

August 4, 1989

City-Councilman, David Berlanga  
P.O.Box 9277  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78469

Dear Councilman Berlanga,

I submit this letter as a constituent to a representative.

On July 30th, a letter appeared in the 'Letters To The Editor' column written by former city councilman Jack Best. To quote Mr. Best, "to me, it is unbelievable that the public will allow a person to run for public office and allow that person to accept \$165,000 to \$185,000 for their campaign, especially when the job pays \$6,000 to \$9,000....Don't tell me someone doesn't have a hook in that person."

What does HOOK mean? Does it belong to the same genus as, 'by HOOK and CROOK'? If so, this is where I make a stand. There is one power greater than money and influence, and that is the power of principle.

I am a native Corpus Christian with roots in Mexico and Washington-on-the-Brazos. My maternal Great-grandfather came from the Mayo tribe of the Quintana Roo and the Yucatan. My paternal Great-grandfather was a SCOUT with the advance guard of what is now known as the, 'seed colony of Texas!'. He was hired by a fella named Stephen F. Austin. According to Spanish documents he was paid 4,000 acres in land. More importantly, not one Mexican family was uprooted because of his presense. He and his two brothers fought in every major battle including shooting holes in Old Glory during the Civil War. They were too busy laying the FOUNDATION for those to come than to be out lawyering around courthouses stealing from the wounded. Public documents reveal that his two brothers came to Corpus Christi in the 1800's for the sole purpose of joining a group of gun-fighters called the Texas Rangers. The reason I mention this overview of history is to lay claim to the fact that, "the blood of my soul runs knee deep in Texas!". And, it's going to be a hell of a cat-fight when some Republican carpet-bagger makes me HOMELESS through HOOK and CROOK.

During the last election, I overheard a comment by someone with major rental property. In effect, he said that he donates nothing to those candidates he cannot call upon. What this means, I do not know. But, one part of my brain requires me to believe that, as many ways as there are to skin a cat, that many and more are the ways to GREASE PALMS.

By some quirk of fate, I received a political science degree from that hell-hole near the fork of the Brazos and Navasota rivers. The education imparted to me included the concept that PUBLIC SERVICE does not involve the scandalous behavior implied in the following quote. "It takes a bit of larceny to be a successful businessman." When the house of government turns into the house of whores, I assume grease is being used.

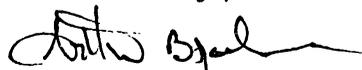
Is Corpus Christi turning into a cottage industry of servants catering to the golden-calf imagery of the roulette wheel? Was the Tex-Mex Express the result of gamblers placing bets on black and losing in the red? The house of fishy smells has yet to see a royal customer, and already the house of weeds has roots in the state prison. What can some genetic defect from indiana or alabama offer TEXAS except to extend a pocket full of money to some fourth generation foreigner. One day 10,000 warriors from Neptune will be roaming the streets of Corpus Christi. Who have they made agreements with? Not every one can purchase town-tombs in some far off fantasy land.

The fight for freedom, the quest for fairness, and the expectation of right behavior is a continual and eternal battle when men gather into community. It's shameful how the icon of justice is statued blind-folded and holding the GOLD-WEIGHTERS scale. Our system of government is that of representation. To make a PROFIT off that process is unconscionably CRIMINAL. The Caller-Times, Channels 3,6, and 10 can, do, and will broadcast mind fornication including bloody pictures without thought of consequence. Yet, they cannot and are incapable of supporting our system of government without PROFIT. Mr. Best uses the phrase allow that person and editorial board as if we had choice. My blood has been on this land since before the king ranch, and I have survived on \$60.00 a week for two years. It will be a cold day in hell before I ask for a government hand-out or walk up hat in hand to some Yankee infested editorial board.

I think it's time to split the state in half. Let the Yankee Republican carpet baggers and southern yahoos take one side, and we TEXICANS live with our friends to the south. Maybe then, we can live equitably.

Viva Texicana.

Sincerely,



Arthur Ralph Brooks (Arturo Raphael Arroyos)  
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