

REMARKS OF
CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE

DERBY JAYCEES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 1968

WE ARE LIVING IN THE AGE OF CHALLENGE. OUR NATION HAS
FACED MANY CHALLENGES IN THE PAST. BUT, BEYOND A DOUBT, THOSE
WE FACE TODAY ARE POTENTIALLY MORE THREATENING TO THE FOUNDATIONS
OF OUR SOCIETY THAN ANY CHALLENGES WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED BEFORE.

AND YET, CHALLENGES CAN BE TURNED INTO CREATION AND
GROWTH INSTEAD OF DETERIORATION AND DECAY.

-STATE OF THE UNION-

THIS COUNTRY IS BOGGED DOWN IN A MESSY AND BLOODY LAND
WAR IN ASIA.

WE ARE CONFRONTED WITH A RAMPANT CRIME WAVE AND MORAL DECLINE
AT HOME.

INFLATION THREATENS ON ALL SIDES WHILE FARM PRICES CONTINUE
TO DROP, AND OUR REMAINING SOLD SUPPLY IS DRAINED AWAY.

RIOTS IN OUR STREETS AND THE BURNING OF HOUSES AND BUSINESS
ESTABLISHMENTS ARE BECOMING A YEAR-ROUND OCCURENCE.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ASSUMES MORE AND MORE POWER, SPENDS
MORE AND MORE MONEY AND ACCOMPLISHES LESS AND LESS.

AT THE SAME TIME, LOCAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS ARE BEING
DRAINED OF THE AUTHORITY AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES REQUIRED TO

GUARD AND PRESERVE OUR FREE SOCIETY AND ITS INSTITUTIONS.

-WHAT ARE OUR CHOICES?-

TO MEET THESE CHALLENGES, WE HAVE SEVERAL ALTERNATE COURSES OF ACTION.

WE CAN RETREAT INTO OUR SHELLS AS THE BEATNIKS WHO BELIEVE THEY CAN MAKE THE WORLD BEAUTIFUL BY SMOKING MARIHUANA, ENGAGING IN FREE LOVE, AND DREAMING DREAMY THOUGHTS.

WE CAN TRY TO IMPOSE OUR THOUGHTS AND BELIEFS ON OTHERS THROUGH FORCEFUL RESISTANCE AS THE PEACENIKS WHO MARCH ON THE PENTAGON AND SEND SUPPLIES TO THE ENEMY.

WE CAN SEEK TO DESTROY THAT WHICH WE CANNOT CONTROL AS THE BLACK POWER ADVOCATES SEEK TO DO THROUGH RIOTS, BURNINGS, VIOLENCE AND MAYHEM.

OR WE CAN CHANNEL OUR INTELLIGENCE AND EFFORTS INTO STRENGTHENING OUR SOCIETY THROUGH HARD WORK, CLEAR THINKING AND THE DESIRE TO REBUILD A STRONG AND DYNAMIC SOCIETY UPON THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE PAST.

-THE "CAN DO" ATTITUDE-

AFTER A STEADY EXPOSURE TO WASHINGTON BUREAUCRATIC SMOG, I PARTICULARLY APPRECIATE THIS EXPOSURE TO YOUR ORGANIZATION AND ITS ACCOMPLISHMENTS -- BUT MOST OF ALL, TO YOUR "CAN DO" ATTITUDE.

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YOU ARE YOUNG MEN WITH A MISSION . . . FROM DIFFERENT DAILY OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS, YOU JOIN HANDS IN THE JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO SERVE HUMANITY, AS YOUR CREED SETS FORTH. YOU'RE WHERE THE ACTION IS. IN MANY CASES, YOU ARE ACTUALLY CREATING THE ACTION.

YOUR ATTITUDE INJECTS A BREATH OF FRESH AIR INTO THE RATHER WIDELY-HELD SENTIMENT OF "LET THE OTHER FELLOW DO IT".

THE JAYCEE REPLY TO "LET THE OTHER FELLOW DO IT" IS STRONG, SIMPLE, AND WHAT'S MORE IT WORKS. YOU SAY:
"LET'S DO IT. TOGETHER. NOW."

YOU HAVE MADE CIVIL RIGHTS, GOVERNMENT, LAW ENFORCEMENT, RECREATION, TRAFFIC SAFETY, HEALTH, YOUTH WELFARE AND A HOST OF OTHER AREAS TOP PRIORITY JUNIOR CHAMBER BUSINESS.

AND YOU HAVE GONE ABOUT IT WITHOUT THE BENEFIT OF FRONT-PAGE PUBLICITY OR PERPETUAL PUBLIC RECOGNITION OF YOUR EFFORTS.

YOUR APPROACH HAS BEEN POSITIVE, CONSTRUCTIVE, RESPONSIBLE. YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS ARE IMPRESSIVE.

OUR ENTIRE NATION'S HISTORY IS BASED ON SUCCESSES OF DOERS -- NOT "STEWERS" . . . ACHIEVERS -- NOT "DISBELIEVERS" AS YOURSELVES.

IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT MANY OF THIS COUNTRY'S GREAT LEADERS ACHIEVED WHILE THEY WERE YOUNG MEN LIKE YOU:

- * AT AGE 21, GEORGE WASHINGTON WAS ENTRUSTED WITH THE MEMORABLE MISSION TO THE FRENCH AND FLASHED HIS SWORD AT FORT NECESSITY AT 22.
- * AT AGE 29, PATRICK HENRY MADE A SPEECH BEFORE THE VIRGINIA HOUSE OF BURGESSES IN DEFENSE OF THE RIGHTS OF THE COLONIES AND CAUSED GEORGE THE THIRD TO TREMBLE ON HIS THRONE.
- * THOMAS JEFFERSON WAS ELECTED TO THE VIRGINIA HOUSE OF BURGESSES AT THE AGE OF 25, BECAME A MEMBER OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS AT THE AGE OF 32, AND AT AGE 33, WROTE THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

IN MODERN-DAY AMERICA, THE MARRIAGE OF YOUNG MEN AND LEADERSHIP CONTINUES. THERE'S ZUBIN MEHNTA, CONDUCTOR OF THE LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC. HE IS 31. IN THE FIELD OF SPACE, THE NAMES -- WALTER SCHIRRA, THOMAS STAFFORD AND JOHN YOUNG -- STAND OUT. THEY ARE ALL UNDER AGE 40. FIGURES FOR THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SHOW 13 CONGRESSMEN ARE UNDER AGE 35. A LOOK AT BUSINESS, INDUSTRY AND OTHER FIELDS PRODUCES HUNDREDS OF OTHER NAMES.

-TODAY'S CHALLENGES-

THE CHALLENGES TO YOU AND OTHER YOUNG MEN ARE STAGGERING BECAUSE WE LIVE IN PROBABLY THE MOST COMPLEX AND DANGEROUS ERA OF OUR NATION'S HISTORY -- AN ERA WHERE RESPONSIBILITY AND IDENTITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL ARE EASILY LOST.

- YOU IN THE JAYCEES-

JAYCEES

JAYCEES ARE NOT ILLUSIONARY OR NAIVE. YOU REALIZE, AS I, THAT WE HAVE PROBLEMS IN OUR SOCIETY -- THAT EVERYTHING IS NOT WHAT IT SHOULD BE.

JAYCEES RECOGNIZE, AS I, THAT ALL IS NOT GOING WELL IN VIETNAM. MUCH AMERICAN BLOOD IS BEING SHED AND YET THE ENEMY FORCES SEEM ABOUT AS STRONG AS EVER. BILLIONS OF AMERICAN DOLLARS ARE BEING PUMPED ANNUALLY INTO VIET NAM AND YET PACIFICATION OF THE COUNTRY SEEMS ALMOST AS FAR DISTANT AS IT DID TWO AND THREE YEARS AGO.

BUT INSTEAD OF THROWING YOURSELVES BEFORE TROOP TRAINS OR STAGING SIT-DOWNS BEFORE INDUCTION CENTERS, YOU ARE ENCOURAGING WORK TOWARD AN HONORABLE PEACE AND STUDYING WAYS TO AVOID FUTURE CONFLICTS.

JAYCEES KNOW AS WELL AS I THAT DISCRIMINATION EXISTS IN SOME PARTS OF OUR SOCIETY, ESPECIALLY AGAINST THE NEGRO RACE. YOU ARE AWARE THAT WE HAVE STIFLING SLUMS IN MANY URBAN AREAS, THAT EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES ARE NOT ALL OF EQUAL QUALITY AND THAT JOBS AND JOB ADVANCEMENTS ARE NOT EQUALLY AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE.

BUT THE JAYCEE RECORD DOES NOT ADVOCATE A COURSE OF REVOLUTIONARY DESTRUCTION . . . OF ANARCHY . . . OF NIHILISM.

IF HISTORY HAS TAUGHT US ONE THING, IT HAS TAUGHT US THAT THE WELFARE OF A NATION IS ADVANCED FAR MORE RAPIDLY THROUGH CONSTRUCTIVE EVOLUTION THAN THROUGH DESTRUCTIVE REVOLUTION.

JAYCEES ACROSS THE WORLD HAVE DEVOTED MUCH TIME AND ENERGY IN THEIR COMMUNITIES AND AT STATE AND FEDERAL LEVELS TO PLANNING PROGRAMS, DEVELOPPING PROJECTS, AND INSTITUTING LEGISLATION TO OVERCOME THE UNNATURAL BARRIERS FORBIDDING PEACE AND PROGRESS.

JAYCEES ARE WELL AWARE THAT GROWING URBANIZATION, THE INCREASING PLIGHT OF OUR FARMERS, EXPANDING AIR AND WATER POLLUTION PROBLEMS, DETERIORATION IN MASS AND INTERCITY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS AND A HOST OF OTHER TOP PRIORITY MATTERS DEMAND SOLUTIONS.

YET INSTEAD OF RUNNING TO WASHINGTON EVERY TIME A PROBLEM ARISES, YOU SEEK TO TACKLE THESE PROBLEMS IN WAYS WHICH AFFORD THE BEST RESULTS AND YET PRESERVE THE STRENGTH AND FREEDOM OF OUR INSTITUTIONS.

JAYCEES RECOGNIZE, AS I, THAT THERE ARE SOME MATTERS WHICH SHOULD BE HANDLED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. BUT YOU ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT INDEED THERE ARE MANY PROBLEMS WHICH CAN BETTER BE SOLVED AT STATE AND LOCAL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT OR THROUGH PRIVATE INITIATIVE.

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ALL OF US HAVE LEARNED IN RECENT YEARS THAT A CENTRAL GOVERNMENT CANNOT SOLVE ALL OF OUR PROBLEMS AND THAT ITS BUNGLING BUREAUCRACY FREQUENTLY PRODUCES GREATER CONFLICT, CONFUSION AND CHAOS.

JAYCEES RECOGNIZE, AS I, THAT ABDICATION OF INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY WILL NOT ONLY IMPEDE SOLUTION OF OUR PROBLEMS, BUT ALSO WILL UNDERMINE PERSONAL FREEDOM AND INITIATIVE.

-CRIME IN KANSAS-

JAYCEES HAVE BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT IN THE FIGHTS AGAINST CRIME AND LAWLESSNESS.

TO MANY PEOPLE, CRIME AND THE BREAKDOWN OF LAW AND ORDER HAVE BEEN TRAGEDIES OCCURRING FAR OUTSIDE THE BORDERS OF KANSAS.

YET CRIME IS HERE WITH US IN OUR OWN BACKYARD -- AND WHAT'S MORE, ITS' S INCREASING.

F.B.I. STATISTICS FOR 1967 SAY MAJOR CRIME HAS INCREASED IN KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, BY 22.7 PER CENT; IN TOPEKA, BY 37.2 PER CENT; AND IN WICHITA, BY 26.5 PER CENT.

WHAT'S WRONG IN KANSAS, HOWEVER, IS EVEN FURTHER MAGNIFIED WHEN WE LOOK AT THE PROBLEM ACROSS THE NATION.

THE F.B.I. SAYS INCIDENCE OF MAJOR CRIMES NATIONWIDE ROSE 16 PER CENT IN 1967 OVER 1966.

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WHAT THIS MEANS TO YOU AND ME IS JUST THIS:

- * A MURDER IS COMMITTED EVERY 41 MINUTES;
- * A RAPE OCCURS EVERY 19 MINUTES;
- * A ROBBERY OCCURS EVERY 3 MINUTES;
- * AN AUTO THEFT OCCURS EVERY 49 SECONDS;
- * ~~A BURGLARY~~ OCCURS EVERY 20 SECONDS.

SOME KIND OF CRIME STRIKES ONE OUT OF EVERY FIVE FAMILIES EACH YEAR. ONE BOY IN SIX WILL BE BROUGHT INTO JUVENILE COURT FOR A NONTRAFFIC VIOLATION BEFORE HE IS 18. AND YOUR RISK, AND MY RISK, OF BECOMING A VICTIM OF A CRIME HAS RISEN 48 PERCENT SINCE 1960.

-WHAT TO DO ABOUT CRIME-

THERE ARE THOSE WHO SEEK TO RUN AWAY FROM THIS CRUCIAL PROBLEM OF CRIME.

OTHERS BELIEVE SOMEONE ELSE CAN HANDLE IT --PERHAPS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

STILL OTHERS PIN THE BLAME ON SOCIETY AS A WHOLE AND ADD THAT ONLY BY PLACATING THE CRIMINAL AND BY PRACTICING JUDICIAL LENIENCY CAN WE REDEEM THE CRIMINAL AND ABSOLVE OUR CONSCIENCES.

-A DIFFERENT APPROACH-

JAYCEES, I BELIEVE, TAKE A DIFFERENT APPROACH.

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YOU RECOGNIZE THAT ADVANCED SCIENTIFIC POLICE METHODS MUST BE ESTABLISHED AND THAT MODERN METHODS OF REHABILITATION MUST BE INSTITUTED.

BUT YOU ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT THERE IS AN EVEN GREATER NEED TO PREVENT PERSONS FROM ENTERING A LIFE OF CRIME AND OF PROTECTING INNOCENT VICTIMS FROM THOSE WHO HAVE CROSSED OVER TO THE SIDE OF CRIME.

IF I JUDGE CORRECTLY THE POSTURE AND ACTION OF JAYCEES, YOU BELIEVE AS I, THAT WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO LABOR MIGHTILY TO ADVANCE THE UNITY AND WELFARE OF FAMILY LIFE, EXPAND EDUCATION AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES, STRENGTHEN OUR RELIGIOUS AND MORAL VALUES AND REMOVE THE TEMPTATIONS TO ILLEGAL AND IMMORAL BEHAVIOR.

BUT YOU ALSO BELIEVE WE OWE IT TO THE INNOCENT TO GUARD THEM AGAINST ATTACK AND FEAR OF ATTACK.

TO DO THIS, WE MUST STRENGTHEN OUR POLICE FORCES AND HELP UPHOLD THE DIGNITY AND HONOR OF OUR POLICE OFFICIALS.

WE MUST INSIST UPON LAWS BEING VIGOROUSLY AND FAIRLY ENFORCED.

WE MUST CONDEMN, RATHER THAN EXCUSE, THOSE WHO TAKE THE LAW INTO THEIR OWN HANDS.

THANK GOD -- AND I DON'T SAY THIS LIGHTLY -- CITIZENS LIKE YOU RECOGNIZE THAT RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP MEANS PARTICIPATION, INVOLVEMENT AND CONCERN IN THE NEEDS AND CARES OF OUR SOCIETY.

JAYCEE PHILOSOPHY

THE JAYCEE PHILOSOPHY AND RECORD OF ACTION PROVIDES
A DIFFERENT WHOLESOME ALTERNATIVE FOR ALL AMERICANS. YOU
MARCH TO A DIFFERENT DRUMMER.

YOU HAVE DEDICATED YOURSELVES TO THE TASK OF SERVING
YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUR COUNTRY AND YOUR FELLOW HUMANS.

YOU MUST CONTINUE. AND IF WE ARE TO SURVIVE AND GROW
AS A FREE AND PROSPEROUS NATION, OTHERS MUST JOIN YOUR RANKS.

BECAUSE YOU DARE TO STAND UP AND BE COUNTED FOR AMERICA,
I HAVE GREAT HOPE AND FAITH IN THIS COUNTRY'S FUTURE.