

The President. No.

Television Violence

Q. Does Senator Dole get some credit for speaking out against Hollywood violence? Would he be entitled to some of the credit for this plan?

The President. Well, this project in particular was underway well before Senator Dole ever said anything. I think that anybody who speaks out in a constructive way is doing a responsible thing.

You know, I went to California in December of '93 and challenged the entertainment industry to work with me to reduce violence and to improve the quality of programming. We had people from all the networks meeting with me in early '94, and then they reached this agreement to work with Senator Simon and Dr. Cole in doing something which I think is quite important.

So I would hope that all Americans would be continually coming to grips with this, because we want to have total first amendment freedom of speech, but we also want to have a society

in which the culture supports families in raising their children. There is no more important job; there is no more important agenda. So I think anyone who speaks out in an affirmative way can make a positive contribution.

And again, I want to say that, Dr. Cole, it's rather remarkable to me that this unusual partnership with all of the networks and Senator Simon and UCLA has worked out well, because you can tell by what he said today that nobody's attempted to censor him. He's been given full freedom to evaluate these programs, to report on them, and to say what he thinks.

Do you want to say anything about that?

Dr. Cole. No, I appreciate that, and it has been an absolutely independent project. We also extended an invitation to Senator Dole to be fully briefed on this if he would like, and we're waiting to hear if he's interested. But he has every opportunity to be briefed in the same way the President has been.

The President. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:55 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Pyramid Hotel.

Remarks on Receiving the Endorsement of Native American Tribal Leaders and an Exchange With Reporters in Albuquerque October 15, 1996

The President. Thank you very, very much. Thank you, Congressman Richardson, for what you've said about the record that we have worked hard to make in partnership with the Native Americans. Thank you, Mayor Chavez, for being here. I want to thank the Native American leaders who have come here today to offer their support. And I thank President Hale and Governor Garcia for the words that they have given.

Let me say that there are many wonderful things about having the great honor of being President of the United States. But being able to be President of a country that includes the Native American tribes, to have the opportunity to work with them in a spirit of genuine respect, to work to improve the recognition of the integrity of their religious practices, to work to try to increase the level of independence and reduce the level of patronizing practices in the

relationship of the Native American tribes to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, all these things are very, very important to me.

As the 42d President, I was honored to be the first President since our fifth President, James Monroe, in the 1820's, to invite the leaders of every tribe in the United States to meet with me at the White House. We have worked hard to expand tribal sovereignty and self-determination. We have worked hard to make sure every Federal agency knows that it should consult with tribal governments at any time we're making decisions that affect American Indians and Alaskan natives.

By working together, we have moved forward. We have kept some bad things from happening, but we have also made some good things happen. We have a lot more to do. But we can be proud of what has been done in protecting self-determination, in preserving natural re-

sources, in providing educational and economic opportunity, in defending tribal rights to protect children, families, and culture.

America is going in the right direction in no small measure because every American and every American family and every American ethnic, racial, and religious group knows that in our America, they are all entitled to be treated with dignity and equality. But I am especially grateful for the Indian nations for standing with us as we have fought to preserve our common values, as we have worked to balance the budget without crippling our investments in people and our obligations to one another.

Now we have to continue the progress and build upon it. The endorsement of the leaders here and the work we will do together will be critical to keep our country moving into the right direction as we move into the 21st century. I value their friendship. I value their partnership, and I look forward to working with them.

Thank you all very, very much.

Gambling on Indian Reservations

Q. Mr. President—[inaudible]—meeting, and can your administration do anything, any more to resolve the current logjam?

The President. No. There are some Indian gaming issues around the country that we still have the capacity to resolve. But the ones here are in the courts. And there's really nothing more for us to do except to let them work their way through the courts.

Q. Mr. President, the so-called dean of Native American leaders is not here today, Mescalero

Apache President Wendell Chino. And he wants you to fire U.S. Attorney John Kelly, the man who shut down his casino and so do, frankly, some people on the stage with you today. Is that going to happen, sir?

The President. This issue is in the courts now, and I have no further comment.

Campaign Financing

Q. Mr. President, do you seek, in fact, the disputed \$450,000? Everyone in the administration said there's nothing illegal, but there's some ethical issues been raised. We haven't heard you say much about it.

The President. Well I—first of all, I expect to have the opportunity to discuss that tomorrow night. But I believe that the political parties should not give back contributions that were legally made and legally received. And if they made a mistake and took any money that shouldn't have been taken, then they ought to give that back. I think that there are clear FEC rules on this. There's a law on this. That's what we've got a Federal Election Commission for. And we know they're capable of doing their job because they've taken action this year already.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:40 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Pyramid Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Martin Chavez of Albuquerque; Albert Hale, president, Navajo Nation; and Gov. Leonard D. Garcia, Pueblo of Santa Ana, Southern Pueblos.

Exchange With Reporters on the Presidential Debate in San Diego, California

October 16, 1996

Q. Can you tell us what you're thinking about—[inaudible]—today?

The President. It's been a long time since I've done one of these townhalls, so I'm looking forward to that. I'm interested to see what the people have on their mind, and I'm looking forward to it. I've done my best to prepare. I've still got some reading to do. I'm going to go back and do a little work now.

Q. If Bob Dole goes real negative, how are you going to respond to that today, Mr. President?

The President. Well, we're going to respond to the people who are in the audience. That's the way this was designed, and we'll just see what happens. I'm going to do my best to re-