

Speech

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Thank you.

*Cobbled by Doris
Replaced by one from Dennis*

Many people ask what I learned from my walk across the country. If I have any single message for you, it is that it is never too late to get in shape. It is never too late to do a great thing for yourself. It is never too late to go in search of your deepest values and your wildest dreams of Brotherhood. Everything still awaits you. Everything is still laid out in front of you.

It is not easy to change a government, and you have to have fortitude and guts to stay the course. But Ghandi changed a nation. King changed a nation and you can too. Don't let anyone tell you it can't be done. You may not win the first time, but you will not have lost if you push the idea ahead a few inches, ready for a second assault. Remember where you stand is the center of the world and you can do anything if you get your family, your friends, your neighbors behind you. Because they love this country, are proud of this country and its democracy. They are proud to be the greatest country in the world and they don't like to believe that there is corruption in their government...that a man has to sell his votes to run for office, that a man has to beg for money to get re-elected. To become re-elected for the U. S. Senate, it

has been estimated that an incumbent must raise the equivalent of \$4,000 very single day, seven days a week, every one of the six years he is in office.

When you are my age you will understand that the voice you must listen to is that small one within you, telling you to save our planet, to leave a decent legacy for our children. ~~Do~~ not fail to appreciate the magical moment of life, fully participate in it joyfully and constructively, never giving an inch to injustice, unfairness or inequality, nor ever forgetting the long line of people we have known and loved in the great circle that extends well into the next life.]

Be involved . Stay involved. Understand what it means to be an American. It means to take responsibility for mature self-governance. In a world where the polar ice and atmosphere ozone levels are thinning daily, and in a world where the divide between the very wealthy and the literally starving is growing rapidly, where one child in five goes to bed hungry and two out of five if they are Afro-American, we must assume responsibility. We must take our place at the table of power.

What a wonderful challenging time in which we live. A time when so much is at stake and when we all have

so much important work to do in taking back our freedom from the Corporate World that has been created. To be able to establish in this state of ~~New~~ *Mass.* ~~Hampshire~~ the fact that money ceases to be the criteria of who shall become our state officers and honesty, vision and character will once again be what we look for in a candidate.

Now that the McCain/Feingold bill has been signed by President Bush, closing the loop hole through which poured illegal money, it is time to adopt public funding. Presently four states have adopted such a system: Maine and Arizona have gone through one election and pronounce it wonderful. Vermont and *we hope* Massachusetts will follow. Many great things we have in this country today were started in the states. If enough of the 40 states that are working to attain Clean Money Campaigns develop into a critical mass, federal elections could follow.

Think how wonderful it would be if we, the proud state of ~~New Hampshire~~, were to be the ~~fifth~~ ^{4th} state to become a Clean Campaign, public funding state

Mass.

*You have all worked so hard -
have had the guts to stick
with it to stay the course I
wish you good luck in becoming
a complete public funding
state*