL IT.

↳ WE BELIEVE IN SELF-RELIANCE, BUT TEMPERED BY A SENSE OF  
HUMANITARIANISM AND COMPASSION.

↳ WE BELIEVE IN ACHIEVEMENT; WE BELIEVE IN PROGRESS; WE  
BELIEVE IN WORK.

AND WE BELIEVE IN JUSTICE.

OUR BELIEFS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN CLOSELY TIED TO OUR ASPIRATIONS.

WE HAVE OFTEN BELIEVED IN WHAT WE HAVE NOT YET ACHIEVED, AND

THEN HAVE GONE ON TO WORK FOR IT, <sup>inspired by</sup> ~~LED ONWARD BY~~ OUR BELIEFS.

Preamble  
THE PREAMBLE OF THE CONSTITUTION SPELLS OUT THE FAITH

AND ASPIRATIONS OF AMERICA: " A MORE PERFECT UNION," "JUSTICE,"

"DOMESTIC TRANQUILITY," "THE COMMON DEFENSE," " THE GENERAL WELFARE,"

"THE BLESSINGS OF LIBERTY (FOR) OURSELVES AND OUR POSTERITY."

THE BILL OF RIGHTS: THE FREEDOM OF RELIGION, SPEECH AND THE

PRESS, OF PETITIONING GOVERNMENT FOR REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES;

FREEDOM FROM SEARCH AND SEIZURE; THE RIGHT TO FAIR, PUBLIC,

SPEEDY TRIAL BY JURY, TO REASONABLE BAIL AND FINES AND WITHOUT

CRUEL OR UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT; IT IS THESE RIGHTS THAT <sup>have been</sup> ARE BEING

THREATENED AND VIOLATED BY PEOPLE IN POWER.

NOT ONE WORD OF THE CONSTITUTION PROTECTS GOVERNMENT FROM  
THE PEOPLE, OR PUBLIC OFFICIALS FROM THE PUBLIC. THE  
CONSTITUTION WAS WRITTEN TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE FROM <sup>the abuse</sup> GOVERNMENT,  
*of power by government.*  
AND IT WAS UNDER THESE GUARANTEES, STIRRED BY OUR BELIEFS,  
LED BY OUR DREAMS, THAT WE BUILT THIS NATION. AND IT IS THESE  
GUARANTEES AND RIGHTS THAT ARE BEING TESTED TODAY.

NATIONS ARE IN MANY WAYS LIKE CHILDREN: THEY GO THROUGH  
PHASES, AND THESE PHASES CONTINUE WITH ADULTHOOD.

AS CHILDREN WE LEARNED <sup>that</sup> CERTAIN WAYS OF BEHAVING WERE RIGHT  
AND OTHERS WERE WRONG, TAKING THE WORD OF OUR PARENTS.

BUT AS WE REACHED ADOLESCENCE, WE BEGAN TO QUESTION THOSE  
VALUES AND RULES, AND WE TESTED AND CHALLENGED. WE LEARNED  
BY BREAKING A FEW RULES AND EXPERIENCING THE CONSEQUENCES.

IN THE END, WE HAD A BETTER APPRECIATION FOR WHAT WE HAD BEEN  
TAUGHT THAN WE HAD BEFORE. FAITH FOLLOWED BLINDLY KEEPS  
YOU OUT OF TROUBLE, LIKE A WALL. BUT VALUES BUILT ON  
EXPERIENCE OPEN THE EYES AND SET YOU FREE.

AMERICA HAS BEEN PASSING THROUGH AN ADOLESCENCE.

IT HAS BEEN TESTING AND QUESTIONING. I BELIEVE THE  
PROCESS HAS OPENED OUR EYES AND BROKEN THE WALLS.

THEY SAY THE REPENTED SINNER MAKES THE BEST CHRISTIAN. *Believer.*

I BELIEVE A REFORMED AMERICA WILL MAKE A BETTER AND  
STRONGER AMERICA.

WE HAVE HAD NO PRODIGAL DAYS, AND NOW WE WILL RETURN,  
SADDER BUT WISER -- AND STRONGER -- TO THE VALUES OF OUR  
FATHERS.

L IN THE LATTER DAYS OF OUR NATION'S YOUTH, OUR PRESIDENTS  
GAVE US THE NEW DEAL, THE NEW FRONTIER, THE GREAT SOCIETY,

TODAY AMERICA IS EMBARKED ON A NEW MATURITY. *-a New Respectability*

L HAVING SEEN LEADERS BREAK <sup>out</sup> RULES WE HAD ACCEPTED WITHOUT  
QUESTION, WE HAVE LEARNED THE REASONS FOR THOSE RULES AND THE

CONSEQUENCES OF BREAKING THEM. WE WILL WORK TO ASSURE THAT

THEY ARE NOT BROKEN IN THE FUTURE. AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT WE

NOW HAVE A MAN IN THE WHITE HOUSE WHO IS COMMITTED TO UPHOLD

THE CONSTITUTION.)

L HAVING SEEN OUR RESOURCES MISMANAGED AND SQUANDERED, WE

HAVE LEARNED THE HARD LESSONS OF STEWARDSHIP, PRUDENCE, AND

CONSERVATION.

L HAVING ENDURED THE PAINFUL EXPERIENCES OF FUEL AND ENERGY

SHORTAGE, WE WILL LEARN TO BECOME MORE SELF-SUFFICIENT.

L HAVING SEEN SURPLUS SHRINK TO SHORTAGE IN OUR AGRICULTURAL  
SUPPLIES, WE WILL LEARN THE NECESSITY OF A NATIONAL FOOD POLICY  
AND FOOD RESERVES FOR TIMES OF SCARCITY.

L HAVING LEARNED THE HARD LESSON OF EXECUTIVE USURPATION OF  
LEGISLATIVE POWER, WE WILL DEVISE MEANS OF RESTORING BALANCE.

L HAVING SEEN IN RECENT YEARS THE CRUEL AND IRONICAL  
SITUATION OF HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT AND INFLATION HITTING MILLIONS  
OF OUR PEOPLE AT THE SAME TIME, WE MUST HAVE THE WILL, AND THE  
*and the good sense*  
COURAGE TO PUT AN END TO THIS.

L HAVING SEEN OUR CONCERN FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AND THE  
RULE OF EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE CHEAPENED, DISTORTED AND REDUCED  
TO COVER UP EXECUTIVE MISDEEDS, WE MUST AND WILL DEVISE NEW  
MEANS OF REVEALING INFORMATION THAT THE PUBLIC NEEDS.

L HAVING WATCHED AND THEN GONE TO COURT TO FIGHT EXECUTIVE  
IMPOUNDMENT TO FRUSTRATE THE WILL OF CONGRESS, WE WILL WRITE  
NEW LAWS THAT PREVENT THOSE KINDS OF ARROGANCE.

L HAVING SEEN THE EXCESS OF FAST AND LOOSE COLLECTION AND  
SPENDING OF POLITICAL CAMPAIGN FUNDS, WE WILL WRITE LAWS THAT  
CAN HELP CLEAN UP THIS PROCESS.

L WE WILL ACHIEVE ALL THIS AND MORE, BECAUSE THE AMERICAN  
PEOPLE ARE DISGUSTED BUT NOT DISILLUSIONED, ANGRY BUT NOT  
RESIGNED, INDIGNANT BUT NOT DESPONDENT.

L THE AMERICAN VALUES STILL LIVE, THE OLD RULES STILL STAND.  
WE NEED ONLY TO BRING THEM BACK OUT INTO THE LIGHT OF THE  
AMERICAN VISION.

THE AMERICAN VISION HAS ALWAYS BEEN HELD BY THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY. AND THE CHALLENGE TO THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY TODAY IS TO REASSERT ITS LEADERSHIP AS THE PARTY OF THE PEOPLE, "WE THE PEOPLE."

↳ IT IS THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY THAT IS READY AND ABLE TO GET ON WITH THE JOB OF MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA.

↳ WE ARE THE PARTY THAT STANDS UP FOR THE WORKING FAMILIES *and the family farmers* OF THIS COUNTRY. WE ARE THE VOICE OF HOPE AND OPPORTUNITY

FOR THEM, AND WE SHALL TAKE TO THE PEOPLE OUR AGENDA FOR

ACTION IN ESTABLISHING A STRONG AND STABLE ECONOMY; IN PROVIDING

*adequate supplies of food, fiber,*  
DECENT JOBS AT A LIVING WAGE; QUALITY HEALTH CARE AT THE LOWEST

POSSIBLE COST FOR ALL PEOPLE; GOOD EDUCATION FOR OUR CHILDREN;

CLEAN AND SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS; A FAIR TAX SYSTEM; AND THE RIGHT  
OF EVERY AMERICAN <sup>to</sup> ~~TO HOPE IN THE FUTURE AND~~ HAVE A DECENT  
OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE THE MOST OF HIS OR HER ABILITIES.

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY STANDS TODAY FOR A RESTORATION OF  
AMERICAN VALUES AND FOR REPLACING THE POLITICS OF SLOGANS  
AND RHETORIC WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF ACTION AND PERFORMANCE.

*character, not charisma; substance not images, Performance  
not P.T. - Action, not Promise*  
SO I AM CONFIDENT OF AMERICA'S FUTURE. I DO NOT FIND

REASON TO DESPAIR.

A FAVORITE QUOTATION OF MINE IS FROM A GREAT AMERICAN POET,  
CARL SANDBURG. IN CLOSING, LET ME SHARE HIS WORDS WITH YOU:

"I SEE AMERICA, NOT IN THE SETTING SUN OF A BLACK  
NIGHT OF DESPAIR AHEAD OF US. I SEE AMERICA IN THE  
CRIMSON LIGHT OF A RISING SUN, FRESH FROM THE BURNING,  
CREATIVE HAND OF GOD. I SEE GREAT DAYS AHEAD, GREAT  
DAYS POSSIBLE TO MEN AND WOMEN OF WILL AND VISION."



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