

Ms. BRYANT. Well, I do not know where they got the idea from. If you recall in my statement, his relatives, a lot of his relatives still live in Eastern Liberty County, and one person in particular, his first cousin, Mr. Fuller, who is 91 years old, he is in constant contact with Clarence.

In fact, he came up with us on the bus last month when we came here. He is 91 years old and he is in close contact and he loves Clarence to the point where he took a 10-hour bus trip just to support him. So, if there is that type of family closeness with a 91-year-old to come this far just to support a first cousin, who calls him on a weekly or every 2 week basis, that is not forgetting your roots, because he is 91 and he is not forgotten. They are very close.

Senator SIMPSON. Reverend Haygood, finally, what would it mean to people in your congregation and your church—how many are in your congregation?

Reverend HAYGOOD. We simply have about 300 right now.

Senator SIMPSON. What would it mean to them to have a role model like Clarence Thomas on the U.S. Supreme Court?

Reverend HAYGOOD. It would really make the difference. Just before I came here, I shared it with one of the young people in our group, and he said that "Clarence Thomas is a person that I trust, he's someone I can look up to, for me he is a role model."

I think in terms of today's communities, particularly in the black community, where there is crime, where drugs are moving on a daily basis, where there is violence, we need role models who have achieved, who can reach back from whence they have come and lift up those who are farthest down. Indeed, the real purpose of leadership is to lift up persons who are farthest down.

The whole debate between Booker T. Washington and W.B. DuBois was a debate concerning methodology. The goal essentially was the same, but they adhered to the philosophy that we must lift up persons who are farthest down, because as we lift up persons who are farthest down, everybody above them will be lifted up, as well.

Senator SIMPSON. Well, I thank you.

Mr. Chairman, if I may enter into the record just as brief portion of the results of a poll recently released just yesterday by ABC News—I am not much on polling, but I think it surely shows that these groups within the beltway, the views of the special interest groups who oppose this nomination are met nowhere out in the United States, in any part of the United States, in any region of the United States, and so there is going to be a great retooling going on within those groups, as I see it, within these next months.

I ask unanimous consent that be included in the record, and I thank you very much for the stirring testimony.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection.

[The information referred to follows:]