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## Evanston Rally Speech

Geraldine Ferraro

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EVANSTON, ILLINOIS the

OCTOBER 31, 1984

FOR THAT VERY KIND INTRODUCTION.

I M DELIGHTED TO BE HERE WITH MY COLLEAGUE IN THE HOUSE, A TRUE FRIEND OF EDUCATION, CONGRESSMAN SID YATES.

And in a state that is gry to clubb

AND TO BE WITH THAT GREAT LINCOLN SCHOLAR, A FIGHTER FOR STUDENTS AND WORKING MEN AND WOMEN, THE NEXT SENATOR FROM ILLINOIS, PAUL SIMON.

WHEN I RETURN TO WASHINGTON AS PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, AND THE SENATE BEGINS CONFIRMING JUDICIAL NOMINEES, I WANT SENATORS LIKE ALAN /DIXON AND PAUL SIMON APPROVING THE NEXT SUPREME COURT, NOT JESSE HELMS AND CHARLES PERCY.

> TONIGHT IS HALLOWEEN, THAT SPECIAL NIGHT WHEN KIDS ACROSS THE COUNTRY DRESS UP IN COSTUMES TO FRIGHTEN EACH OTHER. FUNNY THING IS, WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT HIS STAR WARS PLAN, RONALD REAGAN IS SCARY EVERY NIGHT OF THE YEAR.

> IN THE LAST FEW DAYS, I'VE HEARD PEOPLE SAY THAT THE POLLS ARE AGAINST US. THEY TELL ME PEOPLE ARE GOING TO VOTE FOR MR. REAGAN, EVEN THOUGH THEY OPPOSE HIS POLICIES, BECAUSE THEY LIKE HIM.

WELL, LET ME SAY SOMETHING TO ANY OF YOU WHO FEEL THAT WAY.

MR. REAGAN MAY BE CHARMING, FUNNY, AND PLEASANT. BUT THERE'S

NOTHING CHARMING ABOUT THE COVERT WAR IN NICARAGUA. THERE'S

NOTHING FUNNY ABOUT TOXIC WASTE THAT CAUSES CANCER. AND THERE'S

NOTHING PLEASANT ABOUT DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN AND

MINORITIES. IF YOU WANT TO CONTINUE THESE POLICIES, RONALD

REAGAN'S YOUR MAN.

THINK ABOUT IT. IF PEOPLE VOTE FOR RONALD REAGAN THEY SHOULD KNOW THAT THEY'RE VOTING TO EXTEND THE ARMS RACE INTO SPACE AND THEY'RE VOTING TO RETREAT FROM HUMAN RIGHTS. BUT THEY SHOULD ALSO KNOW THAT IF THEY VOTE FOR WALTER MONDALE, THEY'RE VOTING TO STOP THE ARMS RACE, PRESERVE THE ENVIRONMENT, PROTECT SOCIAL SECURITY, REDUCE THESE DEFICITS, AND PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS.

I THINK PEOPLE WILL DO THAT. I THINK THAT OUR SECRET WEAPON IN THIS CAMPAIGN IS PEOPLE'S CONSCIENCE. WHEN PEOPLE GO INTO THE POLLING BOOTH AND PULL THAT CURTAIN BEHIND THEM, THEY WILL STOP AND THINK WHAT IT IS DEEP DOWN THEY REALLY CARE ABOUT -- WHETHER IT IS PROTECTING OUR PERSONAL FREEDOMS, CREATING JOBS FOR OUR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS, TEACHING OUR CHILDREN, OR STOPPING THE ARMS RACE.

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WHEN THEY DO THAT -- AND I BELIEVE THEY WILL -- THEIR

CONSCIENCE WILL TELL THEM TO PULL THAT LEVER FOR WALTER MONDALE.

AND WERE GOING TO WIN THIS ELECTION.

THIS ELECTION IS NOT A DUEL BETWEEN PERSONALITIES. YOU SAN LIKE ROWALD REAGAN, DUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO VOTE FOR HIM.

ABOVE ALL, THIS ELECTION IS ABOUT DEFENDING FOUR GREAT AMERICAN PRINCIPLES.

FIRST, EDUCATION. AMERICANS HAVE ALWAYS KNOWN THAT
EDUCATION UNLOCKS THE DOORS TO OPPORTUNITY. WE KNOW THAT TO GET
AHEAD, YOU HAVE TO GET AN EDUCATION.

BUT WHERE WE SEE A NEED TO INVEST IN THE PROMISE OF OUR
YOUTH, RONALD REAGAN HAS DRAMATICALLY CUT SCHOOL AID AND SLASHED
PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING.

RONALD REAGAN WANTS TO SEND A TEACHER INTO SPACE, BUT I SAY WE HAVE TO HELP OUR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS HERE ON EARTH.

SECOND, AMERICANS HAVE ALWAS BELIEVED THAT PERSONAL FREEDOM
IS ESSENTIAL. BUT THE EXTREMISTS WHO CONTROL THE REPUBLICAN
PARTY WOULD IMPOSE A RELIGIOUS TEST ON FEDERAL JUDGES, AND PUT
THE GOVERNMENT BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR MOST PERSONAL CHOICES.

WALTER MONDALE AND I WILL KEEP THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND OUT OF OUR HOMES, OUR CHURCHES, AND OUR SYNAGOGUES.

I WANT THE SUPREME COURT CHOSEN BY WALTER MONDALE, NOT JERRY FALWELL.

THIRD, WE WON'T HAVE ANY KIND OF FUTURE WITHOUT THIS PLANET.

WE MUST KEEP OUR LAND, OUR CHILDREN, AND OUR LIVES FREE FROM

TOXIC WASTES. TOO MANY AMERICANS ALREADY MUST WORRY ABOUT THE

'AIR THEY BREATHE, THE WATER THEY DRINK, AND THE LAND THEY OWN.

THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS TURNED ITS BACK ON THEM. THEY LEFT
TOXIC WASTE DUMPS UNCLEANED, AND FAILED TO HELP LOCAL SCHOOL
DISTRICTS REMOVE ASBESTOS FROM SOME 33,000 PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

REMEMBER, THIS IS THE ADMINISTRATION THAT GAVE US JAMES WATT

THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT UNDER PRESCIPENT MONDALE. HE WILL ENFORCE OUR ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS. HE WILL REBUILD THE EPA. HE WILL USE A REAUTHORIZED AND EXPANDED SUPERFUND TO CLEAN UP THE MOST DANGEROUS TOXIC DUMPS. AND HE'LL MAKE THE POLLUTERS PAY FOR THE CLEAN UP.

I SAY WE NEED AN ADMINISTRATION THAT TAKES POLLUTERS TO COURT, AND NOT TO LUNCH.

FOURTH, THERE'S NO GREATER AMERICAN PRINCIPLE THAN PEACE WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, AND THAT REQUIRES ENDING THE ARMS RACE.

PRESIDENT REAGAN IS THE FIRST PRESIDENT SINCE HOOVER NOT TO MEET WITH HIS SOVIET COUNTERPART. HE IS THE FIRST PRESIDENT SINCE THE DAWN OF THE NUCLEAR AGE NOT TO SIGN AN ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT.

I SAY WE NEED A PRESIDENT WHO WILL CALL ON THE SOVIET LEADER
TO NEGOTIATE ON HIS FIRST DAY IN OFFICE, NOT ON THE FIRST DAY OF
HIS RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

AND WE NEED A PRESIDENT WHO WILL STOP THE ARMS RACE BEFORE IT SPINS INTO SPACE. IT'S TIME TO SAY, THE SKY'S THE LIMIT. RATHER THAN EXTENDING THE ARMS RACE INTO SPACE, LET'S STOP IT HERE ON EARTH.

CONTROLLING NUCLEAR WEAPONS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT -- BUT NOT THE ONLY -- KEY TO A SAFER WORLD. OUR SECURITY ALSO CALLS FOR SUPPORTING HUMAN RIGHTS.

I WANT A PRESIDENT WHO UNDERSTANDS THAT WHEN WE PRESS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS WE STRENGTHEN OUR OWN COUNTRY. I WANT AN ADMINISTRATION WHICH STOPS TOASTING DICTATORS AND STARTS FIGHTING FOR DEMOCRACY.

I ALSO WANT A PRESIDENT COMMITTED TO ENDING HUNGER AND PREVENTING STARVATION, RIGHT NOW, HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE ARE DYING EACH DAY IN ETHIOPIA BECAUSE THEY DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT, WE HAVE ALL SEEN THE TRAGIC PICTURES. MEANWHILE, WORLD CEREAL PRODUCTION IS UP AND OUR STOREHOUSES ARE PACKED WITH GRAIN, THAT SHOCKING CONTRAST IS INDECENT.

THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS RECENTLY ANNOUNCED PLANS FOR
EMERGENCY RELIEF. BUT THEY CUT BACK ON FOOD FOR PEACE BY NEARLY
700 MILLION DOLLARS. THEY DID NOT ACT WHEN EVERYONE SAW THE
PROBLEM, AND NOW THE PROBLEM HAS BECOME A TRAGEDY.

I WANT AN ADMINISTRATION THAT SENDS TO OTHER COUNTRIES

THOSE ARE THE FOUR BASIC PRINCIPLES. BUT TO BUILD THE FUTURE, WE MUST DO IT TOGETHER. DIVIDING US INTO HAVES AND HAVE-NOTS WON'T STRENGTHEN THIS COLUMN.

EVERY TIME WE LOWER A BARRIER, OUR NATION IS STRONGER.

EVERY TIME WE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TALENTS THAT WERE PREVIOUSLY

EXCLUDED, OUR NATION IS RICHER.

WALTER MONDALE AND I ARE COMMITTED TO AN AMERICA WHICH

JUDGES PEOPLE NOT BY THE COLOR OF THEIR SKIN, BUT BY THE CONTENT

OF THEIR CHARACTER:

WE WANT AN ADMINISTRATION THAT SUPPORTS CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS, NOT SEGREGATED ACADEMIES.

WE ALSO WANT A GOVERNMENT THAT FIGHTS DISCRIMINATION FOR ITS WHOLE TERM. THE OTHER DAY, PRESIDENT REAGAN ASSERTED THAT THE LEADERSHIP OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY LACKED THE "MORAL COURAGE" TO DENOUNCE ANTI-SEMITISM. THAT WAS A DISGRACEFUL FALSEHOOD.

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS LED THE FIGHT AGAINST EVERY FORM OF DISCRIMINATION. WHETHER IT WAS ANTI-SEMITISM, RACISM, AGEISM OR SEXISM, THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS TOOD UP FOR THE RIGHTS OF ALL AMERICANS. AND WE HAVE DONE THAT YEAR IN AND YEAR OUT FOR FIFTY YEARS BECAUSE ITS RIGHT, NOT JUST IN ELECTION YEARS BECAUSE WE NEED VOTES.

THAT'S WHY I'M PROUD TO BE A DEMOCRAT.

WE ALSO WANT A COUNTRY THAT KEEPS FAITH WITH WOMEN. WHEN I TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE FOR MY SECOND TERM AS VICE PRESDIENT, I WANT TO SWEAR TO UPHOLD A CONSTITUTION THAT INCLUDES THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT.

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS ALWAYS BELIEVED IN THESE
PRINCIPLES. BUT RECENTLY IT SEEMS LIKE WE HAVE ANOTHER NEW
CONVERT. RONALD REAGAN HAS BEEN RIDING HARRY TRUMAN'S TRAIN.

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A FEW WEEKS AGO, HE TOOK HARRY TRUMAN'S PULLMAN CAR OUT OF A MUSEUM TO TRY TO RECREATE TRUMAN'S FAMOUS WHISTLE-STOP TOUR OF 1948.

THAT TRAIN STUNT DIDN'T FOOL ANYONE. BUT THINK ABOUT IT.

WHAT BETTER SYMBOL COULD RONALD REAGAN GIVE US OF HIS

ADMINISTRATION: THERE HE WAS, FACING BACKWARDS, WITHOUT A CLUE

ABOUT WHO WAS AT THE CONTROLS, OR IN WHAT DIRECTION HE WAS GOING.

MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT. WE'RE IN A FIGHT FOR THE HEART AND SOUL OF THIS COUNTRY. MAKE NO MISTAKE: AS DEMOCRATS, WE'RE GOING TO WIN THAT FIGHT.

LET ME CLOSE BY TELLING YOU WHAT THIS CAMPAIGN IS ALL ABOUT.

Campagin.

IT'S ABOUT PEOPLE TODAY WHO DESERVE A BETTER BREAK: THE FARMERS CRUSHED BY HIGH INTEREST RATES, THE STEELWORKERS WHOSE JOBS HAVE BEEN SENT OVERSEAS, THE HIGH-TECH COMPANIES HANDICAPPED BY OUR TRADE PROBLEMS, AND THE ELDERLY STRUGGLING TO MAINTAIN THEIR DIGNITY.

BUT THIS ELECTION IS NOT JUST ABOUT TODAY OR TOMORROW: IT'S ABOUT A BETTER FUTURE FOR MY CHILDREN AND FOR YOURS.

I LOOK AT MY CHILDREN AND I SAY TO MYSELF: WHAT DO I WANT FOR THEM? AND THE ANSWER IS, I WANT FOR MY CHILDREN AND FOR EVERY CHILD A WORLD AT PEACE.

RONALD REAGAN HAS PUT ARMS CONTROL ON THE BACK BURNER FOR FOUR YEARS. IMAGINE WHAT HE WOULD DO WITH FOUR MORE YEARS.

STOPPING THE NUCLEAR ARMS IS NOT JUST ANOTHER ISSUE. IT'S THE ISSUE IN THIS CAMPAIGN.

I WANT FOR EVERY CHILD IN THIS COUNTRY THE SAME OPPORTUNITY
MY OWN CHILDREN HAVE -- TO DEVELOP THEIR TALENTS, OPEN THEIR
MINDS, AND GO WHEREVER THEIR DREAMS WILL TAKE THEM.

AND LET ME MENTION WHAT I <u>DON'T</u> WANT FOR OUR CHILDREN. I
DON'T WANT TO HEAR, AS I HAVE IN CALIFORNIA AND OHIO, THAT TOXIC
CHEMICALS ARE SEEPING INTO GROUNDWATER.

I DON'T WANT TO STICK OUR CHILDREN WITH THE BILL FOR OUR DEFICITS. I DON'T WANT TO SADDLE THEM WITH A RUNAWAY ARMS RACE.

AND I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE THEM A GOVERNMENT THAT INTRUDES IN THEIR PRIVATE LIVES.

MOST OF ALL, I WANT THEM TO HAVE THE SAME VALUES I LEARNED AS A CHILD. I WAS TAUGHT TO CARE ABOUT MY FAMILY, MY NEIGHBORS, AND THOSE IN NEED. I LEARNED TO LOVE MY COMMUNITY, AND THIS COUNTRY. THOUGH I LEARNED TO VALUE ACHIEVEMENT, I WAS TAUGHT THERE ARE MANY THINGS MORE IMPORTANT THAN SIMPLY GETTING AHEAD: LIKE MY FAMILY, MY FAITH, AND FREEDOM.

IN AMERICA, WE DO NOT HONOR AMBITION UNCHECKED BY PRINCIPLE,
POWER UNTEMPERED BY COMPASSION, OR THE PURSUIT OF WEALTH JUST FOR

ITS OWN SAKE.

AND HERE'S WHERE WALTER MONDALE AND I PART COMPANY WITH OUR OPPONENTS. GEORGE BUSH HAS SAID THIS ELECTION IS ONLY ABOUT PUTTING MONEY INTO THE VOTER'S WALLET. OF COURSE WE CARE ABOUT MONEY, BUT THAT'S ONLY ONE THING, NOT EVERYTHING AMERICANS CARE ABOUT.

WE CARE ABOUT PEACE, WE CARE ABOUT EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, AND THE ONE THING OUR OPPONENTS JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND IS THAT WE CARE ABOUT EACH OTHER.

WE ALSO CARE ABOUT HAVING THE COURAGE TO STAND UP FOR WHAT WILL BELIEVE. IN MY EVES, WALTER MONDALE IS A GREAT COURAGEOUS MAN. WHEN HE ASKED ME TO BE HIS RUNNING MATE, HE DID MORE FOR JUSTICE IN A SINGLE DAY, THAN RONALD REAGAN HAS DONE IN FOUR LONG YEARS.

THINK OF WHAT THE NEXT FOUR YEARS WOULD BE LIKE IF RONALD REAGAN WERE RE-ELECTED. THEN, THINK OF WHAT OUR FUTURE COULD BE LIKE WITH WALTER MONDALE AS PRESIDENT.

LET OTHERS SAY THIS ELECTION CANNOT BE WON. I SAY IT CAN BE. I SAY IT MUST BE. AND I SAY, WITH YOUR HELP IT WILL BE.

one of the greater