

9-25-1984

Democratic National Committee Fundraiser Remarks: Version 1

Geraldine Ferraro

Follow this and additional works at: https://ir.lawnet.fordham.edu/vice_presidential_campaign_speeches_1984



Part of the [Law Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Ferraro, Geraldine, "Democratic National Committee Fundraiser Remarks: Version 1" (1984). *Speeches*. 143.
https://ir.lawnet.fordham.edu/vice_presidential_campaign_speeches_1984/143

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.

DNC FUNDRAISER

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1984

Thank you, Tip, for that very kind introduction.

With all the excitement and pride I feel as a candidate for Vice President, there's only one thing I regret -- that I cannot spend more time with my Speaker, your friend, and our conscience, Tip O'Neill.

For those of you who came in late, let me introduce us. We're the Democrats. We're the party that elected all the Presidents who Ronald Reagan wishes he was like.

It's a pleasure to look around and see so many old friends. I'm delighted to see Chuck Mannatt here -- and I'll bet Chuck Mannatt is delighted to see ^{us} Chuck Mannatt here.

We have an exciting campaign, guarded by a full complement of thirty secret service agents --- 15 to protect me and 15 to keep their eyes on the debate book.

But, to be fair, I have to confess that I've obtained a ^{portion} of the Bush Debate Briefing Book. It's the section entitled "Attack Lines." Just to lay my cards on the table, I want to share them with you.

The Attack Lines are: Gosh -- Gee Whiz -- Zippity-doo-dah -- and lets win, win win.

(1A)
to be served for a month

~~THERE IS~~ SOMETHING ~~THAT~~ BEEN BOTHERING ME THE LAST FEW
DAYS. AND THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT, THE ~~MADDER~~ ^{more angry} I GET.

DID YOU SEE HOW MR. REAGAN WENT TO WATERBURY,
CONNECTICUT, AND RECALLED WITH SEEMING AFFECTION AND
REVERENCE THE NIGHT JOHN F. KENNEDY WENT THERE 24
YEARS AGO?

I MUST SAY, I RESENT IT WHEN RONALD REAGAN ~~WITH~~
~~ALL HIS MEAN SPIRITED POLICIES AND REPUBLICAN WAYS~~
LAYS CLAIM TO THE MEMORY OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND
PRETENDS THAT HE HAS ANYTHING IN COMMON WITH THAT GOOD
MAN.

PRESIDENT KENNEDY SENT PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS TO
HELP LATIN AMERICANS MAKE A BETTER LIFE FOR THEMSELVES.
MR. REAGAN SENDS SECRET MILITARY AID TO HELP LATIN
AMERICANS KILL EACH OTHER. ^{WE NEED} ~~I WANT TO ELECT~~ A PRESIDENT
~~WHOM~~ ^{DIPLOMATS} WHO SENDS IN THE ~~ARMY~~ ^{MARINES} BEFORE THE ~~ARMY~~, AND
~~WHO WILL~~ STOP THE COVERT WAR IN NICARAGUA.

PRESIDENT KENNEDY FOUGHT DISCRIMINATION WITH ALL THE
MIGHT OF HIS PRESIDENCY. MR. REAGAN TRIED TO GIVE TAX
BREAKS TO SEGREGATED SCHOOLS. ^{DEMOCRATS} ~~I WANT TO ELECT A PRESIDENT~~
~~WHO~~ BELIEVE IN CIVIL RIGHTS FOR EVERY AMERICAN.

PAGE 2

PRESIDENT KENNEDY FREED THE SKIES OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS WITH THE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY. MR. REAGAN IS THE FIRST PRESIDENT SINCE HERBERT HOOVER NOT TO MEET WITH HIS SOVIET COUNTERPART. ~~I WANT TO ELECT A PRESIDENT AGAIN WHO~~ **MUST** **A PRESIDENT IN THE NUCLEAR AGE** SEEK NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS ON HIS FIRST DAY IN OFFICE, ~~NOT~~ **ON** THE FIRST DAY OF HIS RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

MR. KENNEDY TOLD US THAT HIS CHURCH DID NOT SPEAK FOR HIM AND HE DID NOT SPEAK FOR HIS CHURCH. MR. REAGAN HAS TRIED TO INJECT RELIGION INTO THIS CAMPAIGN. I WANT A PRESIDENT -- AND ALSO A SUPREME COURT -- THAT KEEPS GOVERNMENT IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS, AND OUT OF OUR HOMES, OUR CHURCHES, AND OUR SYNAGOGUES.

PRESIDENT KENNEDY PLACED THE HIGHEST VALUE ON THE CULTIVATED MIND. MR. 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.~~

PRESIDENT KENNEDY BELIEVED IN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL. MR. REAGAN LIKES THE GOLD STANDARD FOR CURRENCY, AND THE DOUBLE STANDARD FOR WOMEN: ~~WHEN I TAKE~~ **THE** OATH OF OFFICE FOR MY SECOND TERM AS VICE PRESIDENT, **I WANT** TO SWEAR TO UPHOLD A CONSTITUTION THAT INCLUDES THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT.

REAGAN AND KENNEDY ARE AS DIFFERENT FROM EACH OTHER AS NIGHT AND DAY. IN FACT, MR. REAGAN WAS A LEADER OF DEMOCRATS FOR NIXON IN 1960. HE TRIED TO BEAT JOHN KENNEDY.

SO I SAY TO THE PRESIDENT: DON'T TELL US YOU SUPPORTED JOHN KENNEDY, BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T. DON'T TELL US YOU CLEAN UP THE ENVIRONMENT, BECAUSE YOU DON'T. DON'T TELL US YOU'VE STRENGTHENED CIVIL RIGHTS, BECAUSE YOU HAVEN'T. **AND**
Mr. President,
DON'T TELL US YOUR POLICIES ARE FAIR, BECAUSE THEY AREN'T.

~~AND DON'T, MR. PRESIDENT, PRETEND YOU ARE LIKE JOHN KENNEDY, BECAUSE YOU AREN'T~~

THERE IS SOMEONE, ~~HOWEVER~~, WHO DOES BELIEVE IN ARMS CONTROL, WHO WILL CLEAN UP THE ENVIRONMENT, WHO WANTS PEACE, WHO HAS FOUGHT HIS WHOLE PUBLIC LIFE FOR FAIRNESS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND WHO WILL MAKE AN OUTSTANDING PRESIDENT. AND THAT PERSON IS ~~MY RUNNING MATE~~, WALTER MONDALE.

I HAVE A SPECIAL PLACE IN MY HEART FOR FRITZ MONDALE, BECAUSE ~~I~~ WOULDN'T BE HERE IF IT WEREN'T FOR HIM. THIS REMAINING BARRIER TO EQUAL OPPORTUNITY WOULD NOT HAVE FALLEN IF HE HADN'T TAKEN IT DOWN. EVERYONE WHO LOVES JUSTICE MUST ADMIRE, THANK, AND HONOR THE COURAGE OF FRITZ MONDALE.

BUT MY CANDIDACY IS NOT JUST A SYMBOL: IT'S A BREAKTHROUGH. IT'S NOT JUST A STATEMENT: IT'S A BOND BETWEEN WOMEN ALL OVER AMERICA.

Because I love this country and he will heal it and make it safer and

312
As we campaign around the country

There is an excitement, an energy, a sense of hope in the air. Barriers are coming down, doors are opening up. People come up to me who never voted before and say they plan to vote this year. Young people sense a world of new opportunities.

while ~~but~~ those who are older recognize a dream fulfilled.

Page 4

IN ST. PAUL THE OTHER DAY, I TOLD A STORY ABOUT HOW AN OLDER WOMAN CAME UP TO ME AND SAID SHE NEVER THOUGHT SHE'D LIVE TO SEE THIS DAY. AND WHEN I WAS THROUGH, A 91-YEAR-OLD WOMAN CAME UP TO ME AND SAID: "I NEVER THOUGHT I'D LIVE TO SEE THIS DAY EITHER."

A YOUNG MOTHER OF TWINS WROTE ME A LETTER WHEN SHE HEARD THE NEWS THAT I WAS CHOSEN TO BE THE NOMINEE. I'D LIKE TO READ PART OF IT TO YOU. QUOTE: "I RAN INTO THE BEDROOM TO SEE IF THEY WERE STILL AWAKE SO I COULD TELL THEM. THEY ARE FOUR YEARS OLD AND TOOK THE NEWS CASUALLY, SINCE THEY DON'T KNOW YET THAT THIS IS AN HISTORIC FIRST. IT MEANS MORE TO ME THAN I CAN EVER EXPRESS, THAT THE CHILDHOOD LESSONS THEY LEARN WILL INCLUDE YOUR NAME." END QUOTE.

WHAT THESE PEOPLE SAY IS VERY MOVING TO ME. I FEEL A TREMENDOUS RESPONSIBILITY TO AMERICANS. I WANT TO BE VICE PRESIDENT. BUT I ALSO WANT TO HONOR THE TRUST PEOPLE HAVE PIACED IN ME. I WANT TO PROVE THAT IF ~~WE~~ CAN DO THIS, WE CAN DO ANYTHING.

~~WE HAVE OUR WORK TO DO.~~