

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-1601

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CONTACT: WALT RIKER, DALE TATE  
(202) 224-3135

## REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

IT IS AN HONOR BEING A CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT.  
DESPITE THE PROSPECT OF SOME TOUGH COMPETITION, I BELIEVE A  
REPUBLICAN WILL WIN IN NOVEMBER EVEN THOUGH WE ARE A MINORITY  
PARTY -- AT THE LOCAL LEVEL, IN STATEHOUSES, AND IN CONGRESS. NO  
DOUBT ABOUT IT, WE HAVE MILES TO GO BEFORE WE REST.

SO TODAY, I WANT TO SPEAK TODAY ABOUT OUR PARTY AND OUR  
FUTURE.

### NEW REPUBLICANS

ATTRACTING NEW REPUBLICANS HAS ALWAYS BEEN ONE OF MY GOALS.  
IT HAS BEEN A CONSTANT THEME OF MINE THROUGHOUT MY ENTIRE CAREER  
IN PUBLIC SERVICE. WE HAVE THE RIGHT MESSAGE, WE HAVE THE RIGHT  
SOLUTIONS -- THE PAST SEVEN YEARS HAVE PROVEN THAT. WE ARE THE  
PARTY OF OPPORTUNITY -- THE PAST SEVEN YEARS HAVE PROVEN THAT  
TOO.

AMERICA IS NOW EXPERIENCING THE LONGEST PERIOD OF ECONOMIC  
EXPANSION IN ITS HISTORY. WE HAVE CREATED MILLIONS OF NEW JOBS  
THANKS TO THE LEADERSHIP OF RONALD REAGAN. WE HAVE DEMONSTRATED  
THAT LESS GOVERNMENT TRANSLATES INTO MORE OPPORTUNITY. WE HAVE  
MADE A DIFFERENCE. BUT WE CAN DO MORE.

ONLY 32 PERCENT OF THE ELECTORATE IDENTIFY THEMSELVES  
REGISTERED REPUBLICANS. WE HAVE TO DO BETTER. OUR JOB IS TO  
CONVINCE MORE WOMEN, MORE YOUNG PEOPLE, AMERICANS OF EVERY COLOR  
AND ETHNIC BACKGROUND -- THE DISADVANTAGED, THE DISABLED,  
INDEPENDENTS AND DEMOCRATS -- NOT ONLY TO VOTE REPUBLICAN NOW AND  
THEN, BUT TO BECOME COMMITTED PARTY MEMBERS.

REPUBLICANS -- LIKE ALL AMERICANS -- ARE UNITED IN COMMON  
GOALS THAT ADD UP TO ONE OVERRIDING PRIORITY: WE WANT TO MAKE  
THIS COUNTRY A BETTER PLACE FOR OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN.

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ADMITTEDLY OUR PARTY IS VIEWED AT TIMES, AND BY SOME, AS A PARTY THAT DOESN'T CARE ABOUT REAL PEOPLE. IF YOU'RE YOUNG AND POOR -- OR OLD AND POOR -- OR BLACK, OR BROWN, OR DISABLED, OR WHATEVER -- THERE IS A PERCEPTION THAT SOME REPUBLICANS COULD CARE LESS. IT IS NOT AN ACCURATE PERCEPTION BUT OVER THE YEARS PERCEPTION HAS BECOME REALITY IN SOME QUARTERS..

YES, WE ARE A CONSERVATIVE PARTY. BUT SO ARE MOST OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. SO WHY AREN'T WE THE MAJORITY? WE ARE REACHING OUT THROUGH THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE AND STATE ORGANIZATIONS. BUT ULTIMATELY, OUR NOMINEE WILL HAVE TO MAKE THE DIFFERENCE: LEADERSHIP MUST COME FROM THE TOP. AND IT WILL COME, NOT FROM WHAT HE SAYS, BUT FROM WHAT HE DOES.

#### THE PROOF IS IN THE PUDDING

THERE IS A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF CYNICISM AMONG PRESS AND POLITICAL PUNDITS -- AND WITHIN OUR PARTY -- THAT WE ARE SERIOUS. THE ONLY WAY WE CAN PERSUADE THE DOUBTERS IS FOR OUR CANDIDATE TO DEMONSTRATE -- BY ACTIONS AS WELL AS WORDS -- THAT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OFFERS THE BEST HOPE OF GIVING MORE AMERICANS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PURSUE THE AMERICAN DREAM.

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS LOST THE SENSE OF PURPOSE AND DIRECTION THAT WAS THE HALLMARK OF THE PARTY OF ROOSEVELT, TRUMAN AND KENNEDY. IT HAS LOST ITS IDENTITY AND MESSAGE IN A MIRE OF SPECIAL INTERESTS. REPUBLICANS HAVE THE MESSAGE. WHAT WE MUST FIND IS THE STEELINESS, THE RESOLVE TO PROPOSE THE SOLUTIONS WE KNOW WILL MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE 1990'S.

WE MUST DEMONSTRATE IT'S THE REPUBLICAN PARTY WHICH BEST UNDERSTANDS THE ECONOMY, AND IS BEST EQUIPPED TO CONTINUE AND EXPAND THE LONGEST PERIOD OF PEACETIME PROSPERITY.

WE MUST DEMONSTRATE THAT IT IS THE REPUBLICAN PARTY WHICH UNDERSTANDS FREEDOM AND PEACE -- AND HOW TO KEEP IT.

WE MUST DEMONSTRATE THAT IT IS THE REPUBLICAN PARTY WHICH UNDERSTANDS THAT THIS NATION CAN ONLY LIVE UP TO ITS BIRTHRIGHT IF ITS LEADERS BELIEVE IN AND TRUST THE GOOD, BASIC INSTINCTS OF THE PEOPLE.

#### THE PARTY OF INCLUSION

THERE ARE MANY IN AMERICA -- JUST WAITING FOR OUR INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE. THEY ONLY LOOK FOR HOPE, OPPORTUNITY, AND SECURITY.

I HAVE STATED REPEATEDLY THAT IF MY CAMPAIGN DID NOTHING ELSE, I WOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT OUR PARTY WOULD NEVER PRACTICE THE POLITICS OF EXCLUSION. THE REPUBLICAN PARTY, LIKE OUR NATION, MUST HAVE AN OPEN DOOR TO ALL AMERICANS.

#### REACH OUT

WE NEED TO REACH OUT -- SINCERELY REACH OUT -- TO NEW LEGIONS OF HISPANIC VOTERS, BLACKS, ASIAN-AMERICANS AND OTHER ETHNIC GROUPS EAGER TO SHOW THAT THEY CAN PLAY A DYNAMIC ROLE IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS.

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CONSTITUENCIES ATTRACTED TO RONALD REAGAN -- BUT NOT NECESSARILY THE REPUBLICAN PARTY -- INCLUDING EVANGELICALS, WORKING MEN AND WOMEN AND COUNTLESS OTHER GROUPS MUST BE RETAINED.

BUT TO KEEP THEIR SUPPORT AND EARN IT FROM OTHERS, THERE MUST BE, AS JEANE KIRKPATRICK HAS SAID, A RENEWED, "REAGANIZED" REPUBLICAN PARTY -- OPEN TO ALL, RESPONSIVE TO ALL AND ABLE TO DRAW SUPPORT FROM ALL. WE MUST CAST OFF THE RESTRICTIONS OF PRIVILEGE AND CLASS. WE MUST OFFER HELP TO THOSE WHO NEED IT. WE MUST SUPPORT AND DEFEND CIVIL RIGHTS. WE MUST STAND READY TO MEET CHALLENGES TO FREEDOM ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.

WE NEED TO OPEN UP THE PROCESS -- OUR LEADERS SHOULD NOT BE TIMID ABOUT DISCUSSING ISSUES THAT AFFECT THE HOMELESS AND THE HUNGRY. WE MUST SPEAK OUT ON ISSUES LIKE DRUGS, DAYCARE, THE ENVIRONMENT, EDUCATION, LONG-TERM HEALTHCARE, MEDICAID AND MEDICARE, TO MENTION JUST A FEW. WE MUST, ABOVE ALL, GIVE MORE AMERICANS A REASON TO COME OUR WAY AND AT THE SAME TIME STRENGTHEN THE COMMITMENT OF OUR STAUCHEST SUPPORTERS.

#### NEW VOTERS

FINALLY, LET ME SINGLE OUT ONE PARTICULAR GROUP THAT WE MUST FOCUS OUR EFFORTS ON -- THE YOUNG. IN 1988, AMERICANS BORN IN 1970 WILL VOTE FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME. THIS IS A GENERATION WHICH HAS ALREADY WITNESSED WAR AND FAMINE, ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATIONS AND OIL EMBARGOES, RELIGIOUS SCANDAL AND POLITICAL SCANDAL, CYCLES OF RECESSION AND RECOVERY, TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDY IN SPACE, NUCLEAR NIGHTMARES AND NOW THE WORLDWIDE EPIDEMIC OF THE FEARSOME AND FATAL AIDS VIRUS.

SURELY, THIS GENERATION HAS REASON TO BE WARY OF THE EASY ASSURANCES POLITICIANS MAKE THAT THE GOVERNMENT CAN SOLVE EACH AND EVERY PROBLEM.

ABOVE ALL, YOUNG AMERICANS SHOULD BECOME INVOLVED IN THE JOY OF PUBLIC SERVICE -- WITH ALL ITS POTENTIAL PITFALLS AND TURMOIL. THE PANOPLY OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY -- CONTENTIOUS AND COLORFUL AS IT IS -- REMAINS THE BEST SYSTEM ON EARTH.

#### THE WILL TO WIN

IN MY CAMPAIGN, I HAVE STOOD FOR A REPUBLICAN PARTY THAT IS INCLUSIVE, A PARTY THAT IS COMPASSIONATE, A PARTY NOT COMPOSED OF SPECIAL INTERESTS, BUT A PARTY COMMITTED TO EQUAL RIGHTS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES.

WE ARE MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. BEFORE US IS AN UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY -- TO BUILD ON THE REAGAN LEGACY; TO BUILD OUR PARTY AND ABOVE ALL TO STRENGTHEN OUR COUNTRY IN THE PROCESS.