



State Rep. Clay Smothers

Battalion photo by Jeanne Graham

Smothers blasts liberals, morals

By STEVE LEE
Battalion Staff

In a flamboyant delivery Thursday night, State Rep. Clay Smothers, D-Dallas, blamed white liberal politicians for leading the black population astray in social matters and cited increased immorality as the cause of crime.

Smothers made the remarks here in a speech sponsored by the Texas A&M Young Americans for Freedom.

"I've never seen immorality more rampant," he said. "Every time I see white liberals leading my folks, I can't take it. The country is going to hell at the hands of the whites."

He said he is not liberal because liberals have "fooled the hell out of my folks. They took away their morals and their lives."

By supporting certain programs, such as legalized prostitution and gay rights, Smothers said liberals have damaged the morals of society. He said federal attempts at bringing down the crime rate have resulted in more lives being lost. He said over 50 percent of crime victims in the state are black, as are most assailants.

"We've got to stop it (crime)," he said. "Government can't prevent it."

But he offered no immediate solution.

"We can start with kids being

born today," he said.

He challenged his political opponents to match what he considers to be his contribution to the black people. Smothers operates the St. Paul Industrial Training School in Malakoff, which he said is the only black school for children in the state. There are 60 students enrolled at the school, which promotes morality and a strong will to work, he said. He sees this as a way to cut crime and advance blacks economically.

He said the school has never accepted any federal funding in its 52-year operation, although it is eligible for funding now. If the school accepted the funds, he said he would be forced to "dance to their music."

During the fiery question-answer session that followed the talk, a student, asking job opportunities for blacks asked, "What white banker is going to give me money to get started?"

Smothers replied that no one had to give a person anything and that the person would have to work for an opportunity.

One student quipped, "How? By picking cotton?"

Smothers said that was the way he got started.

"If you show sincerity, you've got all you need," he said.

Kissing a nose-rub 'slip'

United Press International
An anthropologist at Texas A&M University thinks he knows how and when kissing originated.

"Prehistoric societies didn't leave us any written records, but we do know by 2000 B.C. something happened," says Vaughn M. Bryant. "By then, lovers in ancient India are depicted as rubbing and pressing their noses together."

"From what I can tell, two people must have been pressing their noses together one day, slipped, and discovered kissing," the anthropologist says.



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