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I happen to believe that just as we fix our economy and improve our schools, we've got to strengthen our moral foundation. If I could make one political comment, I was struck by the fact that the other party took words to put together their platform but left out three simple letters, G-O-D. As you may have heard, Governor Casey of Pennsylvania was also shut out of the convention because he wanted to talk about the rights of the unborn. At least he's in good company. My party's platform is different. We are proud to celebrate our country's Judeo-Christian heritage unrivaled in the world. [Applause]

While you're still standing may I say, as I said, I happen to believe that all human life is precious, born or unborn. I think it's ridiculous that a 13-year-old girl here in Dallas has to get her mother's permission to get her ears pierced in a mall but can get an abortion without telling her mom and dad. That doesn't make sense to me. I don't believe it makes sense to most Americans.

Something's wrong when kids can get birth control in school but can't say a prayer in school. If Congress can debate the merits of Vanna White appearing on the Home Shopping Network, surely Congress can find enough time to pass an amendment to allow our kids to thank God. So I call on the Congress again, and I'll keep calling on them to pass a constitutional amendment allowing voluntary prayer. Let us bring the faith of our fathers back to schools.

These are the kinds of issues that I care about and, certainly, I know you care about. So I'm not going to be dissuaded by the critics who call family values a cliché, who say that family values have no place in our national debate. I will ignore those who would rather not talk about a moral revival in America because I believe it is as important as any other challenge that we face.

Barbara and I have crisscrossed the country today, started out in Missouri, went to Georgia, spent our afternoon in Birmingham, Alabama, where a crowd of 20,000 people were kind enough to wait in the rain to see us. As we came out on the stage, singer Lee Greenwood was just beginning that marvelous anthem you know, a beautiful version of the song, "I'm Proud To Be an American."

As I looked over the crowd, the rain was pouring down, falling, and I saw a little girl with blond ringlets perched upon her dad's shoulders. She had a little ball cap on her head, an American flag in one hand. As Lee Greenwood began to sing she began to wave the flag, and I looked and in her other hand she had scrawled a sign. All the rain had smudged the ink, but I could still make out the words "I love America. America loves God."

That little girl will grow up in a world filled with miracle medicines, a world where all the volumes of all the books in the Library of Congress will be able to be stored on one tiny little disk. While scientific progress is good, it is my fervent hope that she will also come of age in a Nation where family is always first and where the Creator is worshipped above all else. That is what has made America the greatest Nation on God's Earth. It is our faith which will guarantee that the Sun never sets on our Nation.

I'm just delighted to have been with you. Thank you for inviting us. And may God bless this most wondrous land on the face of the Earth, the United States of America. Thank you very, very much.

Note: The President spoke at 9:25 p.m. at the Dallas Convention Center. In his remarks, he referred to Adrian Rogers, pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, TN; evangelists Jerry Falwell and Billy Graham; Edward V. Hill, pastor, Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Los Angeles, CA; and National Affairs Briefing officers Ed McAteer, national chairman, Ed Drake, Dallas steering committee chairman, and Jack Graham, ministerial committee chairman.

Remarks to the Community in Springfield, Illinois

August 23, 1992

The President. Thank you, thank you. Thank you, Jim Edgar. You in Illinois are lucky to have Jim Edgar and Brenda here in Springfield, I'll tell you. And of course, I'm very pleased that Illinois' own Ed Madigan is our Secretary of Agriculture. He un-

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derstands it, and he's doing a great job. May
I salute Bob Kustra, the Lieutenant Govern-
or, and his wife Kathy; an old friend of
mine, the secretary of state, George Ryan,
and Lura Lynn. George has been at my side
through a lot of political battles, and I'm very
grateful to him.

May I salute a good Member of Congress;
if we had more like him we wouldn't need
to clean House. I'm talking about Represent-
ative Thomas Ewing here. And two others
that I want to single out because as we talk
about change, real change to help this coun-
try, we've got to change the Clinton-Gore
gridlock Congress. We've got to change it.
And in Rich Williamson running for the Sen-
ate, we have a man that can do just exactly
that. He's with you on the values. He's with
us on taxing less and spending less. He's with
us on the fundamentals, and we must have
him in the United States Senate. And I want
to see John Shimkus elected from the 20th
District.

I am going to do what Harry Truman did
in this campaign. No, it's not give 'em hell,
but they're going to think it's hell when I
get through with them. But here's what it
is. Look, I'll tell you why I'm going to do
it this way. For months, I've held out my
hand to the Congress only to have it bitten
off. And now I am starting right here in Illi-
nois. The Congressman from this district
voted against us on Desert Storm. He tried
to bring legal papers against me. He is against
the balanced budget amendment. And I want
John Shimkus to replace him in the United
States Congress.

We've had it. We've had it with this
gridlocked Congress. The American people
have told Barbara and me, "Here are our
values." And they've said, agreed with me in
the election, "Here's what we want to do."
And it hasn't worked because the Congress
blocks us at every turn. You've got to turn
out these—no matter how nice they are, how
kind they talk about the farmer when they
come back here, look at the record. Don't
let them talk one way in Illinois and vote
differently in Washington, DC.

And let me just say it is really great to
be back in Springfield. Lincoln, you recall,
Abraham that is, said of this, he said, "To
this place and the kindness of these people

I owe everything." I think he had good taste
in political parties. I think he had great taste
in hometowns.

And as you know, until Houston I stayed
out of the actual political arena. I stayed out
of it because I was trying to get some things
done to bring tax relief, incentives for the
first-time homebuyer, investment tax allow-
ance, reduction in capital gains, trying to get
those done for the farmer and for the Amer-
ican people. But I felt like one of those
corndogs at the fair, skewered by the Demo-
cratic opposition for 9 months. And that's
changing; it changed as of Houston, and it's
going to change for every single of the re-
maining 73 days.

You know, we've had dramatic change. I
see these kids here. And you do not hear
a word about this from the Democratic Con-
vention. Don't you think it's a wonderful
thing that these young kids go to bed at night
without the same fear of nuclear war that
the generations precedent had? This is big.
This is important.

So we've got our priorities. And one of
them affects every single Illinois farmer: We
must open markets abroad. We will get a
GATT agreement. We've gotten a NAFTA
agreement. And we cannot go for protection.
One fact: One-third of the corn and soybeans
grown in Illinois head for markets outside
the United States. And if we can get that
playing field level, if we get access to foreign
markets, it means bonanza for the farmers
in this country. They can outproduce any-
body, outhustle them, outwork them. And so,
open trade, free trade without apology is
what I believe in and the case I'm taking to
the American people.

Illinois farmers and workers feel that the
Government takes too much and gives too
little. And so, when next year Congress
comes back in, I pledge a dramatic new effort
to slash Federal spending and then get these
taxes down.

Listen to the opponents on this one. It's
wonderful new—

Audience members. Clean House! Clean
House! Clean House!

The President. Yes, as soon as we get a
Congress in that will do it. And I want to
cut spending and taxes. And he accuses me
of fearmongering? He's wrong. Capital gains

is one right there. That's a good place to start. Get the income taxes down. And if you'll excuse me one political comment, I have a message for Governor Clinton: Americans aren't afraid of cutting spending and lowering taxes. They fear most of all a rubber-stamp President that will rubber-stamp this spendthrift Congress. So there. We're not going to let that nightmare happen.

You know, I think that you all understand perhaps as well as any in America—certainly is true in rural America—the values, what we're talking about when we talk about family values. And here we learn that the family is there to teach us right from wrong, to lend a helping hand to a neighbor, respect for the law, hold out your hand to help somebody else, wipe a tear away when something goes wrong. Now, Barbara and I try to impart these values to our kids and grandkids. And I have great respect for what she has done, helping with literacy, helping other Americans to have a better life.

You know, today the American family is under attack. And we've got to defend it because it is the foundation of our nature. And that is why when we cut Government spending, I will fight for an increase in the personal income tax exemption so more Americans can afford to build and strengthen their families.

We're going to reform the welfare program to encourage families to stick together and have fathers stick around and do what they ought to do.

I see the signs out here of the teachers; God bless those people that teach our young people. And we have proposed the most far-reaching reform in American education in a century, and with a new Congress we will get it passed. We need to reform education, support the teachers, and be sure these kids can grow up in a competitive world number one.

I'll give you another idea why I want to change this Congress. I mentioned it in Houston. We are suing each other too much and caring for each other too little. And we have been trying for 3 years to reform the legal liability laws so that you don't have these excessive suits that drive doctors out of medicine, drive Little League coaches out of Little League. Locked in that gridlocked

Congress by Bill Clinton and the liberal leadership in Washington. We've got to change it. We have got to change that gridlocked Congress. We've got to clean House.

Let me just say in conclusion: Two years ago I made, I think, the toughest decision that a President can make, and that is to send America's sons and daughters into battle. The sons and daughters of Illinois and every other State fought against aggression, fought to keep a people free, fought to prevent the Mideast from becoming a nuclear powder keg. Now they have come home. And this election, like every other, is about making an America that they can be proud of, an America we all can be proud of: good jobs, safe streets, and strong families. And so I ask for your support, not to change for the sake of change but to change America to make it more secure, more safe, more promising to every young person here today.

May God bless you all. And thank you for this fantastic rally. I am so proud to be back. Four more!

Note: The President spoke at 1:07 p.m. at the Illinois State Fairgrounds. In his remarks, he referred to Jim Edgar, Governor of Illinois, and his wife, Brenda.

Remarks on Disaster Assistance for Florida Following Hurricane Andrew August 24, 1992

I just very briefly want to express my heartfelt concern to the people of Florida on this devastating storm. Apparently it's one of the worst, probably the worst in six decades. We've already gotten two FEMA teams, that's the Government emergency teams, down there in Florida. I will be declaring today that Florida is a disaster area. There will be 27 agencies of the Government then ready to help in any way that the Federal Government can help.

But I will be in touch during the day to see that everything runs smoothly and that we do everything we can to help the people down there. Apparently it was a very bad storm, a storm that kept the evaluation teams from sizing it up until now, but I expect

ILLINOIS STATE FAIR \ SPRINGFIELD, IL
SUNDAY, AUG. 23, 1992 \ 12:50 P.M.

THANK YOU GOV. EDGAR FOR THAT KIND INTRODUCTION.
AND GOOD AFTERNOON TO BRENDA AS WELL. I'M PLEASED SEC.
OF AGRICULTURE ED MADIGAN COULD JOIN US. AND LET ME
QUICKLY ACKNOWLEDGE A FEW MORE OF MY FAVORITE
CHICAGOANS: LT. GOV. BOB KUSTRA AND WIFE, KATHY; SEC.
OF STATE GEORGE RYAN AND LURA LYNN; REP. THOMAS EWING;
RICH AND JANE WILLIAMSON AND A MAN I HOPE TO SEE IN
CONGRESS THIS TIME NEXT YEAR -- JOHN SHIMKUS OF THE
20TH DISTRICT.

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LET ME JUST SAY, IT IS GREAT TO BE BACK TO
SPRINGFIELD -- AND GREAT TO BE BACK AT THE ILLINOIS
STATE FAIR.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN SAID OF SPRINGFIELD -- "TO THIS
PLACE, AND THE KINDNESS OF THESE PEOPLE, I OWE
EVERYTHING."

WELL, I THINK LINCOLN HAD GOOD TASTE IN POLITICAL
PARTIES, AND GREAT TASTE IN HOMETOWNS.

I VISITED THIS FAIR IN 1988 -- SOME OF YOU MAY HAVE BEEN HERE.

DURING A SINGLE AFTERNOON -- I ATE GREEK SOUVLAKI, MEXICAN NACHOS, JAPANESE TEMPURA, POLISH SAUSAGE, FILIPINO BANANAS, INDIAN CURRY, AND A DILL PICKLE.

I'M SORRY I HAVEN'T BEEN BACK FOR FOUR YEARS -- BUT I HAVE TO ADMIT -- IT TOOK ME THAT LONG TO GET HUNGRY AGAIN.

FAIRS DON'T JUST REMIND ME OF GOOD FOOD, THEY REMIND ME OF ROMANCE. SO I BROUGHT ALONG MY "GIRL" TODAY -- FIRST LADY -- BARBARA BUSH.

SOMEONE TOLD ME I REALLY OUGHT TO TRY THE LEGENDARY HORSHOE SANDWICH. I TOLD BARBARA THAT WHILE I'M HERE I'D LIKE TO THROW A LITTLE HORSESHOES, AND SHE SAID: "GEORGE, YOU'RE TOO OLD TO BE PLAYING WITH YOUR FOOD."

(IF JOKE BOMBS)

THAT JOKE WAS SO BAD, IT SHOULD BE ON SALE AT THE CORNDOG STAND.//

I'M ALSO TOLD THAT THE BIG QUESTION AT THE FAIR EVERY YEAR IS: "WHAT'S NEW ON A STICK." YOU CAN GET ANYTHING FROM ICE CREAM, TO PICKLES, TO MELON TO PORK ON A STICK.

AS YOU MAY KNOW, I'VE DELIBERATELY STAYED OUT OF THIS CAMPAIGN FOR THE PAST FEW MONTHS -- WHILE MY OPPONENT HAS BEEN SKEWERING ME EVERY DAY. SO I WAS BEGINNING TO THINK -- I WAS WHAT WAS NEW ON A STICK!

BUT NOW THAT THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION IS OVER, I'M TAKING MY CASE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

HERE'S WHAT THIS ELECTION IS ALL ABOUT. NOW THAT WE HAVE SEEN SO MANY WONDERFUL CHANGES IN THE WORLD, HOW DO WE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THEM HERE AT HOME?

YOU HAVE TO ASK YOURSELF -- WHO DO YOU TRUST TO BRING TOGETHER FOREIGN POLICY, SECURITY POLICY AND ECONOMIC POLICY -- TO MAKE THEM WORK FOR YOU HERE IN SPRINGFIELD?

ONE OF MY TOP PRIORITIES IS TO WORK TO OPEN WORLD MARKETS -- SO MORE CONSUMERS CAN ENJOY DELICIOUS ILLINOIS CORN AND OTHER PRODUCTS.

TODAY, ONE-THIRD OF THE CORN AND SOYBEANS GROWN IN ILLINOIS HEAD FOR MARKETS OUTSIDE THE U.S.

SINCE WE LOWERED TRADE BARRIERS WITH CANADA -- AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS TO THAT COUNTRY ARE UP 44 PERCENT. THE NEW TRADE TREATY WE NEGOTIATED WITH MEXICO WILL GUARANTEE TOTAL MARKET ACCESS IN AGRICULTURE. BEHIND EVERY EXPORT DOLLAR, LIES GOOD JOBS AND GOOD WAGES -- FOR AMERICAN FARMERS.

LIKE ALL AMERICANS, ILLINOIS FARMERS AND WORKERS FEEL THAT THEIR GOVERNMENT TAKES TOO MUCH, AND GIVES TOO LITTLE.

SO WITH A NEW CONGRESS NEXT YEAR, I PLEDGE A DRAMATIC NEW EFFORT TO SLASH FEDERAL SPENDING, AND THEN CUT TAXES ACROSS THE BOARD.

MY OPPONENT DOESN'T LIKE THIS IDEA -- IN FACT HE IS PROPOSING \$220 BILLION MORE IN SPENDING -- PLUS THE LARGEST TAX INCREASE IN AMERICAN HISTORY.

BECAUSE I WANT TO CUT SPENDING AND TAXES, HE ACCUSES ME "FEARMONGERING."

WELL, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME ONE POLITICAL COMMENT, I HAVE A MESSAGE FOR GOVERNOR CLINTON. AMERICANS AREN'T AFRAID OF CUTTING SPENDING AND LOWER TAXES. AMERICANS FEAR A RUBBER STAMP CONGRESS AND A RUBBER CHECK PRESIDENT. THEY FEAR THE HIGHER TAXES AND THE EXCESS SPENDING THAT WOULD GO WITH IT. AND I'M NOT GOING TO LET THAT NIGHTMARE HAPPEN.

YOU'RE GOING TO HEAR A LOT ABOUT ANOTHER ISSUE IN THIS CAMPAIGN -- THAT'S THE IMPORTANCE OF THE AMERICAN FAMILY.

YOU UNDERSTAND FAMILY VALUES IN RURAL AMERICA. HERE WE LEARN THAT FAMILY IS THERE TO TEACH US RIGHT FROM WRONG, TO LEND A HELPING HAND TO A NEIGHBOR, AND TO WIPE A TEAR WHEN SOMETHING GOES WRONG.

BARBARA AND I TRY TO IMPART THESE VALUES TO OUR KIDS AND GRANDKIDS, AND I KNOW YOU DO TOO.

BUT TODAY, THE AMERICAN FAMILY IS UNDER ATTACK, AND WE MUST DEFEND IT -- BECAUSE IT IS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR NATION.

THAT'S WHY WHEN WE CUT GOVERNMENT SPENDING, I WILL FIGHT FOR AN INCREASE IN THE PERSONAL INCOME TAX EXEMPTION, SO MORE AMERICANS CAN AFFORD TO HAVE CHILDREN.

IT'S WHY I'M FIGHTING FOR WELFARE PROGRAMS THAT ENCOURAGE FAMILIES TO STICK TOGETHER -- AND FATHERS TO STICK AROUND.

AND IT'S WHY I HAVE PUT FORWARD THE MOST FAR-REACHING REFORM IN AMERICAN EDUCATION IN A CENTURY -- RAISING STANDARDS AND USING COMPETITION TO IMPROVE OUR SCHOOLS. BY THE YEAR 2,000 -- I DON'T JUST WANT THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ILLINOIS TO BE THE BEST IN THE WORLD ON THE BASKETBALL COURT AND IN THE SWIMMING POOL.

I WANT OUR KIDS TO BE SUPREME IN THE MATH ROOM, AND THE SCIENCE LAB.//

I HAVE PUT FORTH IDEAS ON EDUCATION REFORM, LEGAL REFORM, HEALTH CARE -- AND CONGRESS HAS BLOCKED THEM ALL. SO THIS FALL I'LL BE ASKING YOU TO JOIN ME IN TAKING A BIG BROOM -- AND CLEANING HOUSE. CLEAN HOUSE AND GIVE ME A NEW CONGRESS THAT WILL WORK WITH ME TO MOVE AMERICA FORWARD.

THIS IS A POLITICAL YEAR, AND YOU'LL HEAR ALL KINDS OF CHARGES AND COUNTERCHARGES. BUT I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO BE FOCUSED ON WHAT THIS ELECTION IS REALLY ALL ABOUT.

TWO YEARS AGO, I MADE THE TOUGHEST DECISION A PRESIDENT CAN MAKE -- TO SEND AMERICA'S SONS AND DAUGHTERS INTO BATTLE.

THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ILLINOIS AND EVERY OTHER STATE -- FOUGHT TO KEEP A PEOPLE FREE -- AND TO PREVENT THE MIDEAST FROM BECOMING A NUCLEAR POWDERKEG.

NOW THEY HAVE COME HOME, AND THIS ELECTION, LIKE EVERY OTHER -- IS ABOUT MAKING AN AMERICA THEY CAN BE PROUD OF. AN AMERICA WE CAN BE PROUD.

AN AMERICA OF GOOD JOBS, OF SAFE STREETS, AND STRONG FAMILIES.

AN AMERICA WHERE, IN THE WORDS OF THE COUNTRY MUSIC
SONG -- THERE IS "ONE DREAM PER CUSTOMER."

I BELIEVE I HAVE A PLAN TO RESPOND TO AMERICA'S
CHALLENGES, TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE ENORMOUS
OPPORTUNITY AROUND THE WORLD, TO BUILD A SAFER, MORE
SECURE NATION HERE AT HOME.

THANKS FOR COMING OUT TODAY. NOW WE CAN GET BACK
TO EATING. GOD BLESS YOU, AND GOD BLESS THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA.//

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