

Ms. HOLT. I had heard that, yes.

Senator DECONCINI. You had heard that. You were also aware, or were you aware that there was ever a vote or even a debate on the Senate floor or House floor?

Ms. HOLT. No, I wasn't aware of that.

Senator DECONCINI. Yes. There wasn't.

Ms. HOLT. There was a rumor.

Senator DECONCINI. It was a rumor only, wasn't it, because there has never been a vote up here on Capitol Hill, on either the floor of the Senate or the House, to abolish, and there wasn't during those years. I just want the record to show that.

Now, Ms. Fitch, when you were answering Senator Grassley's question about the problem of speaking somebody's language, and that Clarence Thomas was going upstream or talked about the uppity blacks being different or something, do you have a feeling that there is some agenda here that is moving this or motivating this?

Ms. FITCH. Senator, as a historian who has tried to look at the totality of the African-American experience in this country, my proclivity is to look at conspiracy theories, and I don't want to too closely associate that with this particular case. However, it would not surprise me that anyone, regardless of race, who hears a different drummer is at potential risk.

Senator DECONCINI. Yes, potential risk.

Ms. FITCH. And I am more comfortable thinking of it in those terms.

Senator DECONCINI. So if you were extremely conservative, perhaps the liberal side wouldn't want you there, and might be involved in such a thing?

Ms. FITCH. Well, Senator, that is a possibility, and it is also possible that conservatives might want to make it look like the—

Senator DECONCINI. Yes, on the other side, from the other side, and if you were very strong on some ideological issue—

Ms. FITCH. It is possible, Senator.

Senator DECONCINI [continuing]. Such as abortion or *Roe v. Wade*, there could be some effort by those who opposed it or who opposed the right-to-life position.

Ms. FITCH. I should probably say, though, Senator, one of the reasons I liked then Chairman Thomas was that I am not a conservative Republican. I am a New York Rockefeller Republican, so we did not always agree. I consider myself a moderate, and he knew that.

Senator DECONCINI. Thank you, thank you.

My last question is, just do you believe, each one of you, would you just state here for me, do you believe that Professor Hill was telling the truth when she testified here for some six hours. Ms. Alvarez?

Ms. ALVAREZ. No, sir.

Senator DECONCINI. Ms. Fitch.

Ms. FITCH. No, sir.

Senator DECONCINI. Ms. Holt.

Ms. HOLT. No, sir.

Senator DECONCINI. Ms. Berry.

Ms. BERRY. No, sir, absolutely not.