

From: "Perino, Dana M."
To: "Devenish, Nicolle", "Bartlett, Dan", "McClellan, Scott", "Miers, Harriet"
Cc: "Kavanaugh, Brett M."
Subject: Add'l q and a for usat
Sent: Sun, 3 Jul 2005 17:38:00 -0500

Please find below for your review add'l q and a based on nicolle's conversation with Judy Keen. I did this on bb b/c I'm not on a computer I feel comfortable having this on.

1. People are talking about this being your opportunity to transform the court, do you see it that way?

It is a deep honor to nominate the first Supreme Court justice in 11 years. It is a constitutional responsibility I take very seriously.

Ronald Reagan once said that the Supreme Court is the most awesome appointment because those who sit in the Supreme Court interpret the laws of our land and truly do leave their footprints on the sands of time.

In making this appointment, I will nominate a person with great integrity, intellect, experience and judgment who will faithfully interpret the Constitution and laws of our country.

2. Do you feel pressured to name a woman or a hispanic?

As I said Friday, it is an honor to nominate the first nominee in 11 years, and it's a constitutional responsibility I take very seriously. In making a decision, I will do what I do for any candidate, which is to seek out the most diverse group of candidates for any key position.

I will nominate a person with great integrity, intellect, experience and judgment who will faithfully interpret the Constitution and laws of our country.

3. You've said in the past that you don't believe Roe v. Wade will be overturned. Does this opportunity to name a new justice change your view? (See potus quotes from 2000 debates).

I do not believe in a litmus test. I have nominated over 230 federal judges and have not had a litmus test for any one of them.

On Friday, I called for a dignified debate, and I can assure you that I will nominate a person with great integrity, intellect, experience and judgment who will faithfully interpret the Constitution and laws of our country.

4. Conservatives are laying down some markers. They say Alberto Gonzalez isn't conservative enough -- will you be impacted by pressure from conservatives?

What impacts me the most is how serious this responsibility is, and how very seriously I take it. I am deeply honored to name the first Supreme Court justice in 11 years, and I will nominate a person with great integrity, intellect, experience and judgment who will faithfully interpret the Constitution and laws of our country.

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