

Remarks at a Presidential Debate Watch Party in Ballwin, Missouri  
October 8, 2004

*The President.* Thank you all for coming. Thanks for staying up so late. Anybody got any questions? [Laughter]

*Audience member.* We love Laura!

*The President.* Thank you all for coming. Laura said, "Don't talk too long tonight." [Laughter] I said, "Okay." [Laughter] But I do want to thank you all very much. There's no doubt in my mind, with your help, we'll carry Missouri again and win in November.

So tonight I was telling the people why I think they ought to put me back in there for 4 more years, but I didn't get the line I really wanted to say, which was that the main reason to put me back in was so that Laura would be the First Lady for 4 more years.

*Audience members.* Laura! Laura! Laura!

*Audience member.* We love you, Laura!

*The President.* Tomorrow morning, I'm waking up first thing in the morning to help the next Governor of Missouri, Matt Blunt, and the next Lieutenant Governor of Missouri, Peter Kinder. I want to thank them both. See you in the morning. I'll see you in the morning. Make sure the eggs aren't runny. [Laughter]

Then we're off to Iowa, then Minnesota. I'm fired up. I'm looking forward to this.

I thank all the candidates who are here. I really want to thank those of you who are putting up the signs and making the phone calls and doing all the work.

We had a good debate tonight. There's clear differences of opinion. One thing I hope you could tell is I know what I believe. I know why I need to lead this country to make this world a safer place and a more hopeful place for every American—for every single American.

Our dream is for America to fulfill its promise for every single person who lives here. There's no doubt in my mind, over the next 4 years this world will be a safer place, that we'll achieve the peace that we long for, for our children and grandchildren, and that the great promise of America, the great hope of our great country will be extended to every corner of this great land.

I can't thank you all enough for being here.

*Audience member.* Thank you!

*The President.* May God bless you, and may God continue to bless our country. Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:26 p.m. at the Greensfelder Recreation Complex. In his remarks, he referred to Missouri Secretary of State Matt Blunt, candidate for Missouri Governor; and Missouri State Senator Peter Kinder, candidate for Missouri Lieutenant Governor. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on the Terrorist Attacks in Egypt  
October 8, 2004

I condemn in the strongest possible terms the vicious terrorist attacks in Egypt yesterday. By targeting Muslims and Jews, Egyptians and Israelis, and women and

children, the terrorists have shown their total contempt for all human life and for all human values. These acts show yet again why the civilized world must stand together

against the forces of terror and defeat this evil.

On behalf of the American people, I express condolences to all who lost loved ones and to the people of Egypt and of Israel. I commend the cooperation between Israel

and Egypt to help the victims and their families. The United States stands ready to provide assistance to the Government of Egypt as it brings the perpetrators of these acts to justice.

Remarks at a Breakfast for Gubernatorial Candidate Matt Blunt in St. Louis, Missouri  
October 9, 2004

Thank you all. Thanks for coming. Thank you all for coming. Please be seated. I appreciate that kind introduction, Governor. [Laughter] He said, "Are you doing anything for breakfast?" [Laughter] I said, "Waking up." [Laughter] He said, "Why don't you come by and have some eggs with some friends." [Laughter] I said, "More than happy to." I want to thank you all for coming. With your help, Matt Blunt will be the next Governor for the great State of Missouri.

It's good to be back in St. Louis, home of the mighty Cardinals. You might remember opening day. [Laughter] The Cardinals had a great season after that. I can't claim any credit—[laughter]—although I've always wanted to lead a baseball team into the playoffs. [Laughter]

I'm proud to be traveling with Laura. She is a—so when I asked her to marry me, she said, "Fine, just so long as I never have to give a speech." [Laughter] I said, "Okay, you got a deal." [Laughter] Fortunately, she didn't hold me to that promise. The American people have seen her speak and have come to know her as a strong, compassionate, great First Lady. We're off to Iowa and then Minnesota. And I'm going to remind the people of those States, like I'm reminding everybody, there's some reasons to put me back into office, but perhaps the most important one is so that Laura will have 4 more years.

We got a great family. I'm proud to be with my Uncle Bucky Bush and my Aunt Patty Bush. Thank you for your love and compassion.

I want to thank Melanie Blunt for her willingness to serve the State of Missouri as the next first lady of Missouri. Besides Matt, you've got another fine Missourian on the ticket, running for Federal office, and that's Kit Bond. You need to put him back into office. He's a great Senator. I know Brenda Talent is here. I appreciate you being here, Brenda. Thank you for coming. You know, that fine husband of yours, I didn't hold it against him that he missed another one of my speeches, but he's heard a lot of them before. [Laughter] He's doing a great job, and I know you're proud of him. I know the people of Missouri are proud of him as well. Congressman Todd Akin—I don't know if Todd made it this morning or not, but I'm proud of the job he's doing for the people of this area of Missouri.

I saw Peter Kinder last night. I don't know if Pete is here, but he's going to make a great Lieutenant Governor for the State of Missouri. Yes, Peter, thank you for coming. You've come a long way for a country boy. [Laughter] I want to thank Catherine Hanaway, who's going to be the next secretary of state for the great State of Missouri.

I want to thank Ann Wagner, who has done such a fine job as the cochairman