

10-3-1984

Memphis Rally Speech

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Recommended Citation

Ferraro, Geraldine, "Memphis Rally Speech" (1984). *Speeches*. 67.
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- Dr. Tom Carpenter, Pres of Memphis State Univ.
- Student Govt.

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

OCTOBER 3, 1984

IT'S GREAT TO BE HERE IN MEMPHIS. I KNOW RONALD REAGAN WAS RECENTLY IN TENNESSEE. OF COURSE, HE WENT TO THE GRAND OLD OPRY TO LISTEN TO THE MUSIC. WELL, I SAY HE SHOULD HAVE COME TO MEMPHIS TO FACE THE MUSIC.

THE POLLSTERS AND THE PUNDITS SAY WE CAN'T WIN. THEY'VE ALREADY DECIDED THE ELECTION. BUT I WANT TO TAKE MY OWN SCIENTIFIC, OBJECTIVE SURVEY RIGHT HERE.

ARE WE GOING TO WIN IN NOVEMBER?

ARE WE GOING TO SEND WALTER MONDALE TO THE WHITE HOUSE AND RONALD REAGAN BACK TO THE RANCH?

YOU BET WE ARE.

AND IF THERE'S ANYONE WHO CAN MAKE SURE RONALD REAGAN IS OUT WEST COLLECTING SOCIAL SECURITY INSTEAD OF BACK IN WASHINGTON TRYING TO CUT SOCIAL SECURITY, IT'S ^{the Reverend} JESSE JACKSON.

THIS HAS BEEN A YEAR OF FIRSTS FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.
WALTER MONDALE MADE HISTORY BY PICKING ME TO BE THE FIRST FEMALE
VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE IN HISTORY.

BUT BEFORE I WAS NOMINATED, ^{Jackson} JESSE ~~IS~~ RUN FOR THE PRESIDENCY
HAD ALREADY OPENED NEW DOORS AND BROKEN DOWN OLD BARRIERS.

EVERY NOW AND THEN A CANDIDATE STRIKES A SPARK THAT EXCITES
PEOPLE WHO HAVE NEVER BEEN REACHED BEFORE. /

EVERY NOW AND THEN / A PERSON REMINDS US OF THE HUMAN BOND
THAT UNITES ALL AMERICANS. /

EVERY NOW AND THEN A PERSON COMES ALONG WHO MAKES US BETTER, /
NOT BY WINNING, BUT BY TRYING; / NOT BY INCUMBENCY, BUT BY DECENCY;
AND NOT BY PROMISING, BUT BY INSPIRING. //

JESSE JACKSON TOLD THIS COUNTRY, THE TALENTED WILL NOT BE
STOPPED AND THE WEAK WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN; / THE RICH WILL BE
TAXED AND THE HUNGRY WILL BE FED. / AND WITH HIS HELP WALTER
MONDALE WILL BE PRESIDENT / AND RONALD REAGAN WILL BE RETIRED.

ABOVE ALL, JESSE JACKSON SHOWED THAT ONE PERSON WITH VISION /
COULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR EVERYONE WITH A DREAM. /

Jackson
JESSE AND I SHARE A DREAM. / WE HOPE -- WE BELIEVE / -- THAT
AFTER OUR CANDIDACIES, NO AMERICAN WILL EVER AGAIN BE DISCOURAGED /
-- AND NO PERSON WILL EVER AGAIN BE DISQUALIFIED -- FROM ANY
OFFICE IN THIS LAND, BECAUSE OF RACE, RELIGION OR SEX.

IF THERE'S ONE THING MY CANDIDACY STANDS FOR ABOVE ALL ELSE
IT IS THE IDEA THAT IF WE CAN DO THIS, WE CAN DO ANYTHING.

BUT THIS CAMPAIGN IS MORE THAN A SYMBOL. TODAY, WE ARE
FIGHTING OVER THE HEART AND SOUL OF AMERICA, AND WE NEED YOUR
HELP. I SAY THIS COUNTRY NEEDS NEW DIRECTION, / NEW HOPE, / AND IN
JANUARY 1985, WE NEED A NEW LEADER.

LEADERSHIP IS NOT JUST TELLING PEOPLE WHAT YOU THINK THEY
WANT TO HEAR, IT'S TELLING THEM WHAT THEY NEED TO KNOW. IT'S NOT
JUST PROMISING PEOPLE MORE MONEY, IT'S ASKING THEM TO CONTRIBUTE
TO THIS COUNTRY.

IT MAY BE THAT A MADISON AVENUE CAMPAIGN -- WITH COMMERCIALS
OF SWELLING MUSIC AND PHONY GOOD CHEER -- IS SMART POLITICS. BUT
WE WON'T RUN THAT KIND OF CAMPAIGN. / WALTER MONDALE AND I ARE IN
THIS ELECTION TO FIGHT FOR WHAT WE THINK IS RIGHT / AND TO STAND
FOR WHAT WE BELIEVE IN. /

UNFORTUNATELY, THAT'S NOT THE KIND OF CAMPAIGN RONALD REAGAN IS RUNNING. I'VE SEEN SOME OF HIS COMMERCIALS AND HEARD ABOUT SOME OF HIS PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES. AND THE MORE I THINK ABOUT THEM, THE MORE ANGRY I GET.

TWO WEEKS AGO REAGAN WENT TO WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT, AND RECALLED, WITH SEEMING AFFECTION AND REVERENCE, THE NIGHT JOHN F. KENNEDY HAD BEEN THERE 24 YEARS BEFORE.

I MUST SAY, I RESENT IT WHEN RONALD REAGAN LAYS CLAIM TO THE MEMORY OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND PRETENDS THAT HE HAS ANYTHING IN COMMON WITH THAT GOOD MAN.

THE PEOPLE OF TENNESSEE WANT A PRESIDENT WHO STANDS ON HIS OWN RECORD, NOT ON ANOTHER MAN'S DEEDS.

JOHN F. KENNEDY FOUGHT DISCRIMINATION WITH ALL THE MIGHT OF HIS PRESIDENCY.

BUT RONALD REAGAN HAS DRAGGED HIS FEET ON EVERY PIECE OF CIVIL RIGHTS LEGISLATION THAT COMES BEFORE HIM.

I WANT A PRESIDENT WHO SUPPORTS CIVIL RIGHTS, NOT SEGREGATED ACADEMIES.

TODAY, THE HOPE OF MORE OPPORTUNITY FOR MILLIONS OF
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ AMERICANS IS POSTPONED, BECAUSE LAST NIGHT
THIS ADMINISTRATION DERAILED THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1984, //
FOR WOMEN, BLACKS, THE DISABLED, X AND THE ELDERLY, THE
REPUBLICAN VOTE WAS A DISASTER. FOR THIS COUNTRY IT
IS A SHAME. /

AND IF YOU ELECT WALTER MONDALE, I PROMISE YOU -- TOGETHER
-- WE'LL PASS THAT BILL.

JOHN F. KENNEDY PLACED THE HIGHEST VALUE ON THE CULTIVATED
MIND. BUT RONALD REAGAN'S IDEA OF HELPING EDUCATION IS TO LAUNCH
A TEACHER INTO SPACE.

I SAY, LET'S HELP BOTH TEACHERS AND STUDENTS HERE ON EARTH.

JOHN F. KENNEDY BELIEVED IN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL.

BUT RONALD REAGAN LIKES THE GOLD STANDARD FOR CURRENCY, AND
THE DOUBLE STANDARD FOR WOMEN. WHEN I TAKE MY OATH OF OFFICE FOR
MY SECOND TERM AS VICE PRESIDENT, I WANT TO SWEAR TO UPHOLD A
CONSTITUTION THAT INCLUDES THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT.

I SAY TO RONALD REAGAN: DON'T TELL US YOU'RE FOR CIVIL
RIGHTS, BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT; DON'T TELL US YOU'VE EXPANDED
OPPORTUNITY, BECAUSE YOU HAVEN'T; DON'T TELL US YOU SUPPORT
EDUCATION, BECAUSE YOU DON'T. DON'T TELL US YOU SUPPORTED JOHN
KENNEDY, BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T. AND DON'T TELL US, MR. PRESIDENT,
THAT YOUR POLICIES ARE FAIR -- BECAUSE THEY AREN'T.

~~RONALD REAGAN IS NOT LEADING US TO A BETTER FUTURE, AND HE
CANNOT HIDE FROM HIS PAST. SOME SAY WALTER MONDALE IS NOT A
LEADER, BUT LET'S LOOK AT THE RECORD.~~

WHILE RONALD REAGAN WAS MAKING MOVIES, FRITZ MONDALE WAS MAKING HISTORY AS A CHAMPION OF CIVIL RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE.

WHILE RONALD REAGAN WAS HOSTING DEATH VALLEY DAYS, FRITZ MONDALE WAS TRYING TO GET MEDICARE PASSED FOR OUR SENIOR CITIZENS.

WHILE RONALD REAGAN WAS SERVING AS THE SPOKESMAN FOR GENERAL ELECTRIC CORPORATION, FRITZ MONDALE WAS A SPOKESMAN FOR WORKING MEN AND WOMEN ACROSS AMERICA.

TODAY, WHILE RONALD REAGAN CONTINUES TO DRAG HIS FEET ON CIVIL RIGHTS LEGISLATION, WALTER MONDALE WANTS TO RENEW THE BATTLE FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOUGHT BY ALL DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTS SINCE FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT.

THIS COUNTRY IS GOING TO CLEAN HOUSE IN NOVEMBER, BECAUSE THE REPUBLICANS AREN'T DOING THEIR JOB. THE REPUBLICANS SAY THEY'RE FOR A BALANCED BUDGET, BUT THEY'VE GIVEN US THE LARGEST DEFICITS IN HISTORY -- OVER \$200 BILLION.

THEY'RE MOTTO IS: WE EARN MONEY THE OLD FASHIONED WAY -- WE PRINT IT. I SAY RONALD REAGAN SHOULD STOP PUTTING OUR MONEY WHERE HIS MOUTH IS. LET'S BRING DOWN THE DEFICITS AND LET'S DO IT FAIRLY.

LOOK AT THE BUDGET DECISIONS HE'S ALREADY MADE.

ACCORDING TO THIS ADMINISTRATION, IF YOU'RE A DEFENSE CONTRACTOR, \$2,000 FOR A THIRTEEN-CENT NUT IS NOT TOO HIGH A PRICE. BUT IF YOU'RE AN ELDERLY WOMAN LIVING ON SOCIAL SECURITY, THE MINIMUM BENEFIT OF \$122 A MONTH IS EXTRAVAGANT AND MUST BE CUT.

IF YOU'RE A PENTAGON SUPPLIER, \$7,000 FOR A COFFEE MACHINE IS MARKET VALUE. NOW, YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE MR. COFFEE TO KNOW THAT'S TOO MUCH. BUT IF YOU'RE A YOUNG MOTHER TRYING TO FEED YOUR BABY, THIS ADMINISTRATION SAYS \$35 A MONTH WILL BUST THE BUDGET.

IF YOU'RE HOMELESS, THEY SAY YOU LIKE IT THAT WAY. IF YOU'RE WITHOUT A JOB, THEY SAY VOTE WITH YOUR FEET. AND IF YOU'RE HUNGRY, THEY SAY EAT CHEESE.

IF THAT'S HIS IDEA OF LEADERSHIP, I SAY LET'S VOTE WITH OUR HEARTS, TAKE AWAY HIS JOB, AND SEND HIM BACK HOME IN NOVEMBER.

IF YOU'RE ONE OF THOUSANDS OF DISABLED CUT OFF BY THIS ADMINISTRATION'S CRUEL DISABILITY POLICY, THEY SAY "SUE US." AND THEN THEY CUT THE LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAMS THAT LET YOU DO THAT. BUT IF YOU'RE A BIG BANK FAILING BECAUSE OF MISMANAGEMENT, THEY SAY: TELL US HOW MUCH YOU NEED AND WE'LL SEND IT.

AND IF YOU'RE A VETERAN, THIS PRESIDENT SAID YOU DON'T NEED JOB TRAINING. I WANT AN ADMINISTRATION THAT RELIES ON ITS SOLDIERS WHEN THEY GO TO WAR, BUT ALSO SUPPORTS THEM WHEN THE FIGHTING ENDS.

IF YOU'RE A BIG OIL COMPANY, THIS ADMINISTRATION WANTS TO CUT YOUR WINDFALL PROFITS TAX. BUT IF YOU'RE ELDERLY THEY WANT TO CUT YOUR EMERGENCY FUEL ASSISTANCE.

IF YOU'RE MAKING OVER \$100,000 A YEAR, THIS ADMINISTRATION GAVE YOU ENOUGH TAX CUTS TO BUY A NEW CAR, BUT IF YOU'RE A TEACHER IN MEMPHIS THEY DIDN'T EVEN GIVE YOU ENOUGH TO BUY A HUBCAP.

THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS A CALCULATOR WHERE ITS HEART SHOULD BE, BUT IT'S TIME FOR A TRANSPLANT. AND I SAY IT'S TIME TO PUT WALTER MONDALE IN THE WHITE HOUSE.

ABOVE ALL THIS ELECTION IS ABOUT THE FUTURE. / WALTER MONDALE
WILL BUILD A MORE SECURE FUTURE BY FREEZING THE ARMS RACE TODAY. /
WE NEED A PRESIDENT WHO WILL STAND UP TO THE SOVIETS. / BUT WHO HAS
THE WISDOM TO SIT DOWN WITH THEM AND NEGOTIATE AN END TO THE ARMS
RACE.

WALTER MONDALE WILL BUILD A MORE TOLERANT FUTURE BY
APPOINTING A SUPREME COURT THAT WILL GUARD OUR RIGHTS, NOT
RESTRICT OUR LIVES. *I want a government that stays in public*
buildings and stays keeps out of our homes,
~~LET'S NOT PERMIT JERRY FALWELL TO PICK THE~~
~~NEXT TWO JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT.~~
our churches, and our synagogues.

WALTER MONDALE WILL BUILD A MORE JUST FUTURE / BY STANDING UP
around
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ACROSS THE GLOBE. HE KNOWS THAT WE MUST PRESS
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS NOT ONLY IN POLAND AND THE SOVIET UNION, BUT
ALSO IN EL SALVADOR AND SOUTH AFRICA. WE MUST PRESSURE SOUTH
AFRICA TO END THE TERRIBLE SYSTEM OF APARTHEID. /

FINALLY, WALTER MONDALE WILL BUILD A MORE PEACEFUL FUTURE BY
BRINGING PEACE TO CENTRAL AMERICA. / WE NEED A PRESIDENT WHO WILL
DO MORE THAN JUST CALL FOR NEW TALKS. / WE NEED A PRESIDENT WHO
WILL END THE COVERT WAR IN NICARAGUA.

baner

WHAT THIS ADMINISTRATION DOES NOT UNDERSTAND IS THAT
FIGHTING FOR PRIVACY AND AGAINST DISCRIMINATION AT HOME / IS JUST
AS PATRIOTIC AS FIGHTING COMMUNISM IN CENTAL AMERICA.

THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT WHEN SOMEONE FINDS JOBS FOR THE EIGHT AND A HALF MILLION AMERICANS WITHOUT WORK -- THAT WILL BE A PATRIOTIC ACT.

THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT WHEN WE EDUCATE OUR CHILDREN, TO BUILD OUR COUNTRY'S FUTURE -- THAT WILL BE A PATRIOTIC ACT.

THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT WHEN WE PASS THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT -- THAT WILL BE A PATRIOTIC ACT.

AND THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT WHEN WE FINALLY STOP THE ARMS RACE, WE WILL INCREASE OUR SAFETY -- AND THAT WILL BE A PATRIOTIC ACT.

THE TIME TO BEGIN THAT WORK IS NOT LATER. IT'S NOW.

THE TIME TO REGISTER NEW VOTERS IS NOT LATER. IT'S NOW.

THE TIME TO CLEAN UP OUR ENVIRONMENT IS NOT LATER. IT'S
NOW.

THE TIME TO STOP THE COVERT WAR IN NICARAGUA IS NOT LATER.
IT'S NOW.

AND THE TIME FOR FRITZ MONDALE TO BECOME PRESIDENT, AND
GERRY FERRARO TO BECOME VICE PRESIDENT IS NOT LATER. IT'S NOW.

- END -