

JUNE 2, 1990 DALLAS, TEXAS

BRING BACK AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

DR. GARCIA'S SPEECH WILL BE ENTITLED "BRING BACK AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL" AND WILL CENTER ON TWO MAIN AREAS, THE IMPORTANCE OF PHYSICIAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY AND THE IMPORTANCE OF ENCOURAGING EDUCATION AMONG MINORITIES PARTICULARLY IN THE MEDICAL FIELD.

DR. GARCIA PLANS TO BEGIN HIS SPEECH BY DISCUSSING THE DETERIORATING HEALTH STANDARDS ACROSS TEXAS, PARTICULARLY AMONG THE POOR, MOTHERS AND CHILDREN, AND IN "LAS COLONIAS." AS EXAMPLES DR. GARCIA CITES DR. LOUIS SULLIVAN'S (SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES) DECISION TO BLOCK MUCH NEEDED FEDERAL LOANS TO LAS COLONIAS AND HIS DECISION TO CUTBACK THE "WIC" PROGRAM. DR. GARCIA PLANS TO FURTHER POINT OUT THAT IN THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION, LIKE OTHERS BEFORE IT, CUTS AID TO THE MOST NEEDY FIRST WHEN TRYING TO ADJUST A DEFICIT BUDGET, AND GRANTS AID LAST WHEN DEALING WITH A SURPLUS BUDGET. SINCE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS SO PRONE TO TURN ITS BACK ON THE NEEDS OF SUFFERING PEOPLE, DR. GARCIA MAINTAINS THAT IT IS THE OBLIGATION OF DOCTORS TO INSURE THAT THE MEDICAL AND HUMAN NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY ARE MEANT. IN ORDER TO MEET THESE NEEDS DR. GARCIA RECOMMENDS THAT DOCTORS BECOME INVOLVED IN POLITICS, IF NOT AS CANDIDATES AS COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS WHO SET A GOOD PUBLIC EXAMPLE.

THE SECOND POINT DR. GARCIA PLANS TO MAKE DEALS WITH HIS CONCERN OVER THE LACK OF MINORITY EDUCATION IN TEXAS.

IN TEXAS HISPANICS HAVE A 50% DROP OUT RATE WHILE BLACK DO NOT FAIR MUCH BETTER WITH A 30% DROP OUT RATE. DR. GARCIA ALSO POINTS OUT THAT NO MEDICAL SCHOOL IN TEXAS HAS EVER GRADUATED A CLASS WHICH WAS COMPOSED OF MORE THAN ~~3%~~ 8% HISPANICS. IN NUECESS COUNTY WHERE HISPANICS COMPOSE 60% OF THE POPULATION ONLY 22% OF THE DOCTORS ARE HISPANIC. OF THAT 22% APPROXIMATELY 33% ARE FROM MEDICAL SCHOOLS OUTSIDE OF TEXAS. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT TEXAS STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF A MEDICAL EDUCATION IF IT EXPECTS TO COMBAT THE HEALTH PROBLEMS IT FACES. TODAY AND MOST ASSUREDLY WILL FACE IN THE FUTURE. THE LOW GRADUATION AND HIGH DROP OUT RATES AMONG HISPANICS DOES NOT SPEAK HIGHLY OF TEXAS'S EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM. IT IS UP TO THOSE WHO HAVE MADE IT THROUGH MEDICAL SCHOOL, REGARDLESS OF THEIR ETHNIC BACKGROUND TO ENCOURAGE EDUCATION IN THEIR COMMUNITIES IF WE ARE EVER TO RETURN TO AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL.

DR.,

HERE IS A COPY OF THE SUMMARY OF YOUR SPEECH I SENT TO MS DONOVAN IN ALL CAPITALS AS YOU REQUESTED. I HOPE YOUR SPEECH GOES WELL, AS DOES YOUR PRESS CONFERENCE. GOOD LUCK.

JENNY