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For

Schedule



9/2/81 Regretted
by phone
NCW

Mrs. Strom Thurmond

requests the pleasure of your company at a tea
in honor of

Judge Sandra Day O'Connor

on Friday, the 11th of September

4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

318 Russell Senate Office Building (Caucus Room)

Regrets only, Mrs. Bruse

224-5709

224-4927

GJN:

STROM

Senator Thurmond's office called about an invitation he had hand-delivered on Wednesday for the President and Mrs. Reagan to attend a lunch on 9/11 for Sandra Day O'Connor. Nancy Kennedy has not received the invitation, nor have we. I told Thurmond's office that the President would probably not be able to make it because of Begin's visit that day, and that he already has a working lunch scheduled. Rehnquist and Smith will be in attendance. Is this something that should be brought to Mrs. Reagan for her consideration, and may I call Thurmond's office back and tell them no for the P.

TR
9/4/81

MEMORANDUM
OF CALL

one invitation

TO: GJN

YOU WERE CALLED BY— YOU WERE VISITED BY—

Candy Bruce

OF (Organization) Chief Clerk, Senate Judiciary Cmte

PLEASE CALL → PHONE NO. 224-5709, 4927 FTS
CODE/EXT.

WILL CALL AGAIN IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE
Sept. 9th - S 141
old Supreme Court
Sandra Day O'Connor.
Luncheon Attorney Gen'l & Mrs.
Smith
1:00
~~12:00~~ → some others -

RECEIVED BY _____ DATE _____ TIME _____

*MC - called 9/4
- Not available*

*called 9/8
Regretted*

Regretted by phone
9/8/81 - 2pm

NCW

For
Sched. x Mrs. Strom Thurmond
cordially invites you to the
Senate Judiciary Committee Hearings
(1202 Russell)
on the nomination of
Judge Sandra Day O'Connor
Thursday, the tenth of September
1981
at ten o'clock in the morning
followed by a luncheon at ten o'clock
in honor of
Mrs. George Bush
S-207 U.S. Capitol

RSVP Mrs. Bruse 224-5907 or Miss Gray 224-4927

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

June 30, 1981

Mr. Michael Deaver
Special Assistant to
the President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

JAB
any thoughts?

REGRET

Date

9/9/81

GJ

Dear Mike:

I have set the hearings for the
Judiciary Committee on the nomination of
Judge O'Connor to the Supreme Court for
September 9, 10, and 11. I know Judge
O'Connor would appreciate Mrs. Reagan
coming to one of the hearings.

Sandra

Enclosed is a copy of the letter
my wife, Nancy, wrote Elaine Crispen
in regards to the visit by our First Lady.

Let us know what we can do to
facilitate Mrs. Reagan's visit.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

Strom

Strom Thurmond

ST/t

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

9/15/81

TO: Greg Newell

FYI

Nancy x Thurmond

This was regretted a couple
of weeks ago.

Elaine

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SEP 18 19

Date

9/14/81

To: Mrs Dole

From: Morton C. Blackwell

_____ Please respond on behalf of
the President

_____ Please prepare draft for
Elizabeth Dole's signature

_____ Please prepare draft for
my signature

_____ FYI

_____ Let's discuss



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

ROGER W. JEPSEN
IOWA

September 10, 1981

Senator Strom Thurmond, Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
209 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Strom:

As you are aware, the Supreme Court nomination of Sandra Day O'Connor has caused a great deal of division between the Administration and grassroots Christian groups.

I am deeply concerned that the lack of communication by the Reagan Administration with Christian leaders has been construed as a lessening of the Reagan commitment to social conservative causes. In many cases, these groups have been utilizing their time and resources lobbying against Sandra O'Connor's nomination rather than actively supporting Reagan policy efforts. These groups are essential for the continuing vitality of the Republican party, and the Administration must make every effort to mend any broken ties.

When the Judiciary Committee concludes hearings on the O'Connor nomination, hopefully concerns stemming from her past legislative record will be put to rest. At this time, I would like to suggest that you encourage President Reagan to hold an informal meeting with several national Christian leaders. This meeting would have a two-fold purpose: to emphasize the Administration's commitment to social conservative causes; and to renew the Administration's ties with the Christian community. Such a meeting would be very timely, and perhaps overdue.

Because you have personally talked with religious leaders regarding the O'Connor nomination, I know that you are aware of the apprehension on the part of Christian groups. Hopefully such a meeting with the President will serve as a catalyst in renewing a very necessary source of friendship and support.

Senator Strom Thurmond
Page 2
September 10, 1981

Strom, if such a meeting is to be set up, my office will be glad to work with you on compiling a list of Christian leaders to meet with the President.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roger".

Roger W. Jepsen
I O W A

14 September 1981

Dear Mr. Menefee:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the President's appointment of Judge Sandra O'Connor to be an Associate Justice to the Supreme Court.

The President chose Judge O'Connor because of her distinguished judicial career after careful evaluation and an investigation conducted by the Attorney General. The President personally met and interviewed Judge O'Connor and is convinced she shares his views on social issues. You will find, after careful review, that some misleading statements have been made about her distinguished career. Please know that I will always be most interested in your comments and thoughts.

Sincerely,

EDWIN MEESE III
Counsellor to the President

X
Mr. Jay Menefee
Chairman of the Board
X BICRON Corporation
12345 Kinsman Road
Newbury, OH 44065

✓ cc: Ed Meese

EM:EWT:e mu
EM-25

Enclosures filed in
Oversize Attachments # 2020



BICRON CORPORATION

12345 Kinsman Road, Newbury, Ohio 44065

(216) 564-2251

Telex 980474

EM-25

September 4, 1981

Mr. Edwin Meese III
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Meese:

Over the last year or so, I have become very active in Ohio grass-roots politics. Through rallies, candidate surveys, newsletters, etc., we expended close to twenty thousand dollars. I have asked myself why all this zeal and commitment in activities which I frankly don't enjoy. The conclusion was that, for the first time in American politics that I can remember, I saw a glimmer of hope that the political process might actually change the direction our Country was heading. Over my lifetime, the experience has been that electing Democratic presidents produced liberal judges and bureaucrats and electing Republican presidents produced liberal judges and bureaucrats. Well, here we go again! You cannot imagine the extent to which President Reagan's nomination of Mrs. O'Connor has knocked the motivational wind out of my activist sails. From my perspective at the grass-roots level, this feeling is very typical.

Perhaps the greatest folly in this nomination is this negative impact on those very people who made the difference last November--those who for the first time had some hope in the political process. Even more importantly, those hopeful neophytes of last November represent only the tip of a great iceberg of historically apathetic Americans. O'Connors' nomination is a sickening message of confirmation to them as well that "it still doesn't make any difference."

Please try to convince President Reagan not to turn his back on his most active supporters and alienate a very large potential constituency.

Incidentally, it is crystal clear where Mrs. O'Connor stands thanks to the work of a number of trustworthy conservative researchers. I know you have seen them, but typical is the enclosed research done by Bill Billings and the August issue of Conservative Digest. Slowly but surely, it has come to light that Mrs. O'Connor is a Loyal Republican Liberal who would, if politically expedient, support everything from big government down to pornography and abortion. To say these things are "personally abhorrent" and then to vote for them is the identical position our own dear Senator Metzenbaum takes.

Mr. Edwin Meese III
Page two
September 4, 1981

Additionally, the O'Connor nomination is wreaking havoc on those fragile but incredibly effective coalitions we worked so hard to initiate last year. I enclose, for example, the August newspaper of the greater Cleveland Right-to-Life organization, and direct your attention to the front page editorial by Mrs. Pat Pichler, President of the Cleveland organization. Her attitude is summed up in her statement "...we have been used..." These are some of the people who helped with our rally, candidate profile, etc., even though these included speakers and issues that were broadly conservative. They helped us get people out to hear John Ashbrook speak of conservative economics and Gen. Al Kimight speak on American security. If President Reagan pursues the O'Connor nomination, do you think these people will help us in 1982? Fat chance!

Finally, and of utmost importance, is the gravity of this nomination and the tenure of its effect. Virtually all of the social ills our Country now suffers is traceable in one way or another to that August body of pseudo-benevolent old seniles we call the Supreme Court. (I know that effective letters are not vituperative--but that's my irrepressible opinion, forgive me). An adequate appointment here cannot be a liberal or moderate. We need a two-fisted, all guns blazing, hard core conservative. One (male or female) that will cause Ted Kennedy, Eleanor Smeal, and company to howl with rage. I hope President Reagan realizes that, unlike a cabinet post or staff position, this appointment will be with us all the way into the next century.

I still have hope that this nomination is the result of misinformation. Please try to resolve this and convince President Reagan to withdraw O'Connor's name.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



Jay Menefee
Chairman of the Board
BICRON CORPORATION

cc: Mr. Howard Phillips
Mrs. Connaught Marshner
Senator Jesse Helms
Senator Paul Laxalt

FROM: Bill Billings, Executive Director, National Christian Action Coalition
Box 1745, Washington, D.C. 20013. (703-941-8962)

DATE: July 22, 1981

SUPREME COURT NOMINEE SANDRA O'CONNOR'S LEGISLATIVE RECORD

I spent five full days in Phoenix researching the legislative record of Sandra O'Connor. The information that I will be referring to in this memo is from the Arizona State Senate Journal, minutes of Senate committee meetings, files from the Senate vault regarding the history of certain bills, interviews with some of O'Connor's Senate colleagues, and newspaper articles from the major Arizona newspapers.

The Senate Journal is sketchy at best. It does not report speeches or comments from the floor, but simply gives a short title to the bills and a record of how each senator voted. Likewise, the minutes of committee hearings are abbreviated and often incomplete. In fact, there were no minutes taken in some committees, and in the early 70's the committees were not required to keep a record of votes. Bills were reported to the floor with a recommendation "DO PASS" or "DO NOT PASS."

Because of the difficulty in analyzing O'Connor's record, no one other than myself has even attempted it. Last Monday (July 13) I went to the Secretary of the Senate's office and first asked to see the Journal. The Secretary (Shirley Wheaten) showed me how to use the Journal and commented that I was fortunate to be there on that day because, the week before, her office had been filled with researchers and reporters looking through the records. When I returned to her office after lunch, she was surprised to see me because the longest time that anyone had spent before was less than 2 hours. I think this indicates the shallowness of research done by anyone else - including the administration.

The first thing I looked for was O'Connor's votes on social issues. The record substantiates the following:

Abortion

On April 29, 1970, O'Connor voted for a bill (H.B.20) to remove all legal sanctions against abortions performed by licensed physicians. The bill had passed the Arizona House on Feb. 26. O'Connor's vote was in the Senate Judiciary Committee chaired by John Conlan. (Source: The Arizona Republic, April 30, 1970, page 25) H.B. 20 died in the Senate Rules Committee.

On February 8, 1973, she introduced the Family Planning Act (S.B. 1190) which would have provided that "all medically acceptable family planning methods and information shall be readily and practicably available to any person in this state . . . regardless of sex, race, age, income, number of children, marital status, citizenship or motive." The bill provided that minors would be authorized to receive such services without parental consent. In order to implement the program, the state would be authorized to receive and disperse funds made available for family planning purposes. The minutes of the Committee on Public Health and Welfare on March 5, 1973 make it clear that several senators considered this bill a pro-abortion piece of legislation. A majority of the Committee recommended that the bill DO PASS. The minority report states: "I see this piece of legislation as leading to nothing but a long series of litigations and possibly not doing very much to aid the projects to which it is directed" and: "I do not believe in removing from parents the control of their children and therefore cannot vote for this bill." The Arizona Republic (March

5, 1973) labeled the bill "inexcusably vague, precisely the sort of measure to lead to agonies of judicial interpretation." Senator John Roeder expressed fear that the vagueness of the bill's reference to "all acceptable family planning methods" could put the state into the business of encouraging abortions. The Republic editorial concluded, "Why indeed, is this bill proposed? The bill appears gratuitous--unless energetic state promotion of abortion is the eventual goal." S.B. 1190 died in the Rules Committee. (NOTE: The Memorandum from Kenneth W. Starr to President Reagan, July 7, 1981, states that "the bill was not viewed by then Senator O'Connor as an abortion measure. She recalls no controversy with respect to the bill and is unaware of any hearings on the proposed measure.")

On April 23, 1974, O'Connor voted against a House-approved Right to Life Memorial. The memorial called on Congress to extend constitutional protections to unborn babies by prohibiting abortion. The bill (HCM 2002) allowed an exception when pregnancy resulted from rape, incest or other criminal action. The bill passed the Judiciary Committee, but died in Rules.

In May 1974 O'Connor voted against an appropriations bill for the University of Arizona Hospital because it contained an anti-abortion rider. She argued that the anti-abortion rider was "not germane." The anti-abortion rider contained the exception "unless such abortion is necessary to save the life of the woman having the abortion." The bill passed.

Equal Rights Amendment

In this area, the Journal is vague, but newspaper accounts and minutes from the Senate Judiciary Committee are clear.

The Phoenix Gazette reported on March 24, 1972, that "Arizona joined other states taking prompt action on the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution yesterday when Sen. Sandra O'Connor rose unexpectedly in the upper chamber and urged colleagues to pick up a dawdling legislative pace and approve the measure. Sen. O'Connor said the 'amendment stands in the tradition of other great amendments to the U.S. Constitution.'" The report added that O'Connor described the ERA as "an historic step in a tradition of women's liberation that commenced in the 19th century. . . she lightly anticipated a day five years hence when U.S. women would sit around a bridge table complaining about alimony they had to pay exhusbands." The ERA had been approved by the U.S. Senate only the day before.

Two years later--April 1, 1974--when many women had become "educated" to the dangers of the ERA, O'Connor was still pushing for passage. Minutes of the Judiciary Committee reveal that the ERA (SJR 1001) was moved with a DO PASS recommendation by Senator Ulm. Senator Roeder offered a substitute motion to TABLE. Senator O'Connor spoke against the substitute motion of Sen. Roeder and offered a motion to return the bill to the entire Senate for each member to vote. Her motion was defeated 5-4. The chairman called for the question on the motion to table. The motion was defeated 4-3. The question was then called on Sen. Ulm's original motion to return SJR 1001 with a DO PASS recommendation. The motion was defeated 5-4, with O'Connor voting in the minority (in other words, in favor of the DO PASS motion.)

On the same day, the Committee acted on SCR 1013, O'Connor's proposal to put an advisory referendum on the ballot to ask whether citizens want the ERA. After quite a lengthy discussion, the question was called t TABLE SJR 1013. The motion to table carried 6-2--with O'Connor voting NO.

Regarding S.B. 1068, Senator Hardt said: "This bill will do nothing except create some high paid positions that will be filled by appointment of the Governor, and it will create a political plum for future Governors. As far as the people are concerned, nothing will be changed. Instead of streamlining and saving costs, we are creating more bureaucracy that will raise our taxes."

Senator Giss said, "The concentration of power granted in this bill is one which this Legislature will some day regret." SB 1068 PASSED 20-9.

In addition, O'Connor introduced or cosponsored the following measures:

- A bill establishing a State Department of Mental Retardation (SB 44, 1970, PASSED)
- A constitutional amendment relating to term and selection of judges (SCR 6, 1971, FAILED)
- A bill establishing state-run kindergartens (SB 1, 1971, PASSED)
- A bill establishing grand juries (SB 2, 1971, PASSED)
- A bill requesting an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to provide for intergovernmental sharing of federal income tax revenue (SCR 2, 1971, PASSED)
- A constitutional amendment including private sewage corporations in the definition of public service corporation (SCR 10, 1971, PASSED)
- A bill creating an Economic Estimates Commission (SB 1278, 1974, PASSED)
- A bill enabling the state to limit the establishment of new dealerships (SB 1257, 1972, PASSED)
- An act providing for the registration and regulation of lobbyists (SB 1122, 1974, PASSED)
- An act prescribing requirements for reporting contributions and expenditures of candidates for public office; prescribing limitations on maximum amount of expenditures that may be made; prescribing penalties; and, providing for time and form of campaign committee reports. (SB 1138, 1974, PASSED)
- A bill establishing a Department of State (HB 2151, 1973, PASSED) (This is the only bill in the list that O'Connor did not co-sponsor or introduce; it was initiated in the House--O'Connor voted for it in the Senate.)

POSSIBLE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are four areas in which O'Connor voted that may, after careful scrutiny, reveal a conflict of interest.

Banking

The Arizona Senate voted on 16 major banking bills between 1970-1974. O'Connor excused herself on only four of these bills. (From '70-'74 O'Connor

Rebuffed in her efforts to pass ERA, O'Connor went on to sponsor a series of bills relating to women, prescribing changes in certain statutes relating to women's rights, amending sections of the Arizona Revised Statutes, and "de-sexing" state law. (SEE: HB 2242, L'73; SB 1321, 1972 Journal.)

Before the ERA debate even started, O'Connor sponsored a bill (SB 201, 1970) that removed the 8-hour day restriction on working hours for women. The bill squeaked through the Senate on a 14-13 vote. Speaking out against the bill, Mrs. E.B. Thobe, a democrat Senator, said repeal of existing laws would hurt women among the working poor and asked if Arizona "really wanted to go back to the sweat shop days." Republican Senator Terry Jones said the bill would hurt women who are the sole support of their families and must work because "these women also need to get off after eight hours and take care of their children."

Pornography

In 1971 the Senate voted on a series of bills (HB 301, 302, 303, 304) strengthening Arizona's antipornography laws. The Judiciary Committee minutes of April 21 and 28, 1971, indicate that O'Connor introduced a number of amendments weakening the bills. On one occasion a motion was made by Senator O'Connor to HOLD a bill for further consideration; her motion failed. HB 301, 302 and 304 PASSED as amended.

Crime

In 1974 the Senate considered two bills relating to mandatory sentencing and providing minimum penalties for committing armed burglary, robbery, or grand theft. As introduced, H.B. 2026 "would require that every person convicted of armed burglary, armed robbery, or armed grand theft must serve the minimum sentence imposed on him in prison without eligibility for suspension or commutation of sentence, probation, pardon, or parole." O'Connor introduced an amendment to strike the words "in the state prison", thus effectively gutting the bill. HB 2026 PASSED as amended.

No Fault Divorce

In 1973, O'Connor sponsored a bill (H.B. 1007) providing for "no-fault" divorce. Senator Roeder, who voted against the bill, offered the following explanation of his vote: "This is a soft solution apparently produced by a soft society. It does not make people take into account the overcoming of hard obstacles that lead to a strong social fabric, and it is a strong social fabric that has built this country." Sen Scott Alexander (O'Connor's brother-in-law and co-sponsor of the bill) said the "no-fault divorce bill represented a 'very humanistic' attempt to hold families together and reduce bitterness among couples impossible to keep together." The no-fault bill did away with existing grounds for divorce and made the only basis the contention that the marriage is irretrievably broken. The bill passed 23 to 7.

Reorganization of Government

Those people wondering whether Mrs. O'Connor shares President Reagan's philosophy regarding the size and scope of government will not be reassured by her record as a state legislator.

In 1972 O'Connor introduced S.B. 1068, establishing a Department of Economic Security. The bill created a new layer of bureaucracy, and, according to Senator Boyd Tenney, "resulted in the cost of government increasing faster than population and inflation."

was a director of the First National Bank of Arizona.) The bills dealt with such issues as maximum rate charges on small loans, certification and regulation of trust companies, licensing of mortgage brokers, amending appraisal regulations, prescribing limitations on home improvement loans, providing for standards for issuance of capital notes and debentures, and eliminating certain exemptions from trust certification.

Medicaid

In 1974, Mrs. O'Connor's brother-in-law, Senator Scott Alexander, attempted to move a bill through the Senate Appropriations Committee to provide medical assistance to certain Arizona citizens. At the time, Alexander worked for Blue Cross/Blue Shield. The bill (S.B. 1268) was killed twice in the Appropriations Committee with Chairman Boyd Tenney casting the deciding vote. Alexander was, at the same time, pushing S.B. 1165 providing Medicaid and catastrophic health insurance. (S.B. 1165 authorized the state to contract with private insurance carriers to provide coverage.) According to Senator Tenney, Alexander knew the bill would die in the Appropriations Committee, and therefore got sister-in-law O'Connor (then-Senate Majority Leader) to bypass the Appropriations Committee and bring the bill to a vote on the Senate floor. The Medicaid bill passed, but never received an appropriation. Incidentally, Arizona is the only state that does not provide Medicaid. The bill has NEVER received an appropriation.

Automobile Dealers

In 1973 O'Connor voted for a bill (S.B. 1257) providing for the licensing of motor vehicle distributors and dealers. (O'Connor's husband was, at the time, a director of Westward Pontiac and Charlie Rossie Ford.) Senator Baldwin offered the following explanation for his NO vote on Senate Bill 1257.

"I cannot support this bill, which still has the cloud of unconstitutionality hanging over it. By its passage, we make the superintendent of the Motor Vehicle Division the sole judge and jury over whom shall be licensed to sell new automobiles in this state instead of allowing freedom of choice. It puts the state in the business of interfering with the heretofore free contractual negotiations between manufacturer and dealer. Once we start this action for auto dealers - where do we stop? The state has no business meddling in this area!

The consumer will suffer by having to pay extra for his automobile by paying for the dealer's preparation charges and by less competition in the marketplace. You will find the present dealers locking themselves in and preventing new competition. It's an overkill approach to solve a few minor problems and will hurt more people than it will help."

In the same year, O'Connor voted with the minority against a bill prescribing conditions and purposes of bond required of vehicle dealers. The bill (H.B. 2188) increased the amount of the surety bond required to be posted to obtain a motor vehicle dealer's or wrecker's license.

Air Pollution

In 1970, the Arizona Senate considered S.B. 1, an act tightening controls on the pollution of air. At the time, Mrs. O'Connor's husband's law firm represented Kennecott Copper Company. (Copper smelters were singled out in the bill as prime contributors to Arizona's air pollution problems.) In an open letter to the press and all legislators, a resident of Tempe, Arizona expressed the

opinion that certain amendments which Mrs. O'Connor proposed weakened S.B. 1. In her own defense, Mrs. O'Connor stated "The amendments I have proposed are my own amendments because they represent my own thinking and judgment. I am in the Legislature--not my husband. I have made and intend to continue to make my own judgments on legislative matters."

Property Tax

Mrs. O'Connor has extensive land ownings in the southeast corner of the state. In 1973, she voted for a bill (H.B. 2311) providing for reduction of property tax that otherwise would be due for the taxable year 1973.

A WOMAN FOR ALL SEASONS

President Reagan has called Judge O'Connor "a woman for all seasons." If that means that she straddles an ideological fence, Reagan is correct. O'Connor has cast votes that should anger liberals as well as conservatives.

Conservatives disapprove of her record on abortion, the ERA, pornography, criminal justice, and growth of government.

Liberals should be angered by her support of an anti-gun control resolution (SM 1001, 1974), a voluntary school prayer memorial (HCR 2009, 1972), an anti-busing memorial (SCR 1001, 1972), and a bill to prohibit labor unions from contributing to political campaigns (HB 2122, 1973).

14 September 1981

Dear Mr. Menefee:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the President's appointment of Judge Sandra O'Connor to be an Associate Justice to the Supreme Court.

The President chose Judge O'Connor because of her distinguished judicial career after careful evaluation and an investigation conducted by the Attorney General. The President personally met and interviewed Judge O'Connor and is convinced she shares his views on social issues. You will find, after careful review, that some misleading statements have been made about her distinguished career. Please know that I will always be most interested in your comments and thoughts.

Sincerely,

EDWIN MEESE III
Counsellor to the President

Mr. Jay Menefee
Chairman of the Board
BICRON Corporation
12345 Kinsman Road
Newbury, OH 44065

cc: Ed Meese

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Enclosures filed in
overseas attachments # 2020

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Collections

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Conservative Digest

August 1981

Volume 7 Number 8

\$1.50

Sandra Day O'Connor:



VOID

Republican Platform

CD MNE4KNE345J049JAN 82 1 03
JAY MENEFE
122345 KINSMAN RD
NEWBURY OHIO 44065

FAMILY
NEIGHBORHOOD
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President Reagan's First Broken Promise

Reagan Presidential Library

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BICRON CORPORATION

12345 Kinsman Road,
Newbury, Ohio 44065



WHITE HOUSE MAIL
RECEPTION & SECURITY

SEP 6 1981

Processed by: 6

Mr. Edwin Meese III
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ve., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

14 September 1981

Dear Mrs. Chambers:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the President's appointment of Judge Sandra O'Connor to be an Associate Justice to the Supreme Court.

The President chose Judge O'Connor because of her distinguished judicial career after careful evaluation and an investigation conducted by the Attorney General. The President personally met and interviewed Judge O'Connor and is convinced she shares his views on social issues. You will find, after careful review, that some misleading statements have been made about her distinguished career. Please know that I will always be most interested in your comments and thoughts.

Sincerely,

EDWIN MEESE III
Counsellor to the President

Mrs. Mildred^{*} Chambers
Apartment 211
8701 Fourth Street, North
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

✓ cc: Ed Meese

EM:EWT:emu
EM-25

8

NY
EM-25

Sept. 4, 1981

Edwin Meese III
Counsellor to the President
Washington D. C. 20000

Dear Mr. Meese,

The nomination of Judge Sandra O'Connor to the Supreme Court is pure and simple affirmative action. The color of a person's skin - be it black or white or red or green or whether a person is male or female should not be the deciding factor in nominating a judge to the supreme court or any court in this land. It is high time we have a woman on the Supreme Court but there are hundreds and even thousands of men who are more qualified than Judge O'Connor.

If all the judges on the Supreme Court were women, would you nominate a man just because he was a man? I believe that he would have to have the same qualifications including experience that the women have.

Let me list the experience prior to their nomination of those Justices currently sitting on the high bench. Justice Powell had 27⁴⁰ years experience, Justice Thurgood Marshall 28 years, Justice Blackman 27 years, Justice White 24 years, Justice Stevens 21 years, Justice Burger 22 years, Justice Brennan 18 years, Justice Rehnquist 17 years, and retiring Justice Stewart 13 years.

In sharp contrast, Judge O'Connor's experience is definitely limited. Judge O'Connor has only 6 years of small town law practice, she served 6 years in the Arizona State Senate (this service is irrelevant to qualifications as a judge), 4 years experience as a county judge, and 18 months on the state intermediate court. It is evident that politics and not experience determined the selection of Judge O'Connor.

Recent Supreme Court decisions have hinged more on personal philosophy than the constitution. No other court WAS EVER ABLE to find a specific "Right to Privacy" in the constitution that would allow women to kill their unborn babies, because the right isn't there.

In addition to other valid arguments pertaining to Judge O'Connor's judiciary philosophy, her lack of experience raises perhaps even greater questions about her fitness to serve for life on the nation's highest court.

We can only imagine the outcry from liberals and feminists had Mrs. O'Connor presented a strong pro-life record and opposed the ERA. If she had a questionable background on racial issues, can we imagine that civil rights groups would say nothing? If the Moral Majority had been pleased with her nomination, instead of raising questions, would she then have had the endorsement of the NOW organization or Senators Ted Kennedy or Alan Cranston who NEVER EVER voted against abortion.

The Senate Judiciary Committee needs to consider Mrs. O'Connor's personal and judicial philosophy as well as her light experience before taking the irreversible action to confirm her for life to the Supreme Court.

A concerned American,

Mrs. Mildred Chambers

Mrs. Mildred Chambers
8701 4th St. N. # 211
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

14 September 1981

Dear Mrs. Myers:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the President's appointment of Judge Sandra O'Connor to be an Associate Justice to the Supreme Court.

The President chose Judge O'Connor because of her distinguished judicial career after careful evaluation and an investigation conducted by the Attorney General. The President personally met and interviewed Judge O'Connor and is convinced she shares his views on social issues. You will find, after careful review, that some misleading statements have been made about her distinguished career. Please know that I will always be most interested in your comments and thoughts.

Sincerely,

EDWIN MEESE III
Counsellor to the President

Mrs. Russel A. Myers
2016 Wilshire Boulevard
Fort Worth, TX 76110

cc: Ed Meese

EM:EWT:emu
EM-25

9/3/81

Dear Mr. Meese:

Is the President aware that an inquiry made by the New York Times (Times, July 12) disclosed that Mrs. O'Connor, in surveys made by the Arizona Bar Association, received extremely poor ratings in 1976, 1978 and 1980, and that during her term in the State Senate she was involved in conflict of interest voting? I cannot believe that he wants anyone with that record on the Supreme Court.

Sincerely yours,

Edith Myers
(Mrs. Russel A. Myers)
2016 Wilshire Blvd.
Fort Worth, Texas 76110

NH
EM-25

17 September 1981

Dear Mrs. Hoste:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the President's appointment of Judge Sandra O'Connor to be an Associate Justice to the Supreme Court.

The President chose Judge O'Connor because of her distinguished judicial career after careful evaluation and an investigation conducted by the Attorney General. The President personally met and interviewed Judge O'Connor and is convinced she shares his views on social issues. You will find, after careful review, that some misleading statements have been made about her distinguished career. Please know that I will always be most interested in your comments and thoughts.

Sincerely,

EDWIN MEESE III
Counsellor to the President

Mrs. John Hoste
34350 Maple Lane
Sterling Heights, MI 48077

✓ cc: Ed Meese

EM:EWT:emu
EM-25

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Sept. 7, 1981

I do hope, - from all the reading I have done, about Judge O'Connor for Justice - that she is not confirmed. Too risky: Her history of decisions.

Her record is just not in her favor. There are others better qualified, judicially. Judge James Ryan of Michigan's Supreme Court, for example, or Judge Phillip Pratt, Federal Court, Detroit. Who said the new appointee must be a woman?

NH
EM-25

A mistake here could be worse than it appears to be before it has been committed. The trust given to the President by his supporters - and I am and have been one all along - could be seriously impaired if an unfortunate decision is made, when he, all during his campaign has spoken out so plainly in behalf of the helpless unborn infants. If trust would go, his whole program could suffer. Catherine Hoste

(Miss John W. Hoste)

September 16, 1981

Dear Mr. Siegel:

On behalf of President Reagan, I want to thank you for your thoughtful message.

It was good of you to make your wishes known regarding the President's appointment of Judge Sandra O'Connor to an Associate Justice to the Supreme Court.

After careful evaluation and an investigation conducted by the Attorney General, the President chose Judge O'Connor because of her distinguished judicial career. The President personally met and interviewed Judge O'Connor and is convinced she shares his views on many issues. Your support in the matter of her appointment is very much appreciated.

The President was also happy to have your comments regarding his service as Governor of California. Such statements as yours are most heartening to the President, as he looks back with fond memories on his days in Sacramento.

We are returning your enclosure because the White House is prohibited from accepting monetary items. Please be assured that your thoughtfulness is deeply appreciated, however.

The President is grateful to know of your friendship, and he sends you his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Anne Higgins
Director of Correspondence

Mr. Ben Siegel
3232 Corby Avenue
Camarillo, CA 93010

✓ ENCLOSURE: Monetary item, returned
AVH:SRH:SEV:Ljm-4

DRAFT/Date 9-3-81

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Enclosures: *Monetary item for return*
(Type LABEL)

Other:

RR/ _____ / _____ / _____
(Drafter) (Rev. I) (Rev. II)

AVH/ SRH / _____
(Drafter) (Rev. I)

Dear Mr. Siegel:

On behalf of President Reagan, I want to thank you for your thoughtful message

It was good of you to make your views known regarding the President's appointment of Judge Sandra O'Connor to be an Associate Justice to the Supreme Court.

The President chose Judge O'Connor because of her distinguished ^{judicial} ~~professional~~ career, after careful evaluation and an investigation conducted by the Attorney General. The President personally met and interviewed Judge O'Connor and is convinced she shares his views on many issues. ~~Please do not do it. I will always be~~ ~~most interested~~ Your support in the matter of her appointment is ~~also~~ very much appreciated.

*Long fr
→ EM
-25A*

The President was also happy to ^{have} ~~hear~~ of your comments regarding his service as Governor of California. Such statements as yours are most heartening to the President, as he looks back on his days in Sacramento with fond memories.

(Basic Money)

We are returning your enclosure because the White House is prohibited from accepting monetary items. Please be assured that your thoughtfulness is deeply appreciated, however.

The President is grateful to know of your friendship, and he sends you his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Anne Higgins
Director of Correspondence

(7/27/81)

Enclosure: monetary item, ret'd.

SRH MW
AVH/~~SRH~~/SEV/Lpt (Q)

AMMOUNT \$ 15 ⁰⁰/₁₀₀
CHECK NO. 182
SANTA BARBARA SAVINGS.
BEN & ROSE SIEGEL
3232 CORBY AVE
CAMARILLO, CA.
93010.

pro-Court choice

July 9, 1981

Dear Mr. President:

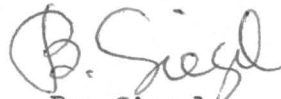
My wife and I wish to express our delight in the nomination of Judge O'Connor to the Supreme Court. There is no doubt in our minds that you will disregard the orchestrated reactions of some of the people who have underestimated your personal and political integrity.

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When you were Governor of California, I had the rare experience of observing the same phenomenon at the Camarillo State Hospital. You visited the facility where I was Chief Psychologist to defend budget cuts at a meeting of the powerful lobby for the mentally retarded. Press coverage was hostile, as exemplified by the labeling of the hospital's medical director the "Little Green Giant" for painting the grass green. I was in the audience that crowded in the small conference room, listening to a number of influential speakers criticizing your proposals. During their presentations your only observable behavior was making notes on 3x5 cards. When the time came for your response, you spoke quietly and forcefully enough to evoke a spontaneous burst of applause from all of us, apparently in recognition of an extraordinary and totally unexpected intellectual feat. Although this occurred years ago, the recollection is still very vivid in my mind.

I also wish to take the opportunity of expressing our appreciation of the work that Mrs. Reagan is doing. I suppose that the public is also unaware of the enduring interest of Mrs. Reagan in the mental health field. I am referring^{to} the Foster Grandparent program, truly one of the most successful projects of its kind. We are enclosing a contribution as a token of our support for her endeavors.

Sincerely,


Ben Siegel