Court ruled that the diversity had academic value.

Now, I will argue that diversity of human experience may have academic value if it is a good and essential and positive experience that can be shared in a classroom. And it is good and it is essential for us to interact with people of all ethnicities from all over the world, and the more of that experience you can get, the better your educational experience is.

But ethnicity does not have academic value. The Supreme Court ruled it did. They occurred with the University of Michigan and said, you reached that critical mass, you can be the sole determiner of that critical mass of diversity. Then, what we will do with this is, we are going to let you continue down this path, although you cannot have just a formula that spits something out of a spreadsheet, you have to have something that deals with each one of these individual students.

Well, okay, so it takes a little more attention to the same result. But, in the end, the court suspended the 14th amendment, the equal protection clause that is established in our Constitution, suspended equal protection so we could have a critical mass of diversity by the executive branch, not the judicial branch, because that diversity, as indexed to skin color, had, in the minds of the court, academic value. And then the court, in its majority opinion, ruled that perhaps in 25 years, we can go back and we can reestablish the 14th amendment equal protection clause, and maybe we do not need to have critical mass of diversity that we are going to declare to have academic value again.

Where does that come from, J ustices? How do you believe that you can suspend the 14th amendment, for academic value on skin color and think we will be able to adhere back to our Constitution again? And if this Constitution does not mean what it says, if it can be suspended as simply myopic as this idea of critical mass of diversity, if that can happen, what meaning does the Constitution have anymore? Is it simply a document that happened to fall in our laps that the Founding Fathers stumbled across and stumbled in, that perhaps in 25 years, we can go back and reestablish the 14th amendment equality again. And if this Constitution have whatsoever? Is it something that means what it says? Is it something that has a provision for amendment for a reason that we are to adhere to the Constitution, the letter of the Constitution and the intent of the Constitution and not violate from some unless we are willing to step forwards and amend it? That is what our Founding Fathers intended, but it is not what we see happening here in the United States Supreme Court, and it is not what we see happening in the inferior courts that have been established by this Congress.

It is not the only example. And by the way, many of these examples are in a surgical way, not in a surgical way, and most of these countries by the way do not let their people have freedom of speech, freedom of assembly or freedom of religion or they cannot go to the polls and elect a leader. So those decisions in the courts will not reflect the will and the character of the people. We need to redefine this line.

The Congress is also culpable; and I will hold them, in fact, more accountable because I think it is natural if you are a member of the executive branch of the government, you are going to want to expand the authority of the executive branch. That is where you have got the most leverage, and that is where you have the most faith. And if you are a member of the legislative branch, as I am, I want to expand the power we have here because I think it reflects the voice of the people, and that voice of the people should be predominant. And if you are a member of the judicial branch, I cannot image why human nature would not also apply there. And if you are a member of the judicial branch I would think you would want to then expand the power and leverage that you have in the judicial branch. I do not believe them for that. But I will ask the courts, please rein it in because if you do not rein it in, sooner or later this Congress will. We do have the authority to do so; and if we exercise that rule, that sets up a conflict between us. And I would rather see that be resolved in a peaceful way, a willing way with the best interests of the American people, than I would want to have to impose that upon the courts. In fact, I am a little apprehensive that we cannot find this in this Congress until it becomes a crisis.

Speaking of a crisis, the filibuster rules in the other body have set up another impending constitutional crisis. When we have a justice that is appointed to a federal court, and the Constitution requires that the President when he makes his nomination seek "the advice and consent of," and now I have to save the other body, that advice and consent clause that is in our Constitution is something that is very, very, very important. We do not have any problem with the advice part. We get plenty of advice from those people over there and some of it is down right offensive to the nominees. In fact, some of it is just plain out and our religious bias. It is character attacks. Declaring a nominee to be a Neanderthal is beyond the scope of what someone of that position ought to be.

Madam Speaker, I appreciate your attention tonight and I will take this issue up at a later date.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. Ginny Brown-Waite of Florida). The Chair would remind Members not to make improper references to the Senate.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted:

The following Members (at the request of [Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas]) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

Mrs. MALONEY, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. Brown of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. WYNN, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. FILER, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. Kaptur, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. OSBORNE, for 5 minutes, March 29.
Mr. DREIER, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. OTTER, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. PENCE, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. Burton of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

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