

Set 1: militari, world, nation, forc, peac, mission, around, troop

Set 2: debt, trillion, pay, share, grow, money, segment, build

Set 3: tax, incom, class, middl, relief, pay, rais, corpor

Set 4: love, experi, children, faith, daughter, man, part, person

MODERATOR All right. We go now to Mr. Perot for a 2- minute question, and it will be asked by John Mashek. Mr Perot, you talked about fairness just a minute ago and sharing the pain. As part of your plan to reduce the ballooning federal deficit, youve suggested that we raise gasoline taxes 50 cents a gallon over 5 years. Why punish the middle class consumer to such a degree?

ROSS PEROT Its 10 cents a year cumulative. It finally gets to 50 cents at the end of the 5th year. I think “punish” is the wrong word. Again, see, I didnt create this problem. Were trying to solve it. Now, if you study our international competitors, some of our international competitors collect up to \$3. 50 a gallon in taxes, and they use that money to build infrastructure and to create jobs. We collect 35 cents, and we dont have it to spend. I know its not popular, and I understand the nature of your question. But the people who will be helped the most by it are the working people who will get the jobs created because of this tax. Why do we have to do it? Because we have so mismanaged our country over the years, and it is now time to pay the fiddler. And if we dont, we will be spending our childrens money. We have spent \$4 trillion worth. An incredible number of young people are active in supporting my effort because they are deeply concerned that we have taken the American dream from them. I think its fitting that were on the campus of a university tonight. These young people, when they get out of this wonderful university, will have difficulty finding a job. Weve got to clean this mess up, leave this country in good shape, and pass on the American dream to them. Weve got to collect the taxes to do it. If theres a fairer way, Im all ears (laughter) – aah. (Laughter and applause) But– but– see, let me make it very clear. If people dont have the stomach to fix these problems, I think its a good time to face it, November. If they do, then they will have heard the harsh reality of what we have to do. Im not playing Lawrence Welk music tonight.

MODERATOR All right, Governor Clinton, you have a minute, sir.