

Ms. Wells, let me ask you this: I appreciate your explanation of why a woman—and perhaps this applies to men, too, in different senses—why a woman would stay on under sexual harassment, and you said you would have done that, and you would have advised her to stay, even though now you say that was wrong, and I appreciate that honesty.

If Professor Hill had told you the explicit that she told this committee, No. 1, would you have felt obligated to give her advice? And would that advice have been, as you said it would have been, to stay on?

Ms. WELLS. If I had learned of the actual nature of the behavior, I would—well, I was stunned, first of all, just to hear the news without details. To hear the details, I think I would have been so outraged that I perhaps would have said, “Well, we have to do something. You cannot live through this.”

Senator DECONCINI. Do something. And personally, you know, nobody can really get inside someone else’s moccasins or shoes, but if that had happened to you, would you have stayed on and moved on in the job—given the explicitness of the testimony given yesterday?

Ms. WELLS. Without getting into details, Senator, and I say this only to try to help you understand what I think went on here, I would be unsure, simply because I was touched in the workplace, not merely on one occasion, and I stayed in that position.

Senator DECONCINI. And you stayed on.

Ms. WELLS. So therefore, I really can’t say what I would have done with words.

Senator DECONCINI. And, judge, did Professor Hill at any time in your conversations mention to you her desire to be advanced in the EEOC, of another position she would like to have had or was seeking?

Judge HOERCHNER. No, not to my recollection.

Senator DECONCINI. There was never any discussion, in that hour-long conversation, of her aspirations or her disappointment or her ambitions?

Judge HOERCHNER. No, but let me clarify, if I may. I don’t know how long that conversation lasted. I do know that we often spoke for up to an hour.

Senator DECONCINI. And none of those conversations, whether they were 10 minutes or up to an hour, ever contained any discussion about her ambitions or her desires to move on and what she thought her chances were, or any discussions along that line?

Judge HOERCHNER. No, absolutely no. The only thing I clearly remember her saying about the nature of the work was that she liked being—

Senator DECONCINI. Excuse me. I didn’t hear your answer.

Judge HOERCHNER. She made no comments about moving upward or—

Senator DECONCINI. Thank you. I did hear your answer.

Judge Hoerchner, did you have to hire a lawyer to come here today?

Judge HOERCHNER. No.

Senator DECONCINI. You didn’t? Do you have a lawyer representing you here?