

What insight can you provide, based upon your own understanding of his actions, both in government speeches, in terms of the poor, those that are left out and left behind, if his views were to become a majority view on the Supreme Court? Would their interests, based upon his statements and his actions, be advanced or threatened?

Ms. KING. Senator, he has spoken quite eloquently about poor people and about black people. I listened carefully at one point in this hearing, when he was asked about preferences and he was asked about his admission to Yale Law School. And he was asked, I believe by Senator Specter, would he be willing to use that same rationale with respect to a person who had a 10th grade education, and the issue was employment.

I listened very carefully for the Judge's answer, because it had been quite clear about his admission to Yale, and I did not hear the same statement about what the needs of a person with a 10th grade education, the needs of the poor person or minority person who was seeking employment. Employment is critical to many other aspects of life, and I listened carefully and I did not hear an answer, I must say, and that leads me to conclude or fear that, while Judge Thomas is eloquent in talking about poor and minority people, that when it comes to policies that are designed to make it easier for people to have opportunities and to advance, then he would suggest the policies that have been followed with success to date, are the policies that he has difficulty with, affirmative action, class action litigation, so I am at a loss to try to explain the difference between his words and his actions.

Senator KENNEDY. My time is up. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much.

The Senator from Utah.

Senator HATCH. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I want to welcome all of you here today. I have appreciated listening to your testimony. Ms. King, the only thing that I saw differently from Judge Thomas was that he just plain rejects the idea of preferences, and there is a legitimate strong argument on his side to do that. In fact, I think the majority of American people would agree with him.

The question is from there, if you do not have preferences, what do you do to right these wrongs, and I think there is a legitimate argument on both sides, a very good argument on both sides as to what you should do.

I happen to come down on the side that nobody should be discriminated against, that literally we ought to right those wrongs in the best way we can, but we should not do so by discriminating against innocent people. But that to me is the only difference. I think he will be, from my experience with Clarence Thomas and watching him on the EEOC, I think he will be very much for women's rights and other rights.

Ms. Greenberger, let me just make one comment. I do not mean to take the full 10 minutes, because I think you folks have had enough questions asked of you. You know, having been before the appellate courts, I would never read into what the Judge is asking to determine in advance what he is thinking, because they ask these puckish questions all the time and sometimes just to see