

It seems to me that, if anything, as important as it is to integrate our educational institutions, that it is the working people, that it is the kind of people that Senator Specter and Senator Heflin and other people have questioned how—what is it about this young man who drops out of school or the young woman who drops out of school in the 10th grade, that is the person who needs to be integrated into our workforce.

To my mind, if anything, it is more important to apply these principles in the employment cases, at the entry level of employment and promotion and employment, than it is, even as important as it is in education.

Mr. EDLEY. May I make two very brief points, Mr. Chairman? The two points are this: In these areas that we have just been talking about, I believe that Judge Thomas stands quite some distance from the mainstream on civil rights. And the second point is that I believe he stands quite some distance specifically from Congress and a willingness to embrace congressional intent.

For example, I combed the transcripts as best I could, particularly the colloquies with Senator Specter, and I could not find any reassurance on the question on his interpretation of title VII. As far as I can tell, he believes that title VII requires race neutrality. He believed that that ought to be the law, while recognizing that the courts have held otherwise.

But there is nothing to suggest from the transcripts that I have been able to find that he doesn't still believe that title VII ought to be interpreted so as to require race neutrality, certainly in the voluntary context and perhaps at least in substantial areas of the remedial context.

He has the same attitude, as far as I can tell, with respect to the 14th amendment. A constitutional ruling from a Justice Thomas could not be reversed, no matter how many times you passed a civil rights restoration act.

So it seems to me that in terms of his distance from the mainstream and his continuing and repeated resistance to the most reasonable interpretation of congressional will, Judge Thomas simply doesn't deserve confirmation.

Senator KENNEDY. Senator Thurmond.

Senator THURMOND. Mr. Chairman, I understood from Senator Biden we were going to limit the witnesses to 5 minutes. Now, I don't want to complain, but these witnesses have all gone over 5 minutes. And I understood further from Senator Biden you are going to cut the committee members from 10 to 5 minutes. Is that your understanding?

Senator KENNEDY. The witnesses for 5 minutes and the questioning for 10.

Senator THURMOND. Senator Biden didn't change the 10 to 5?

Senator KENNEDY. That is my understanding, and I want to say that they have been responsive to questions. No one is interested in delaying this hearing. And if there is some, then I will be glad to take another round.

Senator THURMOND. Well, I understand we have about 85 witnesses to hear. Now, is it going to be the intent just to carry this hearing on and on, or bring it to a conclusion?