## Fordham Law School FLASH: The Fordham Law Archive of Scholarship and History

## Speeches

1984 Vice-Presidential Campaign

9-19-1984

## Minneapolis Rally Speech

Geraldine Ferraro

Follow this and additional works at: https://ir.lawnet.fordham.edu/vice\_presidential\_campaign\_speeches\_1984

Part of the <u>Law Commons</u>

## **Recommended** Citation

Ferraro, Geraldine, "Minneapolis Rally Speech" (1984). Speeches. 112. https://ir.lawnet.fordham.edu/vice\_presidential\_campaign\_speeches\_1984/112

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the 1984 Vice-Presidential Campaign at FLASH: The Fordham Law Archive of Scholarship and History. It has been accepted for inclusion in Speeches by an authorized administrator of FLASH: The Fordham Law Archive of Scholarship and History. For more information, please contact tmelnick@law.fordham.edu.

JOAN GROWE RALLY -- MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA September 19, 1984

IT'S GREAT TO BE BACK HERE IN THE HOME STATE OF THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. YOU KNOW, THERE'S SOME PEOPLE WHO SAY WE DON'T HAVE A CHANCE IN NOVEMBER. OF COURSE, THEY'RE THE SAME PEOPLE WHO DIDN'T THINK THE TWINS WOULD BE IN A PENNANT RACE THIS YEAR. BUT I'D LIKE TO TAKE MY OWN SCIENTIFIC, OBJECTIVE POLL RIGHT HERE.

Do you think we're going to win in November?

ARE WE GOING TO SEND WALTER MONDALE TO THE WHITE HOUSE AND Ronald Reagan back to the ranch?

AND ARE WE GOING TO SEND JOAN GROWE TO THE U.S. SENATE?

YOU BEL WE ARE.

I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU, YOU'VE GOT a GREAT SECRETARY OF STATE HERE IN MINNESOTA. IN HER PUBLIC CAREER, JOAN GROWE HASN'T JUST TALKED ABOUT HONEST GOVERNMENT, SHE WROTE THE LAWS THAT BROUGHT STATE GOVERNMENT INTO THE OPEN. AND AS SECRETARY OF STATE, SHE MADE MINNESOTA THE NUMBER ONE STATE IN VOTER PARTICIPATION. Page 1A

LET THE REPUBLICANS CATER TO THE RICH, THE PAMPERED AND THE PRIVILEGED. JOAN GROWE CARES ONLY ABOUT ONE SPECIAL INTEREST: THE PEOPLE OF MINNESOTA.

WHEN I GET TO WASHINGTON THIS JANUARY AS VICE PRESIDENT, I WANT JOAN GROWE WORKING BESIDE ME IN THE U.S. SENATE. TOGETHER WE CAN GET THIS COUNTRY MOVING AGAIN, WE CAN MAKE PROGRESS

YOU KNOW, I REMEMBER WHEN RONALD REAGAN WAS SPOKESMAN FOR GENERAL ELECTRIC. HE USED TO SAY, "PROGRESS IS OUR MOST IMPORTANT PRODUCT." WELL, HE CAN'T SAY THAT AS PRESIDENT.

WHERE OTHER PRESIDENTS WORKED TO CLEAN THE AIR, HELP THE FOGGED POOR, AND PASS THE E.R.A., RONALD REAGAN HAS HELPED HELPED AIR, HELPED AIR, AND THE RICH, AND THE BUCK.

RONALD REAGAN SAYS \$200 BILLION DEFICITS DON'T NEED TO BE REDUCED, BUT I SAY LET'S GET THEM DOWN, AND LET'S DO IT FAIRLY.

RONALD REAGAN SAYS WE HAVE A GLORIOUS RECOVERY, BUT I SAY WE OUT OF WORK MINNESOTANS WON'T HAVE A COMPLETE RECOVERY UNTIL ALL

RONALD REAGAN SAYS WHEN IT COMES TO CUTTING THE BUDGET, ELDERLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN SHOULD BE SACRIFICED FIRST, BUT I SAY SOCIAL SECURITY IS A CONTRACT, AND THE ELDERLY HAVE A RIGHT TO LIVE IN DIGNITY.

RONALD REAGAN SAYS WE SHOULD CUT EDUCATION FUNDS AND WANTS TO LAUNCH A TEACHER INTO SPACE. BUT I SAY LET'S HELP STUDENTS AND TEACHERS HERE ON EARTH.

AND RONALD REAGAN SAYS 115 MILLION WOMEN DON'T NEED EQUAL RIGHTS UNDER THE CONSTITUTION. BUT I SAY LET'S PASS THE E.R.A., AND LET'S DO IT NOW. Page 3

1

ON NOVEMBER 6TH, YOU CAN CHOOSE TO SIT BACK WITH RONALD REAGAN, OR YOU CAN CHOOSE TO MOVE FORWARD WITH WALTER MONDALE AND GERRY FERRARO.

IN FACT, YOU FACE THE MOST IMPORTANT ELECTION IN YEARS BECAUSE ON TOP OF ALL THESE CHOICES, THERE IS THE MOST PROFOUND CHOICE OF ALL: WHICH LEADER CAN BUILD A SAFER WORLD.

EVERY GENERATION FACES ONE OVERRIDING PROBLEM. FOR OURS, IT IS TO FREEZE THE ARMS RACE AND KEEP THE PEACE.

FRITZ MONDALE AND I ARE COMMITTED TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE RUSSIANS AND ACHIEVE A MUTUAL, VERIFIABLE ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT.

RONALD REAGAN HAS OPPOSED EVERY ARMS CONTROL TREATY EVER NEGOTIATED. IF JOHN KENNEDY HAD LISTENED TO RONALD REAGAN, WE WOULD NOT HAVE A TEST BAN TREATY. Page 4

IF LYNDON JOHNSON HAD LISTENED TO RONAND REAGAN, THE DANGER WOULD BE GREATER THAN IT ALREADY IS THAT A KHOMEINI, QUADAFFI OR THE PLO MIGHT GET THEIR HANDS ON THE BOMB.

IF RICHARD NIXON HAD LISTINED TO RONALD REAGAN WE WOULD NOT HAVE AN ABM TREATY, AND THE SOVIETS WOULD BE A BIGGER THREAT THAN THEY ARE TODAY.

AND IF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE LISTEN TO RONALD REAGAN NOW, WE WILL HAVE AN ARMS RACE IN SPACE. I SAY, IF THIS PRESIDENT CAN'T STOP EXCHANGING INSULTS AND START EXCHANGING SOUND PROPOSALS TO CONTROL NUCLEAR WEAPONS, THEN IT'S TIME TO EXCHANGE THIS PRESIDENT FOR CHE WHO WILL.

I ASK YOU TO COMPARE RONALD REAGAN AND WALTER MONDALE ON ARMS CONTROL. WALTER MONDALE HAS BEEN A LEADER FOR ARMS CONTROL. HE WAS THE FIRST PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE TO SUPPORT A NUCLEAR FREEZE. AND TODAY, HE WANTS TO STOP THE ARMS RACE BEFORE IT FLIES INTO ORBIT.

I WANT A PRESIDENT WHO CALLS ON THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP ON HIS FIRST DAY IN OFFICE, NOT ON THE FIRST DAY OF HIS RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN. Page 5

•

I WANT A PRESIDENT WHO TELLS US HIS PLANS FOR CONTROLLING NUCLEAR WEAPONS TODAY, NOT AFTER THE ELECTION.

I WANT A PRESIDENT WHO WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO NEGOTIATE A MUTUAL, VERIFIABLE FREEZE.

I WANT A PRESIDENT WHO WILL NOT ONLY STAND UP TO THE SOMETS, BUT ALSO WILL HAVE THE WISDOM TO SIT DOWN WITH THERE TO NEGOTIATE AN END TO THE ARMS RACE. THAT'S THE KIND OF PRESIDENT FRITZ MONDALE WILL BE.

WE MUST NOT ONLY REDUCE NUCLEAR WEAPONS, WE MUST ALSO REDUCE TENSIONS.

TODAY THERE ARE CIVIL WARS AND OTHER CONFLICTS BEING WAGED AROUND THE WORLD. TWO MILLION PEOPLE ARE FIGHTING AND DYING AS WE MEET HERE TODAY. BUT INSTEAD OF COOLING THESE HOT SPOTS, IN THIS ADMINISTRATION IS SOME CASES HERE THROWING FUEL ON THE FIRE.

IN CENTRAL AMERICA, WEARE INTERCOLLE BY PEACEFUL MEANS, AND WE ARE AMERICANIZING A CONFLICT THAT IS PRIMARILY LOCAL.

I SAY IT'S TIME STOP THE COVERT WAR IN NICARAGUA. AND

WE'RE MAKING A MISTAKE TODAY I' CENTRAL AMERICA, AND WE MADE ONE BEFORE IN LEBANON, OVER 250 YOUNG MEN DIED ON A MISSION WITHOUT A PURPOSE AND FOR A POLICY THAT HAS NEVER BEEN EXPLAINED.

A PRESIDENT MUST KNOW WHERE TO USE FORCE AND WHEN, BUT HE MUST ALSO KNOW WHEN IT SHOULD NOT BE USED. LET'S UNDERSTAND THE WORLD BEFORE WE ARM IT. AND LET'S HAVE A PRESIDENT WHO SENDS IN THE DIPLOMATS BEFORE HE SENDS IN THE MARINES. VAR AND PEACE IS THE ISSUE THE CAMPAIGN AND OF OUR TIME. YOU HAVE A CHOICE THIS YEAR BETWEEN AN AMIABLE PRESIDENT WHO IS MAKING A DANGEROUS WORLD MORE DANGEROUST AND A LEADER WHO WILL TAKE US TOWARDS PEACE.

YOU ALSO HAVE A CHOICE ON IMPORTANT DOMESTIC ISSUES THIS YEAR. THIS ELECTION IS A REFERENDUM ON MANY THINGS. IT'S A REFERENDUM ON CLEANING UP TOXIC WASTE DUMPS. LET'S ELECT A PRESIDENT WHO TAKES POLLUTERS TO COURT, AND NOT TO LUNCH.

IT'S A REFERENDUM ON FAIRNESS., LET'S HAVE A TAX POLICY WHERE AVERAGE FAMILIES DON'T TAY MORE, SO THE RICH CAN PAY LESS.

IT'S A REFERENDUM ON SOCIAL JUSTICE. LET'S ELECT A President who supports our civil rights laws, and not segregated Academies.

AND IT'S A REFERENDUM ON PERSONAL FREEDOM. LET'S HAVE A SUPREME COURT THAT KEEPS THE GOVERNMENT OUT OF OUR HOMES, CHURCHES, AND SYNAGOGUES.

BUT MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, IT IS A REFERENDUM ON THE FATE OF THE EARTH.

WHEN YOU GO TO THE POLLS IN NOVEMBER, I WANT YOU TO THINK ABOUT RONALD REAGAN'S RECORD.

IN 1980, HE PROMISED IMMEDIATE ARMS TALKS. FOUR YEARS LATER, NOT A SINGLE TEAM IS NEGOTIATING NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL.

IN 1981, HE THREE TREATIES WHICH HAD TAKEN YEARS TO NEGOTIATE.

IN 1982, HE REJECTED THE WALK-IN-THE-WOODS PROPOSAL OF HIS OWN NEGOTIATOR.

IN 1983, HE DECLARED HIS INTENTION TO LAUNCH AN ARMS RACE IN SPACE.

AND IN 1984, HE THREW AWAY THE OPPORTUNITY TO NEGOTIATE ON ANTI-SATELLITE WEAPONS WITH THE SOVIETS.

THE QUESTION IS: WHAT WILL HE DO IN 1985? Let'S not give him the chance to show way.

THE TIME TO ASK THAT QUESTION IS NOT LATER. IT'S NOW.

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

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

SO, LET'S COUNTRY'S DIRECTION. NOT LATER, BUT NOW.

- END -