

~~W. K. Miller~~ Maya Miller

Route 1 Box 621 Carson City Nevada 89701

May 10, 1972

To: State Democratic Officials, Phil Carlino, Didi Carson, Virginia Catt.  
Grant Sawyer

Dear friends,

I want to raise once more the issue of the PLATFORM, which apparently is a fearsome cloud hovering over our meetings together. Why is this?

The State Convention performance around the platform remains a disgrace. Now I am hearing from Democrats, *We are probably better off without a platform. We need to be united. A platform shows up our differences. A candidate cannot run on our Democratic platform, and we need to win.*

What does that mean? Are we afraid to declare what we are as a party? Are we timid before our own hypocrisies?

I see the two key issues of our platform as:

- 1) Do we oppose the war in southeast Asia? - the bombing and the mining and the ground killing? - or are we in virtual agreement with President Nixon?
- 2) Do we oppose the repression of poor people at home? do we support the government's obligation to see that all its people are fed and housed and given medical care? - or are we in agreement with Rockefeller and Reagan and Senator Long?

It seems to me time for the Democratic Party in Nevada to decide whether it is the party of the Republicans and Southern Democrats, or whether it is the party that unequivocally stands with labor's right to a fair wage, with all people's right to a decent living, and with the cause of peace.

I recommend that as chairman and chairwoman and committeeman and committeewoman of the Democratic party you consult the platforms of the county conventions and very soon, - certainly before June 3, - give public counsel on where this party stands.

What will a Democratic victory mean, except patronage, if the policy of killing and maiming at home and abroad is perpetuated?

*We need public leadership*

*Maya Miller*