

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much.

Senator THURMOND.

Senator THURMOND. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I have to leave for another appointment in just a minute. I first want to take this opportunity to welcome all of the witnesses here today. Sister Virgilius, Father John Brooks, Judge Gibbons, and Dr. Sudarkasa, we are honored to have you here.

Now, your statements carry great weight with me, because you know Clarence Thomas, you have known him for years. You know his character. You know his ability. You know his dedication. You know his temperament. I want to thank you for coming here today.

Now, I just have two questions I want to ask each one of you. There is no use taking a lot of time, because this is the essence of it, and I will start with you, Sister. Is it your opinion that Judge Thomas is highly qualified and possesses the necessary integrity, professional competence and judicial temperament to be an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court?

Sister VIRGILIUS. Most certainly.

Senator THURMOND. Your answer is yes?

Sister VIRGILIUS. Yes.

Senator THURMOND. Father Brooks.

Father BROOKS. The answer is yes.

Senator THURMOND. The answer is yes. Judge Gibbons.

Mr. GIBBONS. My answer is yes.

Senator THURMOND. The answer is yes. Dr. Sudarkasa.

Ms. SUDARKASA. Yes.

Senator THURMOND. The answer is yes.

The second question is: Do you know of any reason why he should not be made a member of the Supreme Court? Sister?

Sister VIRGILIUS. No.

Senator THURMOND. The answer is no.

Mr. BROOKS. No.

Senator THURMOND. The answer is no.

Mr. GIBBONS. No.

Senator THURMOND. Judge Gibbons, the answer is no.

Dr. Sudarkasa.

Ms. SUDARKASA. No.

Senator THURMOND. The answer is no.

Thank you very much for your appearance. We appreciate you coming.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

Father, let me ask you a question: What policy does Holy Cross have now for attracting blacks to Holy Cross?

Father BROOKS. We operate administratively under a mandate from the board of trustees to conduct an aggressive and vigorous recruitment of African-American students, in fact all minority students, so it is communicated, particularly to our admissions office and to other administration of the school, that they are to go out into the field, to exercise their judgment and to try to find as many African-American students as we possibly can who would be attracted to Holy Cross and about whom they make the judgment that they are capable of competing successfully at the college.