

And, quite frankly, I hope we are not going to hear a lot more about racism as we consider this nominee. The fact is that these points of sexual harassment are made by an Afro-American against an Afro-American. The issue isn't discrimination and racism. It is about sexual harassment, and I hope we can keep our eye on that particular issue.

I want to thank the panel for their testimony, for their response to questions. I found it enormously enlightening. I think the Members of the Senate will. It is very clear from your presence here, the comments you have made, the way you have responded to questions, that you are doing this as a matter of responsibility and justice—justice to an individual who has had the courage in very difficult and trying times, and everyone who has seen the attempts to go after her over the period of the last 3 days has to understand her hesitancy, but your presence here I think has been enormously helpful to this committee and to the Senate, and I thank you for responding.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Brown.

Senator BROWN. I think your coming today is not only appreciated but very helpful for us to understand the state of mind of Anita Hill, and I think very helpful in giving some verification to her thoughts at the times that you all had conversations with her.

As I review the various comments that each of you have made, it strikes me that you have given verification to the fact that she indeed talked about being asked out, talked about inappropriate actions. I believe one of you or several of you used the term "sexual harassment."

I want to try and get a feel, if there were other things besides these involved in what she related to you. Specifically, did she relate to you that there was any touching, any physical contact initiated by Clarence Thomas? Anyone have that conversation?

Judge HOERCHNER. No, Senator, she did not relay that to me.

Ms. WELLS. Nor to me, Senator.

Mr. CARR. She never told me that, I don't believe. I don't recall.

Mr. PAUL. I don't recall.

Senator BROWN. We have heard some comments about very gross language being used, with extremely descriptive terms being used. Were those terms related to any of you?

Ms. WELLS. I beg your pardon? I don't think I understood.

Senator BROWN. We have heard comments that Judge Thomas used very gross language, very explicit terms. Were those specific terms related to any of you, in the conversation you had with her?

Mr. PAUL. I don't recall.

Mr. CARR. My recollection is that I attempted to find out more about what had happened, briefly, but that she did not want to talk about it.

Ms. WELLS. She did not relay those terms to me. As I said, it would have been a use of sexually explicit language, and neither she nor I engage in such conversation.

Judge HOERCHNER. I do not recall her use of such terms with me, either.

Senator BROWN. Well, thank you. I appreciate your very straightforward responses.

I will give the balance of my time to Senator Specter, as well.