

AN ADDRESS BY SENATOR LYNDON B JOHNSON UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA STUDENT CONVOCATION  
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"There are many ties between the University of Nebraska and Texas. As things turned out may be we should have settled for another last Saturday night in Austin. Football is a great game and whether we come from Nebraska or Texas --- whatever our Saturday loyalty may be -- I am sure we agree on one thing; we play to win --- we do not play for a tie.

"On a far larger scale--- in a far more serious way-- this is the question which confronts all generations of us today as we think about America's role in the world.

"Shall we play to win?

"Or shall America settle for a tie?

"I am proud to say that I represent a party which is unwilling to settle for a tie.

"In its platform for 1960, the Democratic Party makes this abundantly clear; 'Our objective is not the right to coexist in armed camps on the same planet with totalitarian ideologies'."

"We believe in our objective - the objective of all Americas - is and must be this;

'The creation of an enduring peace in which the universal values of human dignity, truth and justice under law are finally secured for all men, everywhere on earth.'

"I know of no Americans more concerned -- or more directly affected than you are. When we talk of the choice of playing to win or playing for a tie, we are talking of your world, your tomorrow, and your life.

"Shall we play to win?

"Or shall we settle for a tie?

"In the contest for world leadership with the Soviet Union we cannot rely upon the old football strategy of a punt and a prayer --- not carrying the ball, just hoping for the breaks. Back in the 1920s, that was safe football. But it is neither safe football or safe national strategy in the 1960s.

"When the spectators in the stands for this world contest can see matters - for unlike our football games, the spectators can choose up sides and join in the game.

"In a world of 3 billion people, there are only about 180 million of us. There are 650 millions of Chinese. There are 400 million in India, 80 million inhabit the Indonesian chain. In all of Asia, there are more than one billion five hundred million. In Africa there are 300 million, in Latin America there are many more. We are out-



"If what football spectators does not matter to any but the coaches ~~ambitions~~ in a college football game, what the spectators in the world stadium ~~ambitions~~ may think matters to everyman who cherishes his freedom.

"For this is not a world devided half in half.

"This is a world devided in thirds; one third free, one third communist and one third still uncommitted and undecided. To hold world leadership tomorrow we must win those uncommitted to the side of freedom by how we play.

"In no field has our leadership been less imaginative and less vigorous than in that of our approach to the uncommitted nations.

"The uncommitted third of the world is also the hungriest third of the world. This is where fathers support whole families on the equivalent of \$200 a year. This is where children go to bed at night with their stomachs empty. This is where dread diseases sap the vitality of men and women.

"To these people, life reduces itself to basic fundamentals, they want food, they want clothing, they want shelter, they want to enter the 20 Century and partake of the knowledge that protects humnaity from pestilence and natural disaster and which has raised the standards of living in the Western World.

"These people do not want ~~figin~~ gifts. They are proud people who suspect the motives of the giver. They want the kind of help that will allow them to help themselves.

"Furthermore they do not want worn out tanks or rusty rifles; obsolete planes of overage gunboats. These are merely the symbols of the imperialism they have been fighting for so many decades.

"What they do want and need is for our young people to come to them with open hearts and a desire to serve. What they do want is to learn our skills so that they can practice them, themselves.

"I think the heart of young America yearns to respond to this call. And I think it is right here in our colleges and universities that we can launch the kind of programs that will win the uncommitted third of the world to the cause of freedom.

, "What could be more inspiring to our young graduate doctors than to volunteer their services in teaching the mothers of the middle East how to protect the lives of their children?

"What could be more inspiring to our graduate engineers than to volunteer to teach the people of Southeast Asia how to construct the sanitation system that will prolong life.



"What could be more inspiring to our graduate ~~agronomists~~ agronomists than to volunteer to teach the people of India how to increase the production of their soil and provide food for a nation that has known hunger for decades?

"What could be more inspiring to our graduates in government than to teach the people of Africa the elements of civil administration.

"What could be more ~~inspiring~~ inspiring to our graduates in any branch of learning than to help impart to the unfortunate people of the world, the knowledge that will lead them to a better way of life?

"I think there is no obligation more pressing upon our government than to tap the idealism of our youth; to provide ways and means through which our young people can volunteer for service on humanitarian projects where humanitarian service is needed.

"We have launched programs to help the underdeveloped people of the world. These programs have been successful to the extent to which they have been pushed. But the extent has not been great enough.

"Furthermore we have failed to draw upon the enthusiasm and the idealism that young Americans always bring to a task. And this enthusiasm and idealism would be fully as great -- if not greater -- as that of our young people who have volunteered in the past to defend their country in time of war.

"We need a 'volunteers for peace and humanity' program sponsored by our government and we need it without delay. We need to offer our young people an opportunity to serve humanity in the remote stretches of the world after they graduate from school. It would be service not only to the cause of peace but to the enrichment of their own lives.

"It would cost our government little to tap the rich main stream of young Americans' idealism. But the rewards would be rich beyond comparison.

This is the kind of program that would scatter the forces of Communism. It is also the kind of program that would enable the underdeveloped nations of the world to emerge into the 20 century as free countries in which the people are capable of standing on their own feet.

"Finally, our greatest need is to re-invigorate America with the ~~manly~~ youthful spirit, youthful confidence, youthful courage that has been a part of our heritage from earliest days until now. We need leadership speaking not the old fears of old days but the leaders who speak as Woodrow Wilson said -- 'New principles for a new age'.

I am proud to say that in this election, ~~Democrats~~ The Democratic Party offers such a leader in the ~~next~~ man who embodies the strength and wisdom of this young land, John F. Kennedy.