

United States and entitled to every right and privilege of that status, why has there had to be so many enactments of Congress for black people; why have there had to be so many presidential proclamations supposedly addressed to remedying the discriminations faced by my people; why have there had to be so many court decisions? Because we, in fact, even though it is stated that we in law, we are not deemed citizens in this country. We are not viewed as full-fledged human beings in this country. If you read the amendment to the Constitution that gave everybody of my ancestry the right to vote, why is it necessary in the mid-sixties to enact a congressional law guaranteeing my right to vote. I thought the Constitution was the law of the land. I have never seen where white people have had to get their limbs literally broken, their heads fractured to sit down at a lunch counter when they are hungry to order a greasy hamburger. I have never seen a law of Congress or an interpretation by the Interstate Commerce Commission that ruled that white people traveling in interstate commerce cannot be denied public accommodations, access to public accommodations while they are traveling in interstate commerce. Imagine how you must feel if the only way certain of your rights can be vindicated is through the commerce clause where they seem to have that carry-over of thinking of you in terms of a commodity rather than a human being. Who can deny a person a glass of water if he or she is thirsty? White Christian Americans. Who will beat and break the limbs of young black children? White Christian Americans. Who will deny residential accommodations to black people? White Christian Americans. What has happened to us has not happened to us at the hands of the Vietcong, not at the hands of the Russians, who, by the way, are not deemed to be such bad fellows and ladies anymore, not at the hands of anybody other than white Christian Americans. So there, indeed, are two societies in this country, one white, and one black, and today that white element is going to honor its Supreme Court which has done so much to ensure them their rights and so much to deny me and my kind our rights.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: It is with great bitterness that I read of and observe these types of commemorations. If the vestiges of slavery and discrimination were no longer here, then I could join in, and when people use that term "my fellow Americans", I would feel it encompasses me. But in the same way that the Declaration of Independence which talked of all people having