

***We Will Speak Again***  
(Speech)

Who are we?

**We** are the millions of poor people in this country who have no voice in our government.

**We** are the many who have worked all their lives, for one company, helped to make that country profitable, and many of its executives very wealthy, as well as stock holders, to collect a pension for their retirement, and who now learn there is none... or the rules have changed.

**We** are the women in this country who don't "support" abortion, or "promote" abortion, or the killing of babies, but feel it is a constitutional right to have a say about their own bodies.

**We** are the children who can't get school books and can't play after school because there is not enough money for after school programs...

**We** are the millions of employees of Walmart who are not allowed to organize, or even discuss their work conditions in a FREE Country!!

**We** are the millions of people who are willing to look at how we live as part of the problem and as an alternative to just pushing our way of life on others.

**We** are the men and women of the 60's who agree that it's a shame that the Janet Jacksons get all the attention in this country and the people who, everyday do the hero's work teaching our children, protecting us on the streets, working with people in need, spreading "love" and care for the needy in our churches, and places of worship and community – firefighters; our soldiers; people who really care - get no attention...

**We** are the people who work, work hard, with no health care, powerless against the special interests, and are willing to sacrifice almost everything for this war in Iraq.

**We** are the millions of people of faith that don't believe it is our job to convert,

coerce, or convince others that ours is the only way to have a relationship with God.

**We** are the millions of people, conservative, moderate, liberal, who are tired of being lied to, constantly having our opinion twisted by politicians of all persuasions... with this stomach turning phrase, “The American people believe.”

In this conversation I might also point out who you are, **You** are the Democrats and the Republicans - usually bickering - and if not, lying to us about bi-partisan this and that.

**You** are the special interests - you know who you are - we now see how it works and why money has the upper hand. It always has had, and power has always corrupted. Jesus thought so, didn't he? I guess the Christian Coalition in their unyielding support for the Republican Party has forgotten that part, and the other parts about helping the poor, and the needy, and not to judge others, but to love them.

**You** are the Ralph Reeds, Tom Delays, and the Dick Cheneys and your whole oil business clan disguised as an administration.

**You** are the press who has allowed yourself to be owned, operated and controlled by these same interests.

**We**... we no longer have a voice.....

I wish there was another party, another alternative, another voice. The Democrats have lost their values, fallen to the attacks over the years, some of them warranted too. Labor got too powerful, people got too lazy, people got too complacent, people got too irresponsible. We did lose track of values. Not religious values, but respect for others. Politeness, hard work understanding, patience, and waiting for your turn... we became selfish, self-centered people, who then became a selfish self-centered culture, and brother it sells.....it sells... so we sold it, and we bought it !!. What was left was no one to teach these old values to our kids and each other, especially on TV. – “The Master Educator.” We got busy making money, so we left home, and the kids to be taught what? We wonder now what happened. Had it not been for Mr. Rogers, who knows? But in general, that stuff doesn't sell does it?

**We** need to speak again, and we will not all agree, and it will sometimes not sell will it? We will sound conservative at times, and we will sound liberal at times, and soon we won't think about that because that doesn't matter does it? We are all kinds of people. And it won't matter if it sells on TV, or how many more talk shows they try to shove down our throats. We will stop listening to them, and start talking and listening to ourselves!!

What if we talk about our country as a "family" for a minute - What are the elements that make up a good family? - we can all differ on this, but let's give it a shot anyway.

A good family has someone who lays down the rules and makes it known clearly that these rules will be enforced (police; courts) A good family has a person who makes us all think about each other, what is good for all, and teaches us values like sharing, helping others, loving your brothers and sisters. (Sen. Wellstone, honest and caring) A good family has the kids who will do the chores, the more the better the way I see it. Also, a good family has one person who watches over the expenses and the money, and say's NO sometimes and keeps the finances in check. (Whenever I think of this I always think of Sen. Simpson from Wyoming. What a great, honest man he was). A good family has a peacemaker, (Sen. John McCain), who can get each other to sit down and talk when things get difficult, and things will always get difficult. A good family has a big brother, a tough one, (the military) who will kick anybody's ass who threatens them. I'm sorry, but I'm Irish, and that's the way it is.

And a good family will worship together, somehow, some way. There are as many ways to do this as there are people, and maybe only I believe that. Many of us go to church on Sunday, many of us go to gatherings where there is a common goal of spiritual recovery, there are so many kinds. But all are the same I believe in one way, we gather together with ourselves, our God and one another. All three are present at the same time, and love results. "Love is our energy crisis" because it is endless, never can be used up, and we don't use it enough.

**WE** can change the discussion, **WE** can change who has the power, **WE** can change who does the talking, and we can change who speaks for **US**.