

NPR interview: 10 PM

Have you been at the convention?

I've been speaking in Boston the last few days—four speeches to progressive groups meeting here and another two coming up tomorrow and Thursday.

My message is:

- we have an emergency in this nation, and we must put our personal politics on hold while we secure our democracy. We have a great deal of work to do to move our nation forward, but we can't do that work if we don't have a Bill of Rights to let us speak, and if we are in a dark cave of fear and mistrust. Our first priority must be to change leadership in the White House, and that means not splitting our vote. It is our moral duty, and our legal duty to the people of the world, to return America to a moral and legal path.
- I have been speaking to groups who are still for Nader, and telling them that my support for him four years ago was a huge mistake, and that we can't afford to repeat it—we owe the people of the world some regime change, and we owe it to ourselves.

- I got a pretty cold reception the first time I spoke out on this here in Boston, which was last Wednesday, but I got cheers and standing ovations at speeches to many of the same progressives, so either I am getting better at the message, or the situation is sinking in with more and more people

How goes the campaign?

We have a big hill to climb, but I specialize in that sort of thing. We have many volunteers, and lots of people sending small contributions at GrannyD.com, so we are in a good position. The fact is, the Senate may again hang by one vote, and the New Hampshire race could be critical. So I must win, if I possibly can. It is important to understand that John McCain won New Hampshire four years ago, and that means there are many voters here who like people to tell it like it is, who are against special interest, lobbyist-centered politics, and that means we have something to talk about.

And many moderate republicans really don't want Mr. Bush returned to office, and they might like a little insurance policy against Bush having control of the Senate. So we will work with a wide group of voters, and, of course, bring many new voters into the picture with our volunteer work.

Advice / Thoughts?

We are working toward a politics of greater participation. It is wonderful to walk around Boston this week, to see all the people and the smiles and the buttons and the signs—all along the very bricks of the Freedom Trail of the American Revolution. We are here to defend that revolution—so that free people can govern themselves and not cower in fear or bend to the powerful few who will always try to take our democracy from us. It is a good time to be alive.