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SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR'S REAL RECORD

The liberal media is praising her to the sky as a moderate and centrist who brought balance to the Supreme Court. Democrats like New York's ultra-liberal Charles Schumer are saying they expect the president to pick someone just like her to fill the vacancy on the high court.

Why is Sandra Day O'Connor receiving such fulsome praise from the left? A look at her real record makes it easy to discern. From a constitutionalist perspective, O'Connor - one of Ronald Reagan's two worst mistakes (the other being Justice Anthony Kennedy) -- was an unmitigated disaster.

This so-called swing vote swung to the left more often than not. In the Court's two recent Ten Commandments cases, O'Connor voted with the majority to ban displays in Kentucky courthouses, and voted with the minority, which wanted to prohibit a Ten Commandments monument on the grounds of the Texas Capitol.

In *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, she provided the crucial fifth vote to uphold *Roe v. Wade*, thus assuring the ongoing slaughter of unborn children. In *Stenberg v. Carhart*, she found that the Constitution protects the hideous practice of partial-birth abortions.

O'Connor also discovered a constitutional right to homosexual sodomy in *Lawrence v. Texas* (2003), a right she herself said did not exist in *Bowers v. Hardwick* (1986).

Sandra Day O'Connor seemed to think interpreting the Constitution meant balancing competing interests and splitting the difference (Washington wags said she'd resolve the Ten Commandments dispute by declaring the first 5 constitutional, and the rest not) - which amounts to managing the sweeping social revolution which the court's majority unleashed, beginning with the Warren Court.

By all accounts, she is a gracious and charming person. As a Republican-appointee to the highest court in the land, she left much to be desired.

HOW THE LEFT INTENDS TO DESTROY A CONSERVATIVE NOMINEE

The left is mobilizing for total warfare. If President Bush's first nomination to the Supreme Court is more conservative than O'Connor, liberals in the Senate (supported by left-wing interest groups) intend to "Bork" him.

The left lost 7 of the last 10 presidential elections. Last year, George W. Bush became the first president since 1936 to both win reelection and have his party pick up seats in Congress. The American people overwhelmingly reject liberal efforts to radically remake society and the family.

Still, the left demands to be consulted on a nomination to fill the O'Connor vacancy. It insists on a "compromise candidate." (Did Bill Clinton negotiate with Republican senators when he nominated ACLU lawyer Ruth Bader Ginsburg to the Supreme Court in 1993?)

Liberal tactics will include delay, interminable hearings, demands for reams of irrelevant documentation, character assassination and a filibuster.

We can't allow the left to prevail here. Too much is at stake. We have an opportunity to increase the court's constitutionalist core from three to four votes. We'll still be one vote shy of a majority, but we will win more of those 5-to-4 votes on which so much has come to depend.

Armed with faith, we must ourselves mobilize for the mega-battle ahead. We must answer attempts to obfuscate with facts and logic, lies with truth and hysteria with sober judgments. And we must pray with diligence that the president will keep his promise - as we have every confidence he will - and appoint a justice like Clarence Thomas or Antonin Scalia.

WHAT CHRISTIANS EXPECT IN A NOMINEE

God has given the president an opportunity to take an important step toward restoring America as one nation under His sovereign authority - toward ending the scourge of abortion-on-demand, averting the plague of homosexual marriage and restoring the right of Americans to publicly acknowledge their Creator.

Those of us who supported Mr. Bush so loyally have every right to expect that the president will tap a strict constructionist for the high court. Over the past five years, George W. Bush has promised time and again to nominate justices of the Scalia/Thomas mold - fearless individuals of principle who are willing to endure the establishment's scorn to uphold constitutional rights and oppose judicial tyranny.

O'Connor's replacement must be a man or woman who will read the Constitution as it was written, instead of reading their own views into it. He must be willing to let legislatures legislate. If the Constitution needs revision, he or she must insist on the process set forth in Article 5, instead of activists on the court amending our national charter at whim. In short, the next justice must be dedicated to interpreting the law instead of making laws.

When questioned on Roe v. Wade recently, Attorney General Alberto Gonzales said "The Constitution is whatever the Supreme Court says it is." That's not just wrong, but dangerously so. When the Supreme Court said the Constitution protected slavery, and later segregation, did it? The meaning of the Constitution is clear. Members of the Supreme Court aren't magicians who can change the meaning of words and phrases with a wave of their hand.

President Bush's first Supreme Court nominee must be committed to the Constitution, the way true Believers are committed to the Bible.

Please contact the president - by calling the White House switchboard at 202-456-1111 (FAX 202-456-2461) or e-mailing Mr. Bush at president@whitehouse.gov and respectfully urging him to keep his promise. You can also contact your senators by calling 202-224-3121 and asking for fair treatment of the president's nominee.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Gala

Tables and seats are still available for Vision America's Annual Gala, at Westin Houston Galleria on August 25th. At this event, Vision America will honor United States Senator Sam Brownback with our national Hero Of The Faith Award. To order tickets , go to <http://www.visionamerica.us>

Countering The War on Faith

Vision America's next major conference - Countering The War on Faith - will be held in Washington, D.C., on October 17-18. Details will follow.