

# **news** from the republican national committee

310 First Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003 (202) 484-6500

*Fair Campaign Practices Code*

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CONTACT: MIKE BAROODY  
(202) 484-6665

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## DOLE SIGNS CAMPAIGN CODE, CALLS FOR END TO DEMO EXCESS

WASHINGTON, D. C. -- The following are remarks prepared for delivery by Senator Bob Dole, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, at a joint press conference today with Democrat Chairman Westwood to sign the Code of Fair Campaign Practices.

It is a pleasure to be here to sign the Code of Fair Campaign Practices on behalf of the Republican Party and the campaign for the re-election of President Nixon. I note especially the language from the preamble to the Code which sets out as its purpose to ensure the voters' "right to a free and untrammelled choice...on the issues."

And, as the President himself said not long ago, in anticipation of the current campaign, this Presidential race could offer the most clear-cut choice in terms of political philosophy, policy and programs that have been offered America in this century.

I know of few who deny the correctness of that observation by the President. Surely the issues are clear. And just as surely, the differences between the President and George McGovern -- their respective approaches to policy -- are well-known.

They differ strongly on Vietnam.

They disagree on general matters of foreign and defense policy.

(MORE)

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They offer different approaches to dealing with pressing domestic matters like the economy, and tax reform and what to do about the welfare mess.

The campaign -- and the country -- have nothing to lose and everything to gain from a calm and deliberate, rational discussion of these issues. The choice the country will make in November will be between two widely divergent alternatives and it is incumbent upon the candidates in the race to help to make that choice as deliberate and informed a choice by the voters as possible.

And one way to do that was pointed out most recently to the Democrats by Chairman Westwood's predecessor, Lawrence O'Brien, at his party's convention in July. Then Chairman O'Brien advised the members of his party to "cool the excessive political rhetoric" and to "lighten the purple prose."

It was good advice then. It remains good advice. I hope that now, with the signing of this Code of Fair Campaign Practices, his candidate will consider taking it.

Perhaps now the signing of this Code will bring an end to George McGovern's invidious and insidious comparisons of the President of the United States to the hated Nazi dictator, Adolph Hitler.

Any such comparisons drawn between any President of the United States and Hitler are by their very nature invidious comparisons.

They are by their very nature personal slanders.

And they are slanders compounded by their very repetition which repetition leads me to the obvious conclusion that they intentionally and willfully stated.

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Perhaps now, the signing of this Code will bring an end to these slanders which have been defended on the grounds that there is no intent to personally characterize the President, only to categorize his policies. But such a defense doesn't stand up especially when it is taken in the context of other apparently carefully considered remarks by Senator McGovern, who has accused the President of harboring personal "impulses for a major war against the people of Indochina," and of "running this war," and impliedly prolonging it "to suit his own selfish political purpose."

Perhaps now, the signing of this Code will bring an end to Senator McGovern's excessive language that serves no conceivable positive political purpose -- language for example, which characterizes the President and his policies as "barbaric."

Perhaps now, the signing of this Code will bring an end to Senator McGovern's outrageous tendency to vilify not just his opponent, but the voters themselves which he has done on no less than two occasions -- first when he said that "any laboring man and woman who supports Richard Nixon" -- and I would remind Senator McGovern that there are millions of them -- should in the Senator's own words, "have his head examined;" and secondly, when he stated that any young person or worker who supports the President "is too confused to know which end is up."

And perhaps now, with the signing of this Code, the Senator's running mate will cease his armchair psychoanalysis of the President calling the President "afraid" of this, or "afraid" of that, or "power mad," or "like a reformed drunk."

(MORE)

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Perhaps now, with the signing of this Code, we will see, in short a move by the McGovern campaign back to the real issues and away from the rhetoric of hate and innuendo, of smear and vilification which serves neither the reputation of the practitioners of such tactics nor the true and valid purpose of a national political campaign -- informing the electorate.

In any event, it is my hope that now, with the signing of this Code, of Fair Campaign Practices, we will see an end to excessive rhetoric from George McGovern and his campaign and that the Senator will now begin to heed his own words of last May when he said that he will "redouble his efforts to avoid inflammatory rhetoric" and that he will indeed try now "to be very restrained in what he says."

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