

jail, when he challenged the sincerity of white moderates, the leadership at that time said that Dr. King was in danger of alienating the white support.

Again, when Dr. King—I remember, as an official with the NAACP at the time, being on the dais with Roy Wilkins—

The CHAIRMAN. You were an official?

Mr. WOODSEN. I was an official with the NAACP at the time at the local level. I led demonstrations. And I remember being on the dais when Roy Wilkins was the speaker. That was the day that Dr. King announced when he was going to join the peace movement with the civil rights movement. He was characterized by Carl Rowan as a Communist. It was the civil rights leadership that castigated Dr. King because, they said, he would weaken the civil rights movement.

But Dr. King, being the leader that he was, did not just simply reflect popular opinion or the consensus of the majority. He knew that he had the majority of blacks behind him, and that consensus drove this movement.

Again, the civil rights leadership opposed Jesse Jackson's candidacy for the Presidency in 1984. They said it was ill-advised for him to run. Eighty percent of blacks who voted supported Jesse Jackson. It was hailed by the civil rights organization at that time, the next year, as the greatest thing that ever happened to black America.

They were out of touch on those circumstances in the past, and they are out of touch today with Judge Thomas. Clearly 60 percent of black Americans having heard Judge Thomas now support him. And the reason is that there has been—there is no single black America. We talk about blacks and minorities and poor as if they are synonymous. Judge Thomas understood what some of us in the movement understood; that it is important to understand that not all black Americans suffered equally even under discrimination; that some of us were better prepared to deal with the storm of racism and discrimination.

As a consequence, you see a bifurcation of the black community today. Black families with incomes in excess of \$50,000-plus have increased 350 percent over the last 20 years while black families with incomes below \$10,000 have also increased. If racial discrimination were the sole culprit, then why are not all blacks suffering equally since only one out of six whites with a college degree works for government and three out of six blacks with a college degree work for government?

You have a proprietary interest in the maintenance of race-specific solutions, and I have prepared and submit for the record an article written in 1965, October 29, that says, "Civil Rights Gains Bypassing Poor Negroes," written by Bill Raspberry who quotes the civil rights leadership in 1965. In this article, the civil rights leadership said, "Continued emphasis on race-specific solution will never address the problems of poor blacks, that we must mount an economic development program to address their needs."

The civil rights leadership, because many of their members benefited, continues to ignore this reality and press race-specific solutions to the detriment of poor blacks. And as a consequence, some of us—and Clarence Thomas certainly is numbered in that group—