

JEC candidates discuss environment

DECISION '96

(AP) — The following are the answers of the major presidential candidates to the question: "Do you support federal 'takings' legislation that would require payment of federal environmental regulations reduce property values?"

Bill Clinton

"No. I support protecting private property. If the government takes someone's property, the government should pay. ... But the so-called 'takings' legislation introduced as part of the Republicans' Contract with America goes beyond constitutional protections: It would cost taxpayers tens of bil-

ions of dollars and weaken safeguards for public health, safety, and the environment."

Bob Dole

"I believe constitutionally pro-

tection of private property rights of individuals — farmers, ranchers, small business owners — have too often been disregarded. Last year I introduced legislation to protect these rights while provid-

ing a balance between public need and individual liberty. Reforms are needed to ensure that the government only be allowed to take private property as a last resort, and, when necessary to do so, to insist that compensation be paid to the property owner."

Ross Perot

"Yes, in cases where the owner has purchased his or her land before the environmental concern was known. We should not be rewarding speculators who purchase sensitive land in the hope that they can reap a profit from the federal government."

Kemp faces difficulty in seeking unity

CLEVELAND (AP) — Jack Kemp preaches the gospel of inclusion. From the projects of south-central Los Angeles and Chicago's South Side. From atop a restaurant chair in New York's Harlem.

But no matter how many appeals for GOP votes Kemp makes, many blacks can't forget that one of his first acts as the Republican vice presidential nominee was to switch positions on affirmative action and immigration.

"Racial unity is important, but there is a big difference when you're practicing and talking on a podium," said Jahar Haque, a cancer researcher at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, who heard Kemp speak on Monday.

In Knoxville, Tenn., state legislator Joe Armstrong complained that Kemp's message changed when he became the vice presidential nominee.

"We know that his record is the complete

opposite of his running mate, Bob Dole," Armstrong said last week.

Kemp had split with the party — and GOP presidential nominee Dole — over proposals to let states deny public education to children of illegal immigrants. He also criticized a 1996 California ballot measure to end state programs that award jobs or college admissions on the basis of race.

He switched positions to fall in line with Dole after he was plucked from the political sidelines for the Republican ticket's No. 2 spot in August. Kemp rejects any suggestion that he's done an about face.

"Unity does not require unanimity," he says.

Ramadan Salih, vice president of the Metropolitan Republican Association in Cleveland, where Kemp campaigned Monday, said his party needs to work harder to win the traditionally Democratic minority vote.

"They have to start to reach minorities by getting with the people on the ground floor," he said. "In the future, we hope to make things better."

David Bositis, senior analyst at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, a black think tank, said Kemp's vow to "carry the word to every man, woman and child, of every background" won't be enough to move chunks of black votes into the Republican column.

"It's going to have to be a case where the Republicans offer a lot more up front in terms of seriousness in getting black support than simply the idea that Jack Kemp was nominated to be vice president," said Bositis.

But Milton Bins, chairman of the Council of 100, a black Republican group, dismissed that notion. "This notion that black people will not vote Republican is an outrage," Bins said. "It's an error."

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The following information appears in compliance with the 1987 State of Texas Hazing Law:

Texas Hazing Law Texas A&M University

On August 31, 1987, a new law went into effect in the State of Texas regarding HAZING. Below is an abbreviated summary, in question and answer form, of the contents of that law and the applicability and implications for students, faculty and staff at Texas A&M University. THIS IS ONLY A SUMMARY. Certain points in the law have been omitted in this summary for editorial purposes. For the full text of the law, please see Appendix VI of the 1995-96 University Regulations.

What is the definition of Hazing?

"Hazing" means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, occurring on or off campus of Texas A&M University, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliation with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization whose memberships are or include students at Texas A&M University. The term included but is not limited to:

- (a) Any type of physical brutality, such as whipping, beating, striking, branding, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or similar activity.
- (b) Any type of physical activity, such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small place, calisthenics, or other activities that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student.
- (c) Any activity involving consumption of a food, liquid, alcoholic beverage, liquor, drug, or other substance which subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student.
- (d) Any activity that intimidates or threatens the student with ostracism, that subjects the student to extreme mental stress, shame, or humiliation, or adversely affects the mental health or dignity of the student or discourages the student from entering or remaining registered in an educational institution, or that may reasonably be expected to cause a student to leave the organization or the institution rather than submit to acts described in the subsection.
- (e) Any activity that induces, causes, or requires the student to perform a duty or task which involves a violation of the penal code.

In addition, Texas A&M University has also defined hazing to include:

- (a) Misuse of authority by virtue of your class rank or leadership position.
- (b) Any form of physical bondage.
- (c) Any form of "Quadding".

How do I commit a hazing offense?

A person commits an offense if the person:

- (a) Engages in hazing
- (b) Solicits, encourages, directs, aids or attempts to aid another in engaging in hazing.
- (c) Intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly permits hazing to occur.
- (d) Has firsthand knowledge of the planning of a specific hazing incident involving a student of Texas A&M University, or firsthand knowledge that a specific hazing incident has occurred, and knowingly fails to report said knowledge in writing to the appropriate University official.

Does it matter if I did not intend to hurt anyone?

No. Texas A&M's policies state that if one of the above occurs, it is HAZING, regardless of the intent.

Does it matter if the person being hazing agrees to the activity?

No. The new law and Texas A&M's policies state that if one above occurs, it is HAZING, regardless of the consent or cooperation of the recipient.

What is the penalty if I am found guilty of hazing?

- (a) Failing to report hazing: Fine up to \$1,000 and/or up to 180 days in jail.
- (b) Hazing resulting in no serious bodily injury: Fine of \$500 to \$1,000 and/or 90-180 days in jail.
- (c) Hazing resulting in serious bodily injury: Fine of \$1,000 - \$5,000 and/or 180 days to 1 year in jail.
- (d) Hazing resulting in death: Fine of \$5,000 - \$10,000 and/or 1-2 years in jail.
- (e) Except where the hazing results in death, the student may be required to perform community service in lieu of confinement in jail.
- (f) The student may also be subject to University disciplinary action, up to and including removal from the University, in addition to or regardless of any penalty imposed by the state.

Can an organization be found guilty of hazing?

Yes. An Organization commits an offense if the organization condones or encourages hazing or if an officer or any combination of members, pledges, or alumni of the organization commits or assists in the commission of hazing.

Can I get into trouble for reporting hazing?

No. Any person who reports a specific hazing incident involving a student to an appropriate University official is protected from civil or criminal liability. However, a person who reports in bad faith or with malice is not protected by this section.

Where do I report hazing?

Office of the Commandant (845-2811) if the hazing was committed by members of the Corps of Cadets.
Department of Student Activities (845-1133) if the hazing was committed by members of a Greek organization or other recognized student organization.
Student Judicial Affairs Office (845-5262) all other incidents of hazing.

The following information appears in compliance with the 1987 state of Texas Hazing Law shown above:

Student Organization Hazing Violations:

- Organization name:** Alpha Kappa Psi
Date of Incident: February 28, 1995
Description of Incident: Subjecting pledges to activities that "intimidates or threatens the student with ostracism, that subjects the student to mental stress, shame or humiliation, or that adversely affects the mental health or dignity of the student". Pledges were blindfolded, led into a room and told to kneel; when the blindfolds were removed they found bowls of ice cream and no utensils and were told to eat the ice cream. Pledges were subjected to ridicule by active members as they attempted to eat the ice cream in this manner. Some pledges were told the ice cream contained alcohol although it did not.
Action Taken: The chapter was put on a one year probation. They must revise the chapter pledge program and submit it to the Department of Student Activities. The chapter was also required to sponsor an educational program on Texas Hazing Laws and University policies.
- Organization name:** Company P-2, Texas A&M University Corp of Cadets
Date of Incident: Fall 1995 Semester and earlier
Description of Incident: It had become "company policy" for cadets of the sophomore class to be hit periodically by a junior cadet for "motivational purposes". Additionally, other cadets were sometimes hit with an ax handle for "passing down" positions or for similar reasons. Refusal to accept licks was allowed, but few declined.
Action Taken: University hearings were held for those individuals involved with sanctions ranging from University suspension for two semesters to multiple Corps disciplinary actions. Company P-2 was placed on Conduct Probation and most of the leadership was replaced.
- Organization name:** Pi Kappa Alpha
Date of Incident: February, 1996
Description of Incident: Activities that included, but were not limited to forced exercise, sleep deprivation, forced ingestion of inedible mixtures, exposure to the elements, forced work.
Action Taken: Fraternity on a 2 year probation through Spring 1998; meetings with Greek affairs staff 2 times per semester throughout probation; sponsor and fund an outside speaker on positive pledge programming for Greek community; 400 hours of community service to be completed by 75% of chapter membership by Spring 1996; semester report for each pledge class and risk management program; written letter of apology to landowner where hazing took place.

Parents Night Out

A free babysitting service for all Texas A&M Faculty, Staff, and Students provided by the members of Alpha Phi Omega will be

Friday, Sept. 27, 1996
6:30- 10:00 p.m.
Rudder 301 & 302

Questions? Call the APO office at 862-2525

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