

cent were in favor of lowering the voting age.

The latest Gallup Poll showed 54 percent favored lowering the voting age. They felt this would be an advantage to the Democratic Party since the high school seniors polled mostly favored registering Democratic.

I would like to make a remark that I think is pertinent. I know a lieutenant colonel in the Army and he and I have spent many evenings together. I asked him how come the American soldier has never lost a war and why do you think he is a great soldier. He told me he is an undisciplined soldier, he is arrogant and he gripes, but if you send that soldier out on a mission and his leader falls or dies or is dismembered, that squad gets the job done. Someone else takes his place. The young American responds favorably to pressure. He reacts.

I say we have nothing to fear from his making a poor choice in the battle. So let us give him the opportunity to vote.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Rybczynski.

DELEGATE RYBCZYNSKI: Mr. Chairman, I call on Delegate Dorothy Murray to speak for three minutes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Murray.

DELEGATE D. MURRAY: Thank you. Let me reply first to two remarks made by Delegate Schloeder. He says he has taught for 15 years; I have taught for 23. He said he had close contact with young people; and I say I have even closer contact: I live with four of them.

I have given this speech many times. Please bear with me, as I have not taken up more than my share of the time at the Convention, although I was giving Delegate Taylor a hard time about a young juror.

I have not changed my mind on the subject of lowering the voting age for these many years. I have not changed my mind nor do I plan to do so. Why am I so adamant? Let me tell you a few of the things and hopefully perhaps these points might change your mind.

We have heard from many members of this assembly, many of the farm group. We have heard many farmers' stories and tonight I am going to tell you a farmer's daughter story for what it is worth.

I am a member of a nine-child family. There are seven of us still residing in the

State of Maryland, and some time ago I made a check on the potential voters, and I direct this next remark to our potential gubernatorial, senatorial, or other political aspirants. I find that in my family at the present time there are thirty-seven members of voting age. There are fifteen members of potential voting age, whatever that ends up being, and when I combined the number of the Murray family with the Rybczynski family, which also happens to be a member of this group, I think you young people or older ones who desire to be in politics had better take note.

Another personal observation that I would like to make is that I can bring my war to the home front. Three out of my four children in our most recent poll agreed with their Dad and me that twenty-one was the proper age for voting. Our sixteen-year-old son is not convinced that it should not be lowered to eighteen. The vote is still five to one in our family.

Let me finish with one more personal observation and maybe I could be granted an extra half-minute. Our oldest son entered Maryland University at the age of eighteen and we felt that our son was quite mature, but I had a call within two months from the University of Maryland and they told me that my son was not mature enough to stay at Maryland University. Well, he stayed but he did not finish. He finally got married. He is over twenty-one now and that proves he is mature.

May I have extra time?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Rybczynski has given his smiling permission.

DELEGATE D. MURRAY: I smilingly accept. When our youngest son was only twelve years old he was asked one night to make the dessert for dinner because in our family — we are a close family unit — we had to share duties because mother was one of the working mothers.

When Kim read the directions for making the cake, it was a box mix, he read the directions and saw that one whole egg was added. Lo and behold, that was what he did; he added one whole egg. I caught him just in time and we removed the shell.

My point is this: we feel our youth of today might be quite mature at eighteen, but they are encased in the hard shell of youth. Let us at least crack the shell before we throw them into the political pot. *(Applause.)*

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Koss.