

changes in a way that builds a bridge we can all walk across and that keeps us coming together around our differences.

So much of the world today is being torn apart because people can't get along because of their racial, their religious, their ethnic, their tribal differences. We have more diversity in the United States than any great democracy in the world. And it is our meal ticket to the future.

This is another example in life when by doing the morally right thing, we will all grow wealthier, we will all grow happier, we will all be rewarded by just doing what's right. And we can only do what's right if we're willing to give everybody an opportunity, if we're willing to rebuild communities and willing to give every family a chance to succeed. That's what's at issue in this election.

So I ask you again, when you think about us, do you think about all the efforts that have been made? Some of you have been coming to these events now all year long, and you're probably on your last leg. [Laughter] I can tell you this: There is a very high principle at stake here because even a lot of the good things that are happening in the world today are dividing people. Computers and technology and high levels of education, unless they are broadly shared, can help societies to become even more divided even as they become more prosperous. And I am determined to see America take advantage of these changes in a way that makes the whole country stronger and more coherent.

We were just over at the New Hope Baptist Church, Bob and I were, and we're sort of in a good humor now. [Laughter] And we've got our minds right. And I was just reminded walk-

ing up there—I don't know why I haven't thought about it in a long time—about the magnificent poem by John Donne, who said, "No man is an island entire of himself. Each is a part of the—a piece of the whole, a part of the main. Every person's death diminishes me. And therefore, send not to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee." If you believe that, you should side with us because we believe we're in this together.

So I'd like to celebrate, scream, and shout, but it's not over yet. It's a long way from over. So I ask you again—I thank you for coming here; I promise we'll make it a good investment. We'll do the very best we can. But every one of you still has someone else in this State or in another State to whom you can talk between now and the election. Every one of you has someone who is on the margin of voting—"should I or should I not"—who needs to understand that there are huge, practical consequences to their lives in the outcome of these elections and that they need to show up and be counted.

So I ask you, if you want to help us build that bridge to the 21st century, build it every day between now and election day by finding somebody else who will be there, and be there for people who care about them and their future.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom at the Marriott at Glen Pointe Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to President Saddam Hussein of Iraq; President Fidel Castro of Cuba; and James J. Florio, former Governor of New Jersey.

Remarks at the Presidential Unity Fund Reception in New York City October 20, 1996

The President. Thank you very much.

Audience members. Four more years! Four more years! Four more years!

The President. Thank you. Thank you so much, all of you, for being here. Let me begin by thanking the Members of Congress who are here, who were just introduced, Congressmen Nadler, Manton, Engel, Congresswoman

Maloney. I know that Carl McCall and Speaker Silver and Martin Connor and Ruth Messinger I think is here and Mark Green. And Judith Hope, our State Democratic chairman—I think you're all here. Thank you.

Thank you, Harry Belafonte, for being great and for always being there for us. And I want to thank Harry Belafonte for another thing, the

early support and strong encouragement he gave me to restore democracy and freedom to the people of Haiti. Thank you, Harry Belafonte, for that as well.

I'd like to thank Whoopi Goldberg, who has been the most faithful supporter of our common efforts for the last 6 months in the United States. Whoopi emceed my birthday party, and she was a stitch, as always, and almost made it bearable turning 50, just listening to her. [Laughter] And she is a wonderful person behind all that good humor. And she doesn't have to do this. She does it because she loves her country and cares about what happens to other people and their lives. And I am very grateful to her for that.

And I'd also like to thank Marlo Thomas, who spoke earlier, who has been a wonderful, progressive force in our country for so long. And there's another terrific actor here who has come to a number of our events in the last few weeks. And I want to thank him for his support and say that I look forward for decades more of stellar performances. Mr. Kevin Spacey is here. Thank you, Kevin, for coming.

I want to thank Chairman Don Fowler and our general chairman, Chris Dodd. Thank you, Terry McAuliffe. Thank you, Senator Bob Kerrey, for not only raising a lot of money for the Democrats but for recruiting stellar candidates for the Senate. We've got a lot of folks out there that you're helping tonight you've never met. But believe me, you can be proud of them. They are good. I am proud of them, and I thank them.

To Tom Daschle and Dick Gephardt, let me say to all of you, a lot of you in this room know me better than you know Senator Daschle, who's from South Dakota—which if you've never been to South Dakota, I recommend a trip there someday. Last time we went to South Dakota, they delayed a high school football homecoming for an hour so I could have a rally in this little town, and 10,000 people showed up. It rained, they stayed, and then they went on to the football game. It's that kind of place. It was absolutely wonderful. But I want you to know that Senator Daschle and Congressman Gephardt have worked very hard to earn the trust of the American people, have worked very hard to make sure that we were working together to move forward in a prudent but progressive way, and I believe will fulfill their responsibilities in a way that will inspire an enor-

mous amount of support even from people beyond the rank and file of the Democratic Party if the voters give them the chance to lead the Congress in the coming election.

Let me just say to all of you—I can be quite brief about this—most of you know what the consequences of this election are in specific terms. I mean, if you just look at the budget that was adopted in this last year, in the last couple of weeks right before the Congress had to go home and face reelection, as compared to the budget they wanted to adopt that I vetoed—they took 50,000 people out of Head Start; we put 50,000 more in. They cut the college loan program; we wound up with the biggest increase in Pell grants for needy college students in 20 years. That's the difference.

They cut environmental enforcement and ended the principle that the polluters should pay. We vetoed that, and they wound up fully funding our environmental program, setting aside the Sterling Forest here on the Atlantic seaboard. We're going to create three national parks in the Mojave Desert area of California. We're moving forward. But that's because the American people made their voice heard.

Now you've got these two different visions weighing in the balance. The big ideas, it seems to me, are pretty clear. Everybody knows that we're going into a time of greater possibility for people who are prepared for it than at any time in human history. There will be more opportunities for people in a position to seize them than at any time in human history. Within 4 or 5 years, it will be typical to see a kid in a school in Brooklyn doing a research project on a computer out of a library in Australia, for example. That will be typical. It will be usual. You'll have children who will be E-mailing each other from every African country that has an immigrant counterpart in a United States school. There will be unbelievable opportunities.

To give you some example, we've created 10½ million more jobs, we Americans have, since I became President. More than half of them are in high-wage categories. Why? Because they're tied to the rest of the world more closely and into the things that we do well, to the emerging information society.

We believe that we have two great ideas here that are very important, that should permeate every single policy decision we make. We think that we ought to be building a bridge to the future wide enough and strong enough for ev-

everybody to walk across who is responsible enough to do their own part. We believe that. We believe that we'll be a stronger, better country and all the rest of us will do better if we give everyone a chance to live up to their God-given capacities. That's why we make a decision different from them on something like family and medical leave or putting 100,000 police on the street or the Brady bill or the assault weapons ban or a better student loan program. We just have different views of that. We believe that we should do things that help people to go forward together.

The second thing we believe is that we should be one community in harmony with each other, in harmony with our environment, and insofar as we can, a force for peace and freedom throughout the world. And if you look around this room—just take a look, think about this. Just take a look around this room tonight. You've got people here whose ethnic heritage is in Europe, Asia, south Asia, the Middle East, and—maybe we've got some Native Americans here; there have been Native Americans in every other crowd I've been in for the last week—and every continent in the world. You live in a country which is basically bound together by a set of ideas embodied in the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, and the rest of our Constitution. And we say at our best points, "If you believe in these ideas and you show up and you obey the law and you respect your neighbors, you're part of our American community."

All over the world people are being convulsed by their ethnic, religious, tribal, racial hatreds. All over the world people are less than they ought to be. Children are being killed because one group has to be able to look down upon another group in order to look up to itself. All over the world, people are still taught the most ancient stupidity of all, that ultimately the most important thing about you is what you are not, when clearly the most important thing about you is what you are.

Now, we in the United States, we in this administration, and we on this stage, we believe that the best future for America is one that consists of our saying, "You may be different from us; you may even do things we don't think are right. We don't care as long as you believe in the same values embodied in the Constitution, you're willing to work, you're willing to be responsible, you're willing to treat your

neighbors who are different from you with respect. You can be part of our country, you will be part of our community, and you will walk across the bridge to the 21st century with us." And that's important.

Now, if you believe that, it means that if we're going to balance the budget we can't do it in a way that hurts seniors who have no other way to take care of their health care needs except through Medicare and Medicaid. It means you can't walk away from working families that have children with cerebral palsy, for example, who couldn't stay middle class working families if they lost the guarantee that Medicaid gives them to buy those wheelchairs for their kids and so their kids can stay at home and stay in school and grow and do the very best they possibly can. It means you can't walk away from that.

It means you can't abandon the obligation the United States has to continue to clean up our environment while we grow the economy. It means you must invest more in education, not less, and open the doors of college education to all.

It means it's not enough to say that we're going to end welfare as we know it, give it to the States, and walk away. You can't require people to go to work unless you provide jobs for them and training for them and an opportunity to find their way to raise their children successfully the way everybody else does.

It means these things. It means you can't just look at children and say, "Stay off drugs," and then turn around and take away the funds that the schools are using to bring the police officers and the others into the schools to be role models, one on one, to these kids, not just a once-a-month speech but a daily positive presence in the lives of these children that give them a chance to reclaim their lives, look toward the future, and build something good for themselves.

So let me say this in closing: We do have just a few days left. The big danger in this election is that people won't show up who have the most riding on the outcome of it. And what I want to ask all of you to do is to promise yourselves that every day between now and election day you will contact somebody to tell them they ought to show up, to tell them there is a relationship between what we do in Washington and how you live here and in every other community around the country, that this country

is better off than it was 4 years ago, that we do have good ideas for the next 4 years, and that we need to go into the 21st century walking across a bridge and walking across it together. And the decisions we make in these elections will determine both those things: Are we going to build a bridge, number one, and number two, are we going to walk across it together?

The best days of this country are ahead if we answer the questions right. That means people have to show up. Will you help us do that? Will you help us? [Applause]

God bless you. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10 p.m. at the Sheraton New York Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to H. Carl McCall, State comptroller; Sheldon Silver, State assembly speaker; Martin Connor, State senate minority leader; Ruth Messinger, Manhattan borough president; Mark Green, New York City public advocate; musician Harry Belafonte; comedienne Whoopi Goldberg; actress Marlo Thomas; Donald L. Fowler, national chairman, Democratic National Committee; and Terence McAuliffe, finance chairman, Clinton/Gore '96.

Remarks at Cuyahoga Community College in Parma, Ohio October 21, 1996

Thank you very much. Good morning. I won't let the rain bother me if you don't let it bother you; how's that? Thank you so much, all of you, for being here. I'm going to put on my raincoat. I cheat a little bit.

First let me thank Dr. Jerry Sue Thornton and all the people here at this wonderful community college for hosting us. Thank you, Senator Glenn. Thank you, Mayor Gerald Boldt. I'm glad to be back in Parma. Thank you, sir. I'm the only President in history who has ever come to Parma twice just to eat pierogies, but I'm—[laughter]. We're going to do a little work today.

Thank you, Cleveland Mayor Mike White. Thank you, Dennis Kucinich, for that great speech. He sounded like a Congressman to me. Thank you, Mayor Tom Coyne, for running for Congress. Thank you, Congressmen Tom Sawyer and Sherrod Brown, for being here. Thank you, Representative Jane Campbell, David Leland. Thank you, Mayor Dimora, for being here.

And let me say a special thanks to the Valley Forge High School Band for being here. I am not so old that I do not remember what it's like to try to play one of those instruments in the rain. It's not easy, and let's give them another hand. Come on. [Applause] I also want to thank all the other students who are here. There is a group of students back here—[applause]—there is a group of students in the back over there with a sign that says they got out

of school and I have to sign their permission slip. So I will do that for the ones in the back.

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you all for being here. Thanks for that "Ohio Republicans for Clinton/Gore" sign. That looks good to me. I am delighted to be back here.

Let me say, all of you know that 4 years ago when I ran for President we had a time of high unemployment and rising frustration. And all of you know that compared to 4 years ago, we are better off. We have 10½ million more jobs. The unemployment rate in Ohio has gone from 7 percent to 4.8 percent. Average family income in the last 2 years is up \$1,600 after inflation, after being stagnant for a decade. We are moving in the right direction. The crime rate has come down for 4 years in a row. The welfare rolls have dropped. Child support collections are up almost 50 percent. We're moving in the right direction.

This election will determine what direction we take into the 21st century. That is the decision before all of you. Will you help me build a bridge to the 21st century? [Applause]

If you compare the work we've done in the last month since you had your voices heard, compared to the last 2 years, when I vetoed a budget that would have cut education for the first time in American history, weakened environmental protection, undermined the commitments of Medicare and Medicaid—and you stood by me and made your voices heard. Now, in the last month, we raised the minimum wage