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REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD  
*AT THE* UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA  
TAMPA, FLORIDA  
7 P.M., FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 1974  
*FOR RELEASE AT 7 P.M. FRIDAY*

Tonight I want to talk about a man and an idea . The man is Bill Cramer . The idea is the relationship of education ~~and~~<sup>TO</sup> the quality of ~~our public life~~ the political profession .

~~There are a number of reasons why I appreciate the invitation you so kindly extended :--~~

Let me say first how much I welcome the chance to be with my friend and colleague , Bill Cramer, As the first Republican Congressman elected in Florida since Reconstruction days, Bill ~~did~~<sup>has done</sup> much to enhance the character and stature of American politics . He helped the South rise again as a dynamic and viable region enjoying a two-party system .

Bill Cramer has now donated his important books and papers to create what will be known as the William C. Cramer Political Science Study Wing of the University of Tampa Library. ~~Bill also~~<sup>informs</sup> ~~tells me that his gift~~

~~was not deducted from his income taxes despite the great value of his contribution . I am accumulating many books and papers myself and~~  
~~share Bill's view that they should be available for study .~~

I am very pleased that the University of Tampa is accepting the responsibility that goes along with service as a repository of the Cramer papers . The university is demonstrating this by its creation of a political science division to augment its already excellent and ~~diversified~~<sup>diversified</sup> faculty.



The university's decision to confer a degree in political science could not have been more timely . We are living through days in which ~~public~~ confidence in the ~~public~~ public service professions essential to a free republic is being undermined . The polls show that there has been a marked lessening of respect and esteem for politicians in general --- whether in Congress or in other levels of government . There is an erosion of the trust we once had in our political system .

*some critics - including some in our ~~cast~~ suspicion on*  
 We hear outcries from institutions of higher learning which ~~impugn~~

~~at~~ ~~all~~ ~~persons~~ ~~serving~~ in public office .

Too many professors are teaching that the word "politician," has a negative connotation ~~and~~ somehow *equated with* stands for corruption and self-interest . I do not make any excuse ~~for~~ *s/* bumbling

bureaucrats or dishonest politicians . But I do point out that they are *very* often ~~people~~ graduates of the same universities and colleges that condemn them .

Educators must share in ~~the~~ our free society's responsibility for the quality of our national life --- and the quality of our politicians . That is why the University of Tampa is undertaking a sacred public trust in offering a degree in political science . Today's students will become tomorrow's leaders . America can expect no more of its leaders than the full measure of their capabilities and values .



I regret that there is a widespread feeling of disappointment in our political system and in politics generally. *Much has been made of the President's low rating of 27% in recent popularity polls.* Many in the news media have addressed themselves sharply to the Executive and cited polls on the *views of the public.* But *the same* one recent poll disclosed that *in the opinion of the public,* Congress *rated at 51% - considerably* enjoyed a lower *rating* than the President.

*use to figures*

This indicated to me that the public is not only unhappy with the Executive Branch but even unhappier with the Congress itself. ~~That~~ means that ~~too many of our politicians are not doing very well.~~ Something must be done to restore public confidence *in our political system.*

We are going through an unprecedented period of technological ~~change and dislocation created by the energy~~ *and economic* ~~change and dislocation created by the energy~~ *serious economic problems.* But this Nation ~~is not disintegrating.~~ It is going through a *period* of transition. ~~It is~~ experiencing *the* growing pains *to be expected of a* as we approach ~~maturity~~ *a* country of over 211 million with the world's greatest record of achievement in the short ~~time span~~ *of two centuries* ~~of two centuries.~~

This is a tremendous challenge for those of us who have chosen a career in politics. We simply must do a better job. I refer to both the Executive and Legislative ~~branches~~ *branches* and to both of our major political parties.

~~Americans are tired of rhetoric.~~ Americans are tired of rhetoric. They want results. They do not care *primarily* whether Republicans or Democrats do the job. ~~That is the beauty of the two party system.~~ *That is the beauty of the two party system.* ~~We~~ *Electors* must perform or face rejection at the polls.



I am convinced that the <sup>AD</sup> Administration ~~I represent~~ will get results .

I am proud to represent an Administration that has created a climate of world peace in our new relationship with the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China --- a relationship that ~~would have been unthinkable~~ <sup>was only a distant dream</sup> under previous administrations .

Our Administration has extricated this Nation from the war in Vietnam . It has freed our heroic prisoners of war .

I am proud to be part of an Administration which has fashioned such skilled diplomacy that we have separated the warring nations in the Middle East and ~~pulling~~ <sup>pulled</sup> the world back from the brink of catastrophe .

We can and will create a new climate on the domestic scene . ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

~~XX~~  
As we achieve results, I ~~think~~ am confident that you will find a restoration of American faith in our political system .

We are moving in the right direction . The 1972 election reform bill recommended by the President was passed by the Congress. It is good legislation . It was long overdue because the Federal election laws had not been updated for almost half a century. Tremendous strides were taken in 1972, <sup>although</sup> ~~the Congress was regulated in some cases~~ <sup>and</sup> The present Congress has an obligation to take further steps to restore public confidence in our election process. ②



The University of Tampa is responding to our compelling need for an infusion of new talent and new energy in politics . Your political science graduates can ~~provide~~ <sup>provide</sup> a higher state of consciousness ~~You~~ You can ~~provide~~ <sup>give</sup> us ~~with~~ skills ~~relevant~~ <sup>relevant</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> today's America .

You can implant values and ideals that will elevate the science of politics .

You can inspire through the ~~living~~ <sup>living</sup> living example of men like Bill Cramer who ~~has~~ <sup>has</sup> made himself and ~~his~~ <sup>his</sup> works accessible to the University of Tampa .

Your new undertaking in political science is an example of the unique role that private educational institutions of higher learning can assume . The pursuit of excellence is spurred by diversity . Students seeking different philosophies of learning must be able to choose from the widest range of options . This is the way to transcend mediocrity and conformity . It is what America's 1,500 privately-supported colleges and universities are ~~about~~ <sup>about</sup> --- a viable, ~~free enterprise~~ <sup>free enterprise</sup> sector in ~~the~~ the dissemination of knowledge .

Today private colleges educate an estimated 23 percent of all post-secondary students . This percentage has slipped in recent years . ~~We~~ <sup>We</sup> we must not permit it to slip further . ~~America~~ <sup>America</sup> America possesses the ~~the~~ world's foremost technology ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> But we require men and women sensitive to the complexities of new lifestyles in terms of ~~the~~ traditional rights as well as ~~the~~ moral and spiritual commitments .



Private education offers a classic demonstration of free enterprise

in action. The University of Tampa is not dependent on Federal funding

*funding that* ~~that would require~~ rigid guidelines. To maintain ~~the~~ ~~individual~~ ~~the~~ ~~identity~~ and

individualism of your university, you have assumed a heavy

responsibility. You have also taken up the challenge that must be met if

we are to deal with the present and ~~anticipate~~ ~~THE~~ ~~future~~.

~~Non-public~~ Non-public

~~Non-public~~ colleges and universities provide more than

higher education for over 2 million Americans. They provide a

leavening and healthy stimulation for all institutions of higher learning.

Their vitality is essential to the diversity, ~~and~~ energy and integrity

of every college and university.

You have met criticism of the profession of politics by innovation

and relevant response. You will ~~INSPIRE~~ young Americans to correct problems

through their own involvement. This is the way to ~~heal~~ heal

the sickness in our body politic.

Let us develop ~~nation~~ ~~wide~~ new models of teaching and learning and

institutional management. Let us pursue new research, the willingness

to experiment with change, the readiness to probe into new areas of

scholarship.

We are equipping a new generation to face a ~~new~~ new world ~~with new~~ ~~problems~~

The art of education lies in applying the values of the past to the challenges

of the future.



Private institutions serve best by emphasizing their individuality --- not by imitating public institutions . But neither students nor government should support a college merely because of its ~~antiquity~~ past history. Institutions must be as alive as the Nation they serve . They must respond to its emerging needs and problems . They must offer something truly unique and valuable .

A strong private educational sector --- free of governmental constraints ---enjoys boundless freedom to experiment in areas that may fall outside popular general public support . ~~When private~~

~~institutions are strong, they set a universal example.~~

~~They prevent a public system of learning that is all too often a mile wide but only an inch deep.~~

Federal legislation, of course , has remained neutral and steered a middle course between private and public sectors .

~~We have made all Federal student assistance programs available to both private and public institutions.~~

We have given Federal support for academic facilities <sup>to</sup> ~~at~~ both .

We have established Federal categorical programs, totalling close to 300 available to both .

We have provided <sup>with</sup> both the Federal dollars that cover approximately 27 percent of total expenditures, including ~~NIH~~ research, in higher education.





This administration favors the funding of post-secondary education by channeling money through the student. This allows the student the widest possible choice of options. It keeps the government out of the business of a ~~university~~ college's internal operations. It motivates the institution to respond to current student needs. Education becomes a buyer's market and must cater to the consumer in the finest tradition of the American system.

The new Federal budget asks \$1.3 billion to provide basic educational opportunity grants. This program allows up to \$1,400 to each student on a basis of need. These awards are not made at the discretion of the school. <sup>I</sup> Students may apply their grants to 5,100 different institutions, including vocational schools. We have also requested changes in the Guaranteed Student Loan Program to assure students of all levels of income increased access to educational loans.

~~The~~ The future of private higher education ~~will be decided not by Washington but by~~ will be decided not by Washington but by private individuals, like yourselves, — — persons devoted to the pursuit of excellence and the survival of a free spirit of inquiry.

You are doing more than expanding the growth of a university. You are contributing to the Nation in terms more precious than money or material values. You are ~~promoting~~ encouraging ~~that~~ growth <sup>in</sup> ~~the~~ people who will make the difference between despair and dynamism ---- between confusion and clarity ---- between hopelessness and hope.



The schools of this Nation --private as well as public ---  
face the challenge of restoring nobility and high purpose to  
the political profession . Thomas Jefferson believed that "When a  
man assumes a public trust, he should consider himself as public property ."  
Both private and public educators must combine their genius in preparing  
men for ~~such~~ such trust .

I urge you, again in the words of Jefferson , to "Enlighten  
the people generally, and tyranny and oppressions of body and mind will vanish  
like evil spirits at the dawn of day . "

I thank you .

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Let me say first how much I welcome the chance to be with my friend and colleague, Bill Cramer. As the first Republican Congressman elected in Florida since Reconstruction days, Bill has done much to enhance the character and stature of American politics. He helped the South rise again as a dynamic and viable region enjoying a two-party system.

Bill Cramer has now donated his important books and papers to create what will be known as the William C. Cramer Political Science Study Wing of the University of Tampa Library.

I am very pleased that the University of Tampa is accepting the responsibility that goes along with service as a repository of the Cramer papers. The university is demonstrating this by its creation of a political science division to augment its already excellent and diversified faculty.

The university's decision to confer a degree in political science could not have been more timely. We are living through days in which confidence in the public service professions essential to a free republic is being undermined. The polls show that there has been a marked lessening of respect and esteem for politicians in general -- whether in Congress or in other levels of government. There is an erosion of the trust we once had in our political system.

We hear outcries from some critics -- including some in our institutions of higher learning, which cast suspicion on all persons serving in public office. Too many professors are teaching that the word, "politician," has a negative connotation somehow equated with corruption and self-interest. I do not make any excuses for bumbling bureaucrats or dishonest politicians. But I do point out

(more)

that they are very often graduates of the same universities and colleges that condemn them.

Educators must share in our free society's responsibility for the quality of our national life -- and the quality of our politicians. That is why the University of Tampa is undertaking a sacred public trust in offering a degree in political science. Today's students will become tomorrow's leaders. America can expect no more of its leaders than the full measure of their capabilities and values.

I regret that there is a widespread feeling of disappointment in our political system and in politics generally. Much has been made of the President's low rating of 27% in a recent popularity poll. But the same poll disclosed that the public rated Congress at 21% -- considerably lower than the President.

This indicated to me that the public is not only unhappy with the Executive Branch but even unhappier with the Congress itself. Something must be done to restore public confidence in our political system.

We are going through an unprecedented period of technological and economic change and dislocation created by the energy problem. But this Nation is not disintegrating. It is going through a period of transition. It is experiencing the growing pains to be expected of a country of over 211 million with the world's greatest record of achievement in the short time span of two centuries.

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Americans are tired of rhetoric. They want results. They do not care primarily whether Republicans or Democrats do the job. Elected officials must perform or face rejection at the polls.

I am convinced that this Administration will get results. I am proud to represent an Administration that has created a climate of world peace in our new relationship with the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China -- a relationship that was only a distant dream under previous administrations.

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You can give us skills relevant to today's America.

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I thank you.



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