

Senator HATCH. Now, have any of you women ever heard of any male using that type of language, in order to obtain a date with a woman?

Ms. FITCH. Senator, this was not to obtain a date with me, but when I taught at Sangamon State University in Illinois, in a room with four other people, including an older man who was old enough to be my father, a Federal contract compliance officer said some things like that to me, and nobody said anything in response. I was very hurt by that. I stayed away from him. He had no jurisdiction or authority over me. It's possible for people to say things like that. It is improbable that this man said those things.

Senator HATCH. Well, what do the rest of you feel about that?

Ms. HOLT. I agree that it's impossible for Clarence Thomas to have said those things.

Senator HATCH. Ms. Alvarez.

Ms. ALVAREZ. I agree that it is absolutely impossible for Clarence to have said it.

Senator HATCH. Ms. Berry.

Ms. BERRY. It's impossible and not a great deductive method in my way of thinking. [Laughter.]

Senator HATCH. Well, you know, I hate to tell you this, but I agree with that. You know, people all over this country are trying to figure out how somebody could testify in such a believable manner and say the cumulative total of those awful, ugly, terrible sexual things and expect a woman to date him or expect some form of a relationship with a woman.

It bothers me, because she appears to believe everything that she said, and I myself don't want to call her a liar. But as an old trial lawyer, I have seen witnesses just like that who believe every word they say and every word is absolutely wrong and we have proven it wrong and they still believe it.

I am highly offended, having been the coauthor, along with Senator Kennedy, of the Polygraph Protection Act to protect employees from being forced to go through polygraphs, that this group of handlers of Professor Hill have had her undergo a polygraph.

I can tell you right now, you can find a polygraph operator for anything you want to find them for. There are some very good ones and there are some lousy ones, and a whole raft in between. And to do that and interject that in the middle of this is pathetic, as if it has any relevance whatsoever. It wouldn't even be admissible in a court of law.

Now, I just want to ask you this last question. I have known Judge Thomas for 11 years. I have sat in on all five of his confirmation proceedings. I presided over three of them, as chairman of the Labor Committee. And I have never seen anything to indicate that he would treat any human being like this woman says he treated her.

I am going to ask you to search your minds one last time: Is there anything that could have been misconstrued or construed, in your opinion, that could have caused anyone, including Anita Hill, to say what she did here to the whole world?

Ms. HOLT. Senator, since these allegations surfaced, that is all I've really done, is wonder why——

Senator HATCH. Me, too.

Ms. HOLT [continuing]. Why would she want to tell these lies, and I haven't come up with an answer yet. But I can certainly say that I don't believe a word of it.

Senator HATCH. I think that sums it up pretty well.

Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

Senator THURMOND. Mr. Chairman, I have one question I would like to propound.

The CHAIRMAN. I could ask a couple, too, but you go right ahead, Senator. Instead of going back, we will go to you.

Senator THURMOND. Is it possible that Professor Hill had a crush on Judge Thomas and felt rejected, because he would not date her? Any of you care to answer that?

Ms. BERRY. Since I am the one who said that, you have got to understand, I guess, what kind of man Clarence Thomas is. In many ways, I think he is atypical in his treatment of women. He is respectful of our abilities and our talents and expertise, allowed us to have opportunities that ordinarily women did not have at the Commission.

My own title, as the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, is a good example. That is usually the purview of a man. He allowed us to do things that women ordinarily did not have the opportunity to do. He made sure that women were included in almost every aspect of Commission life as it related to job opportunities.

He is courteous, he is generous, he is caring, and I can understand any woman responding to a man that has those kinds of attributes.

Ms. FITCH. Senator, as I said before, on the three occasions—and I don't think it was more than that—that Anita Hill and I did go out after work, from work, it was clear to me that she had very friendly feelings towards now Judge Thomas and that she felt that they were returned.

I knew that she had been with him at the Department of Education. I knew that they had met through a mutual friend, and I knew that she had friendly feelings for him. That made it all the more surprising to me, therefore, that she made these allegations. I never got any sense from her that she had any romantic interest in him at all. From my experience with her, that was not what she was concerned about. As I said before, she saw him as a person who was going places and was going to make a contribution in this country, and both of us felt that we wanted to do whatever we could to help him do that.

In my case, at last, it was not to follow a rising star, necessarily, and I can't say that that was her intention, either. I don't know. We did not talk about him in those terms, but we did talk about him when we went off together, and we talked about work and how we could make him almost perfect. I think it was unreasonable, the things that we wanted him to do, to be completely flawless, to be 100 percent perfect. No human being is that way, and when I was in my twenties I was very judgmental and wanted people to be perfect, too, and I think that was part of the problem. But I don't see that that would have led to this kind of an allegation.

Senator THURMOND. Any other comments?

[No response.]