

Senator SIMON. Mr. Paul?

Mr. PAUL. Senator, I would have to say as a lawyer that the absence of documentation is completely consistent with my recollection of her reluctance in wanting to discuss it and her statement that she felt she had no recourse.

Senator SIMON. If I may ask one more question, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN. Briefly.

Senator SIMON. Each of you has explained why you are here. Why do you think Anita Hill came forward and testified?

Judge HOERCHNER. She has said that she came forward out of a sense of her obligation as a citizen. I think the incidents that occurred those many years ago have raised a serious question of character in someone who has been nominated for one of the most important positions in the country.

I know that she was very reluctant to come forward. I think she felt she had a duty to her country.

Senator SIMON. Ms. Wells?

Ms. WELLS. Well, I can only echo what the judge has said. Anita, Professor Hill, is a very loyal person and therefore she is loyal to what she believes she ought to do, and so therefore she has come forward only because she felt that that was the right thing to do.

Senator SIMON. Mr. Carr?

Mr. CARR. Senator, I can really only, I guess, speculate on it, on why she has come forward. I would think my recollections of her personality are that while she would like to come forward in this manner she would be terrified of the invasion of privacy and she would have been extremely hesitant.

At the same time, I have the recollection that she is a forthright person and when asked a question she feels compelled to give an honest answer. And I would think here that she has somehow found herself on the sort of proverbial slippery slope. That she has felt obligated to make some statement when asked and that that has snowballed totally out of control to the point where she had no alternative but to come forward in a total and fulsome way.

Senator SIMON. And, if I could ask you, and then I want to hear from Mr. Paul, she is both a lawyer and a law professor. I assume she has a very elevated feeling, as we all do, for the Supreme Court.

Do you think this was a factor in coming forward also?

Mr. CARR. It may well have been that when she looked at the price she would have to pay to do this that because it was the Supreme Court she viewed it as of such great importance that she was willing to pay that price.

Senator SIMON. Mr. Paul.

Mr. PAUL. Of course, I haven't discussed with Professor Hill, Senator, her reasons for coming forward, but I would imagine that if I were in her situation, when asked the question by an agent of the FBI, I would feel compelled to answer the question honestly as a servant to the court.

I cannot imagine anything that Professor Hill could think to gain as a legal academician by coming forward. I think her career has, frankly, probably suffered as a result of her coming forward. I think that she had a very bright career. I think that if someone had asked me a few weeks ago I would say that I could imagine

Professor Hill coming before this Committee in a very different capacity, as a judicial nominee herself. I think her opportunities for that now have been destroyed. I think she paid a big price for her conscience.

Senator SIMON. I thank you. And I thank all four of you for coming forward. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator KENNEDY [presiding]. Senator Thurmond.

Senator KOHL. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. And thank you for being here today, folks.

Senator KENNEDY. I think it goes Senator Thurmond, and then, Senator Kohl, I will recognize you.

Senator KOHL. Oh, I am sorry.

Senator THURMOND. I would like to ask you this question. From your testimony, it appears that none of you four witnesses have any personal knowledge of the charges made by Professor Hill against Judge Thomas, and that all you know about the matter is what Professor Hill told you. Is that correct?

Judge HOERCHNER. I was not a precipitate witness, Senator.

Senator THURMOND. What was that?

Judge HOERCHNER. I was not a precipitate witness.

Senator THURMOND. What did she say?

Judge HOERCHNER. I said that is correct.

Senator THURMOND. Ms. Wells.

Ms. WELLS. That is correct, Senator.

Senator THURMOND. Mr. Carr.

Mr. CARR. It is correct. I was not in the room.

Senator THURMOND. Mr. Paul.

Mr. PAUL. That is true, Senator.

Senator THURMOND. That is all. Thank you very much.

I yield the rest of my time to Senator Specter.

Senator SPECTER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

When my time last expired, Judge Hoerchner, I was asking you to refer to page 5 of your prior testimony before the staff. A question where you said, at line 6, on page 5, "I did run into her very briefly at a professional conference in 1984, late December."

My question to you is did you, at that time, ask Professor Hill anything about these alleged statements made by Judge Thomas?

Judge HOERCHNER. I did not remember asking her that.

Senator SPECTER. Judge Hoerchner, can you be any more specific than you have been about where you were at the time this conversation occurred where you say Professor Hill made these statements about Judge Thomas' comments? We have been trying to fix the date. It would be helpful if you were able to at least say where you lived at that time, in an effort to try to pin that down. Can you help us on that?

Judge HOERCHNER. Unfortunately as I have explained to the FBI and here, I really cannot pin the date down. The one thing I can be absolutely certain about is the fact that she was working for Clarence Thomas at the time because she stated that she was experiencing sexual harassment from her boss, Clarence.

Senator SPECTER. Can you, at least, tell us whether you were living in Washington at the time you had that conversation with her?