

be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you, God?

Mr. WEST. I do.

Ms. WEST. I do.

Mr. HAMILTON. I do.

The CHAIRMAN. Please be seated.

Mr. West, we might begin with you. We are allowing 5 minutes to each one of you. We have a large number of witnesses to hear yet. We can place your entire statement in the record unless you can give it in 5 minutes. If you can give it in 5 minutes, OK. If you cannot, I suggest we print it in the record in full and then you summarize it in 5 minutes.

TESTIMONY OF HON. TONY WEST, ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. WEST. Mr. Chairman, thank you very much.

Before I begin my formal remarks I certainly want to reassure the American people and to congratulate you and the members of the Judiciary Committee for the outstanding job that you have undertaken here in the last 2 days.

I think you have seen why we from Arizona are here to testify on behalf of Sandra Day O'Connor as an Associate Justice to the Supreme Court.

If candor, intellect, endurance, and courage are part of the qualifications for being a nominee to the Supreme Court it is obvious why she has been appointed by President Reagan.

I am here today to give my wholehearted and unequivocal support to Judge Sandra Day O'Connor, President Reagan's outstanding nominee to the U.S. Supreme Court. In my judgment, she is eminently qualified to sit as an Associate Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

As you have seen, Judge O'Connor is gifted with an exceptional intellect; rational, judicial temperament; and an approach to problem solving which is logical, analytical, and well balanced.

Judge O'Connor is one of the few—if not the only nominee, to my knowledge—who has ever had training and experience in all three branches of government, ranging from her position in the Arizona State Senate—the legislative branch—as an assistant attorney general in the executive branch and, of course, her position on both the superior court and the court of appeals—judicial branch.

It is my observation that Judge Sandra O'Connor will provide a new beginning in reestablishing respect and credibility to the Supreme Court as an institution.

Though we all realize that this is an historic event, with Sandra being the first woman appointed to the Supreme Court, her recognition will go far beyond that of being the first female appointed.

Her effective leadership and the new vitality that she will bring to the Supreme Court will be a positive contribution to all people of our Nation.

In my judgment, with the exception of Sandra's obvious aesthetic beauty and her very feminine qualities, in the future it will be difficult at best to determine any gender by the reading or interpretation of her decisions.

Mr. Chairman, I am one of the leading pro-life legislators in the State of Arizona having been a sponsor and a major participant on every piece of pro-life legislation and pro-life action taken in the Arizona Legislature since my very first election.

While it is true, Judge O'Connor certainly was not a pro-life proponent while a member of the Arizona Senate, neither was she then nor to my knowledge has she ever been the friend of those who advocate the killing of the innocent unborn babies.

Abortion is a violent, silent holocaust taking place in our country today and is an absolute abomination, the ultimate evil plaguing our society. With the strong feelings that I harbor for the sanctity and the quality of life, I am certain in my own mind that Judge O'Connor shares these same concerns.

It is my opinion that the pro-life movement needs as many converts and friends as possible. This conversion process is normally accomplished through an intellectual and academic stimulus, as well as understanding, love, kindness, and above all, compassion shown to those who are not always sympathetic to our own views.

A prime example in this hearing room today is Representative Art Hamilton, the Democratic Arizona minority leader, who went through this evolution and conversion process and is now one of our leading pro-life advocates.

It is my feeling that Judge O'Connor, in the reflection of the judicial setting, without constituency pressure and the quest for reelection, if she has not already done so, will come to the same conclusions about the sacredness and sanctity of human life both inside and outside the womb.

It is my opinion that her decisions on the bench will reflect that thoughtful, careful, and compassionate consideration that a mother of three and a person of destiny would be expected to reflect.

The phrase, equal justice under the law, will be deeply enriched with a new vibrancy with the confirmation of Judge O'Connor.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, to know Sandra O'Connor is to love and to respect her. I assure you that with her grace and her eloquence she will captivate our Nation's Capitol as she has my State of Arizona.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

We will now hear from the Honorable Donna Carlson West, a member of the Arizona House of Representatives.

TESTIMONY OF HON. DONNA CARLSON WEST, ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. WEST. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I might note before I begin my formal remarks that I, too, am a pro-life legislator from Arizona and I am known as the leader of the Stop-ERA movement in Arizona.

Mr. Chairman, I am very honored to have been asked to testify at these hearings on the appointment of Sandra O'Connor to the U.S. Supreme Court. President Reagan has chosen a gracious lady who has served Arizona admirably for a number of years. Our State will sorely miss the talents of such a brilliant lawyer, legislator, and jurist.