

REMARKS BY SENATOR BOB DOLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA STATE GOP CONVENTION  
OCTOBER 13, 1979

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IT'S GREAT FOR ME TO BE BACK IN SOUTH CAROLINA, WHERE THE HOSPITALITY IS AS WARM AS THE CLIMATE, AND THE FUTURE FOR REPUBLICAN POLITICS IS AS BRIGHT AS ANYWHERE IN THIS COUNTRY TODAY.

I WAS DEEPLY HONORED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRESS YOU MADE AS NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, AND I JOINED IN YOUR JUBILATION AT JIM EDWARDS' ELECTION AS GOVERNOR. AND, LIKE EVERY MAN AND WOMAN IN THIS HALL, I LOOK FORWARD TO 1980 WITH A SENSE OF GREAT ANTICIPATION. I'M CONVINCED THAT WE'LL REALIZE OUR HOPES IF WE UNITE TO PROVIDE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WITH THE QUALITY THEY SEEM MOST ANXIOUS TO ACHIEVE, AND THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN MOST SADLY DEFICIENT IN PROVIDING.

I SPEAK, OF COURSE, OF LEADERSHIP. ANYONE WHO HAS TO GO TO A GROCERY STORE OR GAS STATION THESE DAYS - AND WHO AMONG US DOES NOT? - KNOWS JUST HOW EXPENSIVE IT IS TO PROVIDE A PRESIDENT WITH ON THE JOB TRAINING. YET THAT'S WHAT WE'VE TRIED TO DO FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS, AT ENORMOUS COST AT HOME AND ABROAD.

SO IT'S NO SURPRISE THAT WE'RE DISATISFIED WITH JIMMY CARTER. EVEN HERE, IN THE HEART OF THE SOUTH, WHERE SOUTH CAROLINIANS VOTED THEIR ACCENTS IN 1976, I CAN BET YOU ALL THE BRICKS IN FORT SUMTER THAT THEY'RE GOING TO THINK TWICE BEFORE THEY ENDORSE FOUR MORE YEARS OF DRIFT AND UNCERTAINTY, AND PIOUS PLATITUDES INSTEAD OF STRONG, FORCEFUL LEADERSHIP.



NOW THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE WANT A MAN ON HORSEBACK.  
IT DOESN'T MEAN WE PINE FOR SOMEONE LARGER THAN LIFE.  
IT MEANS WE SEEK SOMEONE WHO KNOWS ABOUT AVERAGE LIVES,  
ABOUT WHAT IT'S LIKE TO WORK AND STRUGGLE AND SACRIFICE  
AND FEEL THE SPECIAL PRIDE THAT COMES WITH INDEPENDENCE  
AND SELF-SUPPORT.

I ONLY HAVE TO POINT YOU AT THE DEMOCRATIC ALTERNATIVE  
TO CONFIRM THIS. LOOK CLOSELY, MY FRIENDS, LOOK  
CAREFULLY AT THE BUDGET BUSTING UTOPIA OF SEN. KENNEDY.  
IF YOU THINK INEXPERIENCE HAS PROVEN EXPENSIVE, THEN  
JUST WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE WHAT NOSTALGIA CAN COST.

BECAUSE, LET ME ASSURE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU -  
THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO BE SEEING FOR THE NEXT  
YEAR OR MORE.

### A CLEAR CHOICE FOR THE 80'S

LOOK AT THE MAJOR ISSUES FACING THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY-AND YOU'LL SEE A DRAMATIC AND FATEFUL CHOICE BETWEEN THE WASHINGTON STATUS QUO, AND A NEW COMMITMENT TO INDIVIDUAL AND NATIONAL FREEDOM.

I BELIEVE WE CAN SLOW INFLATION BY AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION TO PLACE LIMITS ON BOTH SPENDING AND TAXATION. BUT NOT SENATOR KENNEDY. I BELIEVE WE CAN PROTECT THE MIDDLE CLASS FROM INFLATIONARY PRESSURES BY INDEXING OUR TAX SYSTEM, MAKING SURE THAT A RAISE DOES NOT DISAPPEAR INTO AN ARTIFICIALLY HIGHER BRACKET. BUT NOT SENATOR KENNEDY.



I BELIEVE WE CAN PASS A SYSTEM OF CATASTROPHIC HEALTH INSURANCE TO REMOVE THE CLOUD OF DOUBT NOW HANGING OVER MILLIONS OF AMERICAN FAMILIES. BUT NOT SENATOR KENNEDY. WE CAN BEST HELP THE POOR BY ADOPTING A WELFARE SYSTEM STRESSING INCENTIVE OVER DEPENDENCE, REPLACING OPEN-ENDED MATCHING FUNDS WITH FIXED BLOCK GRANTS. BUT NOT SENATOR KENNEDY.

I WANT TO USE THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO REVITALIZE AMERICA'S CITIES AND OPEN UP THE ONLY TRULY LASTING JOBS THAT CAN BENEFIT THE POOR. BECAUSE I BELIEVE IN MAKING PEOPLE INDEPENDENT OF GOVERNMENT. BUT NOT SENATOR KENNEDY.

SENATOR KENNEDY AND HIS SUPPORTERS WOULD BE SATISFIED TO SPEND THE 80'S ON A PLATEAU ACHIEVED BY EARLIER GENERATIONS. THEY'D BUILD NO NEW NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, WITHOUT TELLING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THE TRUTH--THAT NO WAY EXISTS FOR US TO TURN OUR BACKS ON THIS VITAL SOURCE OF ENERGY, AT LEAST IN THE NEXT FEW DECADES.

THEY HAVE CONSISTENTLY OPPOSED ANY DECONTROL OF OIL AND NATURAL GAS PRICES, PREFERRING TO PROMISE WHAT CANNOT BE DELIVERED--CHEAP ENERGY AT A TIME WHEN THE WORLD PRICE FOR ENERGY IS SKYROCKETING.



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IN 1980, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL BE GIVEN A CHOICE - AS STARK AS ANY IN THIS CENTURY. ON THE ONE SIDE, THERE WILL BE IN ALL LIKELIHOOD TED KENNEDY - AN ATTRACTIVE, CHARISMATIC APOSTLE OF WHAT ONCE WORKED BUT DOESN'T WORK ANYMORE. THE LAST OF THE BIG SPENDERS. THE LAST NEW DEALER.

BUT I SAY-THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH. IT'S NOT TIME FOR NOSTALGIA-IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE.

IT'S TIME TO CHANGE THE IDEA THAT ONLY WASHINGTON KNOWS WHAT'S BEST FOR THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

IT'S TIME TO CHANGE THE IDEA THAT MORE AND MORE OF YOUR HARD-EARNED DOLLARS SHOULD FLOW TO WASHINGTON, RATHER THAN STAY HERE TO STIMULATE YOUR ECONOMY.

IT'S TIME TO CHANGE THE OLD SAW THAT REPUBLICANS DON'T CARE ABOUT PEOPLE. WE ARE THE PARTY OF THE PEOPLE. WE CARE ABOUT PEOPLE MORE THAN GOVERNMENT, ABOUT PRODUCTION MORE THAN REGULATION. WE CARE ABOUT CREATING NEW JOBS THROUGH THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND GETTING PEOPLE OFF THE WELFARE OR UNEMPLOYMENT LINES. WE CARE ABOUT GIVING THEM A STAKE IN THEIR OWN SOCIETY, RATHER THAN A HANDOUT AND A PAT ON THE BACK.

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IT'S TIME TO CHANGE OUR DRIFT TOWARD MILITARY UNPREPAREDNESS. IT'S TIME TO TAKE A HARD LOOK AT THE STATE OF AMERICA'S DEFENSES, AND THEN COME UP WITH THE PROGRAMS - AND THE DOLLARS - TO MAKE US ONCE AGAIN THE STRONGEST NATION ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

IT'S TIME TO CHANGE THE VERY HEART OF WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION - THAT GOOD INTENTIONS ARE AS USEFUL AS EXPERIENCE. IT'S TIME TO CHANGE WHAT SEN. KENNEDY WOULD OFFER - CHARISMA INSTEAD OF REALISTIC SOLUTIONS TO OUR PROBLEMS.

MOST OF ALL, IT'S TIME TO GO BACK TO THE OLD IDEA THAT AMERICA FUNCTIONS BEST WHEN THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THEMSELVES ARE IN CONTROL OF THEIR DESTINY. YOU KNOW WHAT'S BEST FOR SOUTH CAROLINA. YOU KNOW BETTER THAN A FEDERAL BUREAUCRAT HOW TO HELP YOUR COMMUNITIES, BETTER YOUR LIVES AND PROVIDE GREATER OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL YOUR NEIGHBORS.



BECAUSE I SHARE YOUR BELIEF, BECAUSE I HAVE FAITH IN  
YOUR SUPERIOR JUDGMENT, I'M TRYING TO MAKE THE CHANGES  
THAT HAVE TO BE MADE IN WASHINGTON IF AMERICA IS  
TO BE HERSELF ONCE AGAIN.

JOIN TOGETHER, MY FELLOW REPUBLICANS, AND MAKE 1980  
A REFERENDUM ON FREEDOM. RETURN US TO THE WAY  
THAT MADE US GREAT, AND REJECT THOSE WHO WOULD  
ENSLAVE FUTURE GENERATIONS UNDER THE YOKE OF FINANCIAL  
AND MORAL BANKRUPTCY. JOIN TOGETHER - AND HISTORY WILL  
THANK US ALL.

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REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE GOP CONVENTION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1979

It's great for me to be back in South Carolina, where the hospitality is as warm as the climate, and the future for Republican politics is as bright as anywhere in this country today.

I was deeply honored to participate in the progress you made as National Chairman, and I joined in your jubilation at Jim Edwards' election as Governor. And, like every man and woman in this hall, I look forward to 1980 with a sense of great anticipation. I'm convinced that we'll realize our hopes if we unite to provide the American people with the quality they seem most anxious to achieve, and the Carter Administration has been most sadly deficient in providing.

I speak, of course, of leadership. Anyone who has to go to a grocery store or gas station these days -- and who among us does not? -- knows just how expensive it is to provide a President with on the job training. Yet that's what we've tried to do for the last three years, at enormous cost at home and aboard.

So it's no surprise that we're dissatisfied with Jimmy Carter. Even here, in the heart of the South, where South Carolinians voted their accents in 1976, I can bet you all the bricks in Fort Sumter that they're going to think twice before they endorse four more years of drift and uncertainty, and pious platitudes instead of strong, forceful leadership.

Now that doesn't mean we want a man on horseback. It doesn't mean we pine for someone larger than life. It means we seek someone who knows about average lives, about what it's like to work and struggle and sacrifice and feel the special pride that comes with independence and self-support.

I only have to point you at the Democratic alternative to confirm this. Look closely, my friends, look carefully at the budget busting utopia of Senator Kennedy. If you think inexperience has proven expensive, then just wait until you see what nostalgia can cost.

Because, let me assure each and every one of you -- that's what you're going to be seeing for the next year or more.

A CLEAR CHOICE FOR THE 80'S

Look at the major issues facing the people of this country -- and you'll see a dramatic and fateful choice between the Washington status quo, and a new commitment to individual and national freedom.

I believe we can slow inflation by amending the Constitution to place limits on both spending and taxation. But not Senator Kennedy. I believe we can protect the middle class from inflationary pressures by indexing our tax system, making sure that a raise does not disappear into an artificially higher bracket. But not Senator Kennedy.

I believe we can pass a system of catastrophic health insurance to remove the cloud of doubt now hanging over millions of American families. But not Senator Kennedy. We can best help the poor by adopting a welfare system stressing incentive over dependence, replacing open-ended matching funds with fixed block grants. But not Senator Kennedy.

I want to use the private sector to revitalize America's cities and open up the only truly lasting jobs that can benefit the poor. Because I believe in making people independent of government. But not Senator Kennedy.

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Senator Kennedy and his supporters would be satisfied to spend the 80's on a plateau achieved by earlier generations. They'd build no nuclear power plants, without telling the American people the truth -- that no way exists for us to turn our backs on this vital source of energy, at least in the next few decades.

They have consistently opposed any decontrol of oil and natural gas prices, preferring to promise what cannot be delivered -- cheap energy at a time when the world price for energy is skyrocketing.

They are suspicious of economic growth because such growth might result in profits, and in their narrow, grim view of America, profits can benefit only the rich. They see no need to stimulate the private sector, or promote capital investment: They prefer to look upon Washington as the ultimate arbiter of who works and for what. They prefer, not a dynamic pattern of dispersed wealth, but the status quo, where government dictates prices and discourages investment.

But they won't reduce our 13.2% inflation rate or strengthen a drooping dollar. They won't create new jobs or restore our decayed cities or give hope to people who lead hopeless lives.

They won't produce the energy we need, the unassailable military strength, or the conviction that people, and not government, form the bulwark of what makes America great.

In 1980, the American people will be given a choice -- as stark as any in this century. On the one side, there will be in all likelihood Ted Kennedy -- an attractive, charismatic apostle of what once worked but doesn't work anymore. The last of the big spenders. The last New Dealer.

But I say -- that's not good enough. It's not time for nostalgia -- it's time for a change.

It's time to change the idea that only Washington knows what's best for the people of South Carolina.

It's time to change the idea that more and more of your hard-earned dollars should flow to Washington, rather than stay here to stimulate your economy.

It's time to change the old saying that Republicans don't care about people. We are the party of the people. We care about people more than government, about production more than regulation. We care about creating new jobs through the private sector, and getting people off the welfare or unemployment lines. We care about giving them a stake in their own society, rather than a handout and a pat on the back.

It's time to change our drift toward military unpreparedness. It's time to take a hard look at the state of America's defenses, and then come up with the programs -- and the dollars -- to make us once again the strongest nation on the face of the earth.

It's time to change the very heart of what is wrong with the current Administration -- that good intentions are as useful as experience. It's time to change what Senator Kennedy would offer -- charisma instead of realistic solutions to our problems.

Most of all, it's time to go back to the old idea that America functions best when the American people themselves are in control of their destiny. You know what's best for South Carolina. You know better than a federal bureaucrat how to help your communities, better your lives and provide greater opportunity for all your neighbors.

Because I share your belief, because I have faith in your superior judgment, I'm trying to make the changes that have to be made in Washington if America is to be herself once again.

Join together, my fellow Republicans, and make 1980 a referendum on freedom. Return us to the way that made us great, and reject those who would enslave future generations under the yoke of financial and moral bankruptcy. Join together -- and history will thank us all.

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