

a consensus, a utilization of a firm middle ground on which to meet and solve the problem and a rejection of the simple emotional involvements, a luxury that we can't afford now on both ends of the spectrum.

Q. We talked about crime. Some years ago we thought of only the slums, but today, and you have made a point of this several times, we're burdened by vandalism in some of the best areas in our communities.

A. We can't excuse the criminal tendency. We can't excuse the commission of an act of violence by identifying the person who does it and saying that he comes from a deprived background. This is no excuse for the crime. There are many people who come from deprived backgrounds who don't commit crimes. The encouragement and the forgiveness of these people is simply removing the inducements to others like them to struggle their way into a decent life. On the other hand, we cannot for a minute diminish our efforts to provide opportunity to remove the enticement of a criminal life from the people who are under-privileged. And the way we should do that is to encourage the constructive Negro leadership in this country. We've got magnificent leadership like Mr. Wilkins and Whitney Young and people of that type who for years have stood alone without the help of these latecomers who have seized upon the tremendous coverage that the media now give the problem to advance themselves quickly into the limelight. We've got these men who have worked for years and years and years, selflessly in this direction. And we, meaning the incumbent white officeholders in this country, owe a tremendous obligation to do everything we can to make certain that Mr. Wilkins and Mr. Young and others of their type are helped, recognized, assisted, not just when trouble is around, but consistently.

Q. Governor, I notice we've only got about six minutes left, and I want to talk to you a little about politics too. You know you were elected governor in 1966 in Maryland and yet a year later in a race for mayor over in Baltimore the Republican Party barely limped in there, a very bad election showing.

A. Yes, Baltimore is not one of our best areas.

Q. Well, what's the future of the party in the State of Maryland, Governor?

A. I think it's much better. We're working on the Baltimore situation. We have been working consistently, and I would guess that if