

- [Reporter 1] Mrs. Chisholm? Mrs. Chisholm. A lot of people think that you're not really serious about running for President, but they say you're only seeking publicity for your causes. What's your reaction to that? Are you serious about it? All of my life, everything that Shirley Chisholm does has always been interpreted in terms of seeking publicity. If in terms of seeking publicity I got to the New York state legislature, and then in terms of seeking publicity I got to New York, to the United States Congress, maybe in terms of seeking publicity I might get to be the President of the United States of America. It's very sad that people cannot recognize that there are other forces in this country besides the traditional forces that have all always ended up in the White House, that can dare to say that they are aspiring to be the President of this nation. Many people think that perhaps my bid is not a serious one because of the fact that I'm black, supplemented by the fact that I'm a woman. There's never been a black in the White House. There's never been a woman in the White House. It's not tradition, so therefore she can't be serious, they have to end up by indicating that she is seeking publicity. We will see where that will take them.

- [Reporter 2] Mrs. Chisholm, it was in the press a couple of weeks ago that you are having some difficulty in meeting with certain members of the Black Caucus, and that you felt that you were not being treated fairly by them. My question is, I wonder if you think you're facing now a certain kind of a different male chauvinism, a black form of it.

- No, I don't wanna put it in the form of a male chauvinism. I have to put it really in terms of the values of this society that has always had certain prescribed roles for women. Prescribed roles for women by men. And black men and white men are no different in that they have all felt that, for the most part, that women should not aspire to certain administrative and high policy level positions in America. This is a part of the cultural set in America. So I don't see why one should expect the black men to be any different from the white men.

- [Attendee] Thank you.

- Thank you very much.

- And I'll vote for you and may you get it.

- Thank you, with the American people.

- With the American people.

- It will, I will.

- She will.

- If I could get the Congresswoman up here. I know many of you are very enthusiastic about the candidacy of Congresswoman Chisholm. And just to give her an opportunity to address you for a short few minutes. She's only to speak for two minutes, no more. And then a couple of questions, of which I'll appoint, and then you'll have a chance to talk to her further.

- Thank you.

- If I can get the Congresswoman up here. I'm sad, dear Congresswoman, I do respect you a lot, but you can only speak two minutes, okay?

- Yeah, right.

- [Attendee 2] I have a challenge for her.

- You have a challenge?

- [Attendee 3] Thank you very much.

- Oops! You hold that, okay. All right, no more right now. You'll be the last one for now, okay? All right. Okay?

- Thank you.

- You're welcome.

- I want to say to all of you this evening, in terms of what is it that I'm attempting to do, because I did not get into details over in the auditorium. I believe that I'm qualified emotionally, intellectually, and physically, to dare to make a bid for the presidency of the United States of America. It must be clearly understood that I did not initiate my candidacy, because if I had initiated my own candidacy, I perhaps would have thought over the entire situation about 100 times because I am black and I am a woman. But as a result of having had the opportunity for the three years that I've emerged on the national scene, and traveling across this country, and talking to all kinds of people, all kinds of groups, large numbers of people crossing class lines, color lines, sex lines, came to Washington and asked me to consider being some kind of viable alternative in making this race. In the very beginning I laughed, I laughed because I was black and as I said, I was a woman, And I threw the challenge right back to these people in America. And I said to them, "If you believe that I can be some kind of alternative there are two things that you would have to indicate to me, which will tell me that you're very serious and you're not really giving me just moral encouragement and lip service. You would have to go out and get the foot soldiers for me that are necessary in the states in which I'm going to run in the primaries. And you would have to begin to raise monies for me so that I can go into the primaries. Because if Shirley

Chisholm is going to be a viable candidate, you must recognize that Shirley Chisholm will not get the support from the bank, in interest, the corporate interest, the military interest, and all of those interests in this country that have been against a person like a Shirley Chisholm daring to make a bid for the presidency." I was amazed. Within five weeks I knew that there were large numbers in America that were willing to do that which I asked them. And as I stand before you this evening, I want to tell you that there are movements in 29 states as of this moment, movements in terms of three different forms, fundraising groups, organizations to run delegates, and dollars for Chisholm groups. A beautiful thing that is happening in this country, that we have numbers of people throughout this country, who are organizing a dollars for Chisholm, a dollar from everybody that they meet or come in contact with in terms of what this woman is trying to do. And to give you some idea of how beautiful this is, the past three weeks I have been able to get, via the mail, and my staff said to me just the other day, "What is it that you're doing?" Isn't it beautiful to be able to count in one given week \$1,210 in dollar bills from people from all over the country? This is what it's all about. I know I can't go into any presidential race with just dollar bills from people all over this country, but at the same time it means that if they believe what I am about, they will do what they can on their level, in addition to the fact that there's certain movie stars and producers and certain persons that will be coming out the first of the year to put on the galas that are necessary for me to raise the kind of funding that one must think about when he takes on the business of running for the highest office of this land. I want to say further that, you know, it is very disturbing at times for people to constantly misunderstand and misinterpret you. When a moment has arrived in history for certain things, there's no one that can stop that moment, I believe. And I want everyone to clearly understand that, although I am a black woman, that I'm a very qualified woman. I'm a holder of four college degrees, plus 10 points from a PhD in education and administration. I relate beautifully to the young people of this country, both black and white. It doesn't mean that they always agree with everything that I say, or I agree with everything, but I understand them and there's a communication that's going, and I have organizations now on about 28 campuses. So the young people are saying, in terms of their own pet name that they have for me, "Chisi go," so Chisi told them she's going. Then secondly I want to say to you that I'm the only candidate that's running right now that can go into Texas and New Mexico and California, and stand in the streets and at the rallies, and speak in English first, and then without any notes, speak in Spanish. And for many of the Spanish speaking peoples in this country, they can't believe that this is happening, that there's somebody that could really communicate with them, could handle their language. I mention these things to you to let you know that, yes, it is true I'm black, it is true I'm a woman, but that when you begin to compare me with some of the other candidates that are running, I have very high qualifications. But you see, when you are

not a part, and let me get right down to it, then I'll stop. Please understand one thing about me, when you are not a part of the traditional way of doing things, when you are not a part of a machine that can manipulate you and control your very thoughts, and what have you, you are not going to be loved or accepted by the professional politicians. Do you understand what I'm saying to you?

- [Attendees] Yes.

- Therefore, in terms of my candidacy, I am going out like somebody else years ago, I'm going out in the highways and the byways, and I'm going after getting slates and getting people committed to me to go to the convention next July. I can't tell you all the trump cards that I have, but I want to tell you, if nothing else, I've lived to see it. I've lived to see something that is happening in America. And I am committed to this for many reasons. And I have said, yes, I have said, that if I get \$300,000 by the end of December, I am going to make my formal announcement in January. And many people will say, "What are you talking about? You need millions. You need this, you need that." I have certain things that half of the candidates don't have and you will see this as my campaign progresses and I move. I'm not running in every primary. I am running in certain selective primaries. And it is very interesting in one state, I shall just mention it because I think it's interesting, had absolutely no intentions of going into Illinois. Why should I go into Illinois? When I mention Illinois, that tells you something. I went there the other night to speak to a dinner of over 1600 people. The next morning I was supposed to get out at eight o'clock, I had to get up at six o'clock and meet 80 people around a breakfast, all kinds of people in Illinois, including some people from the regular machine who are fed up with the politics as it is. And then they asked me if I was going to run in the Illinois primary, I told them I heard something about Illinois, it's not wise for me to run in there, what's the sense. "Whether you want to run or not, we are going to run our slates of delegates." So therefore you see friends, I'm not about an idle thing. If I get that money, and you've got to help me, you've got to help me raise the monies. If you want to know what you can do, help me to raise the monies, give cocktail parties, give dances, give teas, organize dollars for Chisholm, anything to raise the \$300,000 that's necessary. Don't worry about the rest. All right?

- [Attendees] All right.

- Because I have producers and Hollywood stars. If I name certain Hollywood stars, you would flip. All right? But I want to tell you, I want to tell you that I have always been a catalyst for change. And you're going to have the doomsday criers out here saying that the woman is crazy, she's nuts, but they said I was crazy from 20 years ago when I first emerged on the political scene. So let them continue to think I'm crazy. My brain power has been utilized by many persons

within politics for 15 years, and a lot of you know what I'm talking about. Yet when it was time for me to emerge politically, they didn't want it because they couldn't control me after they'd used my brains. You women better wake up if you wanna help to change America around. You do the work, you better wake up, and don't be afraid, have confidence in yourself. And the ability that you have is ability and talent given to you by God and don't let anybody use you, don't let people continue to use you and to manipulate you. The only thing that you have is your integrity and the principles, and the convictions of what we are fighting for in America, in terms of opening up this system so that a lot of people can really feel that they can participate in it, and not have that small tight few that continues to manipulate every one of us. And many of them are in advanced years now, and they won't let go. Use your brain power, and don't be afraid to stand up and be counted. And as I've said to all of you before, and many 'cause I've been in Rochester about 15 times and I'm coming back for some other things, Midge, Midge. All right. I just say this and I mean it, when you begin to stand up to do certain things, remember that you're going to be called everything but a child of God, but you must remember, those who fear you, fear you because you have certain talents and certain abilities that they can't control. And if you understand that, you will do that which you have to do looking only to God and to your own conscience for approval. I need your help.

- At this time . See you tomorrow night.

- And anyone who wants to sign up, I understand there are about 50 signature already, contact Joan Greer, Gloria Wilner and Sandy Coon, who are all presently here. Anyone who has bucks for Chisholm.

- Congresswoman, I asked her to speak for two minutes, but apparently she had a lot to say.

- Thank you very much.

- You spoke about the foreign , and you spoke about economics, and, Do you believe that in order to overcome oppression, the person or group who is being oppressed should take on the attributes of that oppressor, such that either the social ladder is reversed or that there will be, not only be equality, but equality of opportunity, which it is the true American dream of mankind.

- I believe that it is very important to consider first of all, that in a society which, in which a certain segment has the resources at its command, that the oppressed group has to recognize that you can't take on that group in the society with rhetoric, or, with rhetoric, with matches, with stones, or with bombs or whatever, that what you've got to do is to form coalitions of people in the society to move together, to make that particular group or that particular segment turn about, or perhaps infiltrate that group and turn it around. It

has to be done through the creative use of brain power and through the consolidation and solidification of people. It cannot be done in any other way, because you don't have the resources at your command.

- I see.

- So if you want to indulge in rhetoric and you want to indulge in using your energy, which cannot give you effective results, that's another thing. In other words, I call that ego tripping.

- Right.

- You see.

- I understand.

- You can't change the system by ego tripping.

- Right.

- All right.

- Fine. Thank you very much.

- You're welcome.

- Would you say that it's ego tripping for the people who, for example, just last week formed the coalition party? I mean, what's your feeling about that?

- Everybody, every group in America has its own approach to the how problems must be solved, and could be solved in America. I'm not saying that that particular group or any another particular group is ego tripping. I have charted a path that I desire to follow, those groups have charted paths that they desire to follow, but when you deal with the realities of a certain situation in America, you have to decide whether or not you are going to follow a particular course of action. And, I think that, I still happen to be one of those persons who believe that somehow we can make this system work if we can get all of the splinter groups which in and of themselves are not effective in America, but if you can get all of them to come together and mobilize behind a candidate or candidates or people in the society that can begin to be responsive to some of the things that they have been fighting for or some of the things that they've been asking for. There are hundreds of splinter groups in America, and we recognize that the splinter groups in and of by themselves, and we know it through the history of America, cannot be effective and have never really been able to be effective in America.

- I think that the best way for them to come together is within, at

this point, within the Democratic Party.

- I'm not gonna say within the Democratic Party, let me be very factual with you. I am running within the establishment structure. I am running on the Democratic Party ticket in the primaries. I have all kinds of people that will be supporting me in the primaries. I have people who have already changed their designations from different groups in order to go with me. So at this juncture, what I would say, I am running in the Democratic primaries, all right, but it doesn't mean that I am just going to embrace or just have Democrats alone following me, uh uh, it's not gonna work that way. All right?

- Right.

- Where do you get all your energy?

- Where do I get all my energy? Well, first of all, did you read the book "What Makes Sammy Run?" What Makes Sammy Run? True. Well I'm a little bit like Sammy, I realized that time is against us in this society. I am now 47 years of age, I was 47 four days ago, and I would like to see certain things accomplish, certain things done before I'm 50, if it's possible. And so somehow I get the energy because I'm enthused about what I'm doing, and I dare to see and dare to feel and dare to believe. I dare to believe that maybe I can pull something together in America for next year. All right? You're welcome.

- Could I ask you just to sign this for me?

- Yeah, sure.

- And thank you very much for coming-

- Oh, it was wonderful.

- And the pleasure of registering with-

- Thank you. It was wonderful coming here tonight.

- I'm delighted to hear from you, really.

- Thank you very much.

- I'm so sorry you can't stay, I had some kids at the Interim Junior High, I wanted you to come tomorrow and meet with them, but-

- I thought I'd be able to stay here all day tomorrow, but I have to get back to Washington and come back in to work. You're quite welcome. Sure. Yes. Yes.

- My name is Betty Black, and I was wondering if there's any way-

- Please speak louder?
- That I can speak to you personally for a few minutes?
- Ah, not this evening. Not this evening.
- Will you be in town tomorrow?
- Yes I will be, so if you can get there a little bit earlier-
- I will. Where will you be?
- I'm going to be at the Eastern Oak High School, I believe it is-
- High school.
- Or whatever it is, yes. If you get there a little early, yes, I'll make sure I do, okay?
- Thank you.
- All right. Sure. Yes.
- I just wanna see if you're real. So you're real.
- I'm real. If I'm real. Sure.
- Thank you. I know, I mean.
- Senator Muskie, as you know, so how do you think that he will-
- Well, you know, if anyone is 35 years of age or over in the United States of America, the natural born citizens, they have a right to run for the presidency of the United States, and Senator Muskie, Senator McGovern, Senator Humphrey, former Mayor Yuri, all of them have right to run for the presidency of this country though I might not agree with them-
- They're not as pretty as you.
- Whether or not I agree with them, they have a right to run, and people will have to make their decisions. You have a right to run. Anybody who wants to run and feels like he can command and generate the kind of support, go out there and see if you can do it. It's a challenge. You see, it is a challenge, and that's what there is to it. See? And that's what I've decided to do. I've decided to see if the American people are ready for my candidacy. That's exactly what it amounts to. You see?

- Well, they're restless and ready for change.
- I know they're ready for change.
- And they're searching and searching wherever you go.
- That's right. Yes, I know. I recognize this in terms of my travels, that they are searching, and hopefully I can be a part of that change.
- Christopher movement says, the spark that lights the candle.
- Yes.
- One candle.
- Yes.
- And you can never tell what will happen.
- Right. Never can tell, yes.
- It's certainly a pleasure to meet you. God bless you. I hope your health holds up, you know.
- Yes. I believe it will. All right.
- Can I get your autograph?
- Sure. Sure.
- Sign it to my name. Yeah, to Rosemary. Can you make that-
- To Rosemary?
- Yeah. Rosemary.
- All right.
- Well, we'll get the dollars rolling.
- Yes.
- Mm hmm. And as you say, everything has to have a start.
- Yes. You have to. You must remember always in a society, those that benefit from the changes that come about in a society usually benefit from those in the society who dare to be the dreamers, and dare to put their necks out there on the line. That's it, those who benefit, even some of those who are complaining, and some of those who are skeptical about what I'm doing, they will benefit in some way from what it is

I'm trying to do.

- Well, you do have such a beautiful voice the way you speak.

- Oh yes. Thank you.

- Well, the Lord will bless you. You'll have crown in heaven.

- All right. Thank you.

- And you're prettier than all those others.

- Especially Mayor Yuri.

- Thank you.

- Bye.

- Yes dear. Sure. So what is your name?

- Ruby.

- Ruby? That's my mother's name.

- Is it?

- Yeah. Ruby is my mother's name. Right.

- Well, I hope you could be president.

- Me too.

- Well, we have to work. We have to work at it.

- We're gonna work at it.

- Yes, all right?

- You got it.

- Sure.

- He's taking a picture.

- Oh, he's taking a picture? Sure.

- Take the picture.

- Oh, how are you?

- You can't do that.
- All right. All right?
- Here's your paper.
- All right. Sure.
- Thank you very much.
- You're welcome. Whose pen am I holding?
- Mrs. Chisholm.
- Yeah.
- I was told to turn the microphone off and tell you that people feel it's high time you had a drink.
- No, I'm not gonna have a drink now. Thank you.
- Do you want anything.
- No, nothing.
- No, nothing. Nothing.
- Mr. Ron Good would like to, there are a couple people out here that would like to get around talking to you, so-
- Yeah. Let Ron come over.
- Okay. Ron?
- Where's Ron.
- Can I get your autograph real quick.
- Yeah. Sure.
- Just real quick.
- Yeah.
- This should be hard enough.
- You just reach the women in this country, and you'll get it.
- I'm gon' try darling.

- Okay.
- I'm gonna try, thank you.
- You got all of us here trying to do that.
- Thank you. Thank you. I see you have a new- Yes.
- Tomorrow, Mr. McGill and Mr. Hopson will meet in your plane with me at 5:51.
- All right.
- And we'll be your escort and take you around, every place and anywhere you wanna go. We'll take you to the , get you to East High, then back to your hotel.
- All right.
- Here at Midtown, and everything, all that's arranged.
- I know, the Civil Liberties Union, they're aware of this now.
- Yes.
- All right, good. All right.
- And in the morning, whatever time you have to get up and leave, it's so good of you to come in and- I'll make sure that they'll meet you, and I'll be with them, and we'll take you to the airport.
- All right. My plane leaves tomorrow morning at seven. I can tell you now, it leaves probably at-
- Thomas' partners-
- Oh, how are you?
- I'm really glad to meet you.
- Delighted. Delighted.
- And Mrs. Spellman.
- Nice to know you.
- Filming our corporation.
- Oh, you're corporation. Yes. How are you Mrs. Spellman?

- Still strong.
- Delighted. Delighted.
- She wants an autograph.
- I wonder if I might have an autograph.
- Yeah. Sure, sure.
- I'm so glad you're here.
- Aw!
- You're a doll.
- I was in Pittsburgh this morning.
- How did you find out?
- I dressed wonderfully.
- Hi. How are you?
- How you doing? I thought you'd gone already.
- No.
- Mm hmm. Listen, you gotta help me.
- Yeah. I'll help you.
- I got certain things I want you to do.
- Yeah.
- Is this your?
- No, that's not me, that's what he had.
- All right. Give me your name here. Here's what you'll do.
- All right. Okay.
- I want to, I gotta write to you.
- All right. You don't know what you're getting into if you don't write to me.
- Don't worry, I'll write.

- I'm not, I don't kid around.
- No, that's right. No, that's fine. The things that you can do. All right. Lemme do it for you.
- I got it.
- Can you do it?
- Yeah. Sure.
- All right. Fine.
- Missionaries, and we'd like to help you.
- Okay. All right.
- Well, but that doesn't count.
- It does too.
- Okay. Okay Susan, you're going to be hearing from me.
- Okay.
- All right. Take care.
- Yeah.
- I hope I'm around to make it as far as you've done it.
- Thank you. Thank you.
- Thank you.
- Yes.
- I'm happy to meet you.
- Aw! Thank you.
- Big time.
- Thank you.
- I've been working for it.
- Thank you very much. Thank you very-

- I'm another worker too. Good luck. You're beautiful.
- Thank you. Thank you. We can do it together.
- That's right.
- I know we can.
- June Leyer, I met you in Albany last week, and I-
- Oh yes, in Albany. You're in a-
- Women For Peace.
- Yes. That's right.
- We really appreciate your coming. You've made it a wonderful success.
- Thank you.
- And as I told you in Albany, you're very inspiring.
- Thank you. Thank you very much, dear.
- My name is Ben Gill Leyer. I'm June's husband.
- Oh, delighted.
- Very nice speech tonight.
- Delighted.
- First time I heard you talk.
- Delighted.
- Thanks a lot.
- Fine. All right. Take care. All right. Okay. See you girls. Take it easy now.
- Bye.
- Good night. We all do the best that we can under the circumstances. Okay. We'll all do the best we can. Yes, I'll try. Okay.
- Pretty strong to make that-
- How you doing Lois?

- Absolutely.
- How are you?
- It's so nice to see you.
- How you doing? It's great to see you.
- We're looking forward to your inauguration. Absolutely.
- Thank you.
- Thank you dear.
- Well, I don't wanna do it.
- Yeah. Just do it.
- Okay.
- Take it with you.
- Thank you.
- Now, I don't know if the ACLU has informed you.
- You are in the same room tomorrow night, I made a reservation. So this room in a sense will be held for you-
- Oh, all right.
- Tomorrow night, when you come back. So that's no problem.
- Great. Great.
- Okay.
- Are those accommodations satisfactory?
- Oh yes. All right.
- You take care.
- All right. Thank you.
- Are you coming in the same time tomorrow?
- [Reporter 4] How do things work? How did you felt about it?

- Relieved. I think it went well. I think we had a very good audience. I think we had a very receptive audience.

- [Reporter 4] I missed it. How big was it?

- I think we had about 650 people, including a lot of young people. The checkout was great, blacks, which is something. Yeah. And they all received her very warmly. And the prospects of her candidacy, which I thought was interesting. And I hope it's something of a more permanent nature than just the enthusiasm of the evening.

- I was kind of-

- Up yours.

- Up mine?

- Look, this is community TV.

- It doesn't have to be censored.

- He's mine buddy.

- I've already been a mother to him, whether his mother was.

- Okay. It's gonna be very interesting. Very interesting.

- Well.

- What are you doing?

- Suing Mr. Nixon.

- Oh, that's nice.

- Yeah, I saw the full page ad in the Times too.

- There's gonna be one in the Democrat Thursday morning.

- Full page?

- I don't get the DNC.

- Well, get it.

- Oh my God!

- Thursday.

- No, we passed out our petition tonight.

- [Reporter 4] What are supposed to get, money?
- Publicity.
- No, for him to obey the law.
- Law and order.
- It's a constitutional issue.
- [Reporter 4] Why did he even pass that law in the first place?
- He wanted the money.
- What money?
- The military procurement bill.
- [Reporter 4] You don't think there was any other way he could have done it?
- He could have vetoed the whole thing and had gotten the money. He needed it now. Obviously, he didn't think so, it was his decision.
- [Reporter 4] Yeah, but had he vetoed the whole thing, the army would've simply had to let everyone go home 'cause they didn't have any money-
- So obviously he didn't want that to happen.
- Does that mean that you think that's what would've happened?
- I don't know. And that's really relatively unimportant to me. The fact is that he did sign the bill, and then made the statement that he was rejecting the Mansfield Amendment, which was also part of the law at that point. And, since he's so gung ho law and order, I think we ought to, well, put him to the test.
- Supposedly it turns out that he's not gung ho law and order, he's only for his law.
- That's exactly what we want.
- Well then, I don't think we're under any illusions that, we're going to get him in federal prison or anything, but I think-
- You think most of the-
- I think it's an educational process that we can ill afford to pass

up.

- [Reporter 4] Yeah but, I think most of the people in this country already know that it doesn't exist.

- And that they've accepted it, well.

- Well, whether they've accepted it or not remains to be seen.

- Well, that's what we'll find out by this ad, because we're indicating who the sponsors are of the ad, and we are in the process of obtaining bonafide attorneys. It seems to think this is a issue of some merit. And it's not the only case of its kind in this particular federal district court. This is-

- There were cases like this before World War I and World War II.

- Pardon.

- There were cases like this precisely before World War I and World War II.

- Well, that might be-

- And the Korean War.

- But this is 1971, and I'm concerned with now. If I'm gonna go by all the defeats we had 50 years ago, I'd have given up a long time ago.

- [Reporter 5] Don't you think it's a little bit more late.

- I think the time is a little bit more critical, and I think that people might just be prepared now to resist the kind of democracy that Nixon is espousing, which is in fact not democracy, but a kind of fascism.