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(Grossman)
May 26, 1992
ATLANTA
Draft One

PRESIDENTIAL TALKING POINTS: ATLANTA BUSH-QUAYLE FUNDRAISER
STOUFFER WAVERLY HOTEL
WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

- o Thank you Jim [Edenfield, Dinner Chairman and Bush-Quayle Finance Chair] for that introduction. Kathleen Bertram, thank you for that rendition of the National Anthem. Dr. [Edward] Tomlinson, thank you for that invocation. And a good friend and great Congressman -- Newt [Gingrich] and your lovely wife Marianne. Bush-Quayle State Chair Fred Cooper and wife Helen. GOP State Chairman Alec Poitevint and wife Doreen. And our next U.S. Senator, Paul Coverdell.

- o Someone once described the people of Atlanta as "pressing forward, grasping the future, shaping something strong and good, yet acknowledging and taking pride in heritage." I believe that also applies to the American people. These aren't the best of times, but I believe we've got a lot to be grateful for. Look at how America has helped change the world: democracy on the march, Eastern Europe free, totalitarianism is dead, free markets in South America -- and a free Kuwait.

- o We've helped change the world -- and now we're working to change America. The need for change was brought tragically to focus in the Los Angeles crisis. This Administration

moved immediately and forcefully to quell the violence there -- restore order. And now we have marshalled a plan -- a six-point plan -- for change -- not only for Los Angeles -- but for all our cities, and I've asked Congress to join this crusade.

- o First: law and order. People can't solve problems if they're too busy dodging bullets. That's what "Weed and Seed" is all about: first you weed out the criminal elements -- then you seed those communities with hope and opportunity. Second: rebuilding the community. That means Enterprise Zones -- greenlining our inner cities for growth.
- o Third: Homeownership. That's what our HOPE initiative is all about -- turning public housing into private homes, giving families a stake in where they live. Fourth: Welfare Reform. We've got to replace the perverse dis-incentives that penalize families for working, for saving, for staying together. Fifth: Job training. Some of you may remember, I announced Job Training 2000 right here in Atlanta -- our plan to cut through all the bureaucracy, and give people the skills they need to become productive members of our society.
- o Finally: Education. Our plan to revolutionize American education will help inner city schools -- but it won't stop there. America 2000 will help all our students. I'm

talking about new proposals like school choice. Now some may call this plan a little radical -- but that's just what we need: radical change. Whether it's public or private or religious: parents not bureaucrats have the right to choose their children's schools.

- o I know it's an election year, and I know there are some die-hard partisans in congress that would have more fun hurting me rather than helping the country. But I've asked congress to put partisanship aside and get these things passed. If you look to the core of all these proposals, there are themes all of us can agree on, no matter what side of the aisle you're on. They're things like personal responsibility \ opportunity \ ownership \ independence \ dignity \ empowerment. These aren't partisan values -- they're American values, and we have a duty to make them real.

- o We're not going to be able to spend our way out of these problems -- it's just not going to work. And we've got to remember: these aren't government dollars, they're taxpayer dollars. And when it comes to the deficit, let's remember who we're footing with the bill: our children, our grandchildren. We need a balanced budget amendment. I've been talking about it for twelve years. And I'm glad to finally see some action.

o Another way to carve out the pork? I can do it with a pen. Forty-three governors have it \ I need it \ it's time for the line-item-veto. \\
\\

o But so far I've talked about what government can do. But you know, and I know: government alone won't solve our problems. Ask yourself: what keeps a kid in school \ off the streets \ and away from drugs? Not government. Family. That's where it all begins. Barbara Bush is right: "What happens in your house is more important than what happens in the White House."