
ALLARD LOWENSTEIN
Congressional Symposium

March 12-14, 1982

Coordinators:

Representative Doug Walgren
Alice Brandeis Popkin

Sponsors:

Senator Alvin Cannon
Senator Christopher Dodd
Representative Lundy Breggs
Representative Mitchell Fenwick
Representative Barney Frank
Representative S. William Green
Representative John Harkin
Representative Andrew Jacobs
Representative Paul N. McCloskey, Jr.

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Cannon Caucus Room, 345 Cannon House Office Building
New Jersey and Independence Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D. C.

Sheila Harkavy



“What life is all about is how you spend the day, and each day becomes part of this totality of involvement. So you build, as you go along, a life in which you may do many different kinds of things, in different situations, with different kinds of people. But it all has a common denominator that gives it some sense, some direction — the sense that your total activity is going to make a better situation for people to live in.”

Allard K. Lowenstein, 1966

Allard K. Lowenstein Biography and Statements

All Lowenstein was born on January 16, 1929. He grew up in New York City and, while a child, was an intense partisan of the Loyalist, anti-Franco forces in the Spanish Civil War.

Al graduated from Horace Mann School in 1945, attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and received his B. A. in 1949. While at Chapel Hill, Al was Vice President of the Student Legislature and worked closely with university president Frank Graham in efforts to integrate the campus. When Graham became a United States Senator, Al went to Washington, D. C. as his Special Assistant.

During the early 1950s, Al was elected President of the newly formed National Student Association and served as National Chairman of Students for Stevenson. He received his LL. B. from Yale Law School in 1954.

Following two years of service in the United States Army in Germany (1954-1956), Al became educational consultant to the American Association for the United Nations where he formed a lasting, close personal relationship with Brenton Roosevelt.

In 1958, the year he was admitted to the New York bar, Al became foreign policy assistant to then-Senator Hubert H. Humphrey.

In 1959, Al traveled to South West Africa and tape recorded interviews with leaders of the black community. Al reported his findings of racial oppression to the United Nations Trusteeship Council and wrote an impassioned narrative of his journey *Bruid Mandate*, which was published in 1962.

In 1960, Al managed the successful Congressional campaign of Reform Democrat William Frits Ryan in Manhattan. In 1961-62, he taught political science and served as Assistant Dean of Men at Stanford University. During 1963-1964, Al served on the faculty of North Carolina State University.

During the early 1960s, Al played a major role in the civil rights movement, managing Aaron Henry's gubernatorial campaign in Mississippi in 1963, recruiting students to participate in the Mississippi Summer of 1964, and serving as an advisor to Martin Luther King, Jr.

In 1967, Al founded the Conference of Concerned Democrats and the Coalition for a Democratic Alternative, organizations opposed to American policy in Vietnam and dedicated to blocking Lyndon Johnson's re-nomination for President.

In 1968, Al was elected to Congress from the Fifth Congressional District on Long Island. While in Congress, he visited numerous world trouble spots, including Indochina, Czechoslovakia and Biafra. He traveled to the war zone in Nigeria twice, and, while there, attempted to negotiate a means of shipping food to the starving population.

In 1970, Al's congressional district was gerrymandered, and he was defeated for re-election.

In 1971, with Congressmen Riegler and McCloskey, Al launched a national nonpartisan voter-registration drive, designed to register newly enfranchised eighteen-year olds. That same year, he became Chairman of the Americans for Democratic Action.

In 1975, Al served as an adviser to Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. of California and became Political Director of Brown's presidential campaign in 1976.

In 1977, Al was named United States Ambassador to the United Nations for Special Political Affairs. He also served as United States Representative to the U. N. Human Rights Commission and to the U. S. Trusteeship Council.

At the time of his death in 1980, Al was practicing law in New York City and working in the presidential campaign of Senator Edward M. Kennedy.

Domestic Political Priorities

"Some proclaim "economy" and say that means we cannot do more than the unimproved bill proposes. "Economy," "economy" — what crises are committed in my hallowed name. O economy.

Now do we really believe that education makes life worthwhile? Does a good education really help develop the potential of those who enjoy it? If so, what kind of "economy" is it to make life less worthwhile for thousands of people, to decrease the potential for earning — if you want to talk in dollars and cents — of countless thousands of young people, by countless billions of dollars? . . . We can do much better than this. — much better than we have been doing lately — and we can begin doing it right now."

July, 1969

National Security and Arms Control

"The Soviets are difficult enough to deal with, the world situation is poisoned enough, the problems posed by legitimate national concerns are complex enough, that working out a significant arms-control agreement would be a task of Herculean proportions under the best of circumstances. How grim it is to have to add to all these difficulties the old precivility of this administration. . . .

One hesitates to use the overworked word "crisis" to describe anything short of World War III. But we have a crisis, in the most liberal sense, at the Strategic Arms Limitations Talks."

June, 1970

Participation and Social Change

"I am constantly quoted as saying the system works. I don't know what the phrase means. I have never used it. I have never, anywhere, said "the system works." What I have said is that things that have gone wrong with the system can be changed more effectively if you elect people committed to change them.

I think there is room for a hundred different ways to try to influence events. I think people who lead good lives and never get involved in politics more than just as transient participants — people who write, people in the theatre, and so on — there are 100 million that contribute to the shaping of society. . . . To say that politics is the only way is nonsense. But to say that politics is not one of the significant ways is also nonsense."

Interview, 1973

Human Rights and American Foreign Policy

"The results of the Geneva meeting are much less important, if you measure them by specifics, than if you measure them by what they show is possible in international meetings if we understand the complexities and are committed to a quest for ways to maximize cooperation without abandoning our basic convictions. . . .

The notion that we are unable to work effectively for the goals that are part of our heritage and that are set out in the charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is not correct. Something very much more hopeful is correct, and it is up to us to make use of that opportunity as effectively as we can."

May, 1977

The Unsettled Political Spectrum

"If we discuss the year 1979 or, prospectively, the next campaign without declaring wars instead of the sort of simplistic slogans about who's left or who's right, I think we've done a disservice to the public dialogue. . . .

How do we get a country which is capable of such magnificent conduct out of the terrible stalin where we are now — where everybody is more parochial, more self-seeking — not just politicians, but the public and all the communities that constitute that mosaic? What is it we do to try to raise that in this year so that we discuss not only individuals for President but the nature of the civilization we're trying to build?"

December, 1979

Friday

4:30- 8:30 p.m. Registration
345 Cannon Building

5:30- 8:30 p.m. Reception
345 Cannon Building

Representative Andrew Jacobs (D-Indiana) (*Master of Ceremonies*)
Music by folksinger Tom Paxton

Reminiscences
Honorable Birch Bayh (former Senator D-Indiana)
Representative Dick Bolling (D-Missouri)
Representative Tom Downey (D-New York)
Representative Samuel Gejdenson (D-Connecticut)
Representative S. William Green (R-New York)
Senator Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio)

Saturday

8:00- 9:00 a.m. Coffee, Tea and Pound Cake
Registration
345 Cannon Building

9:00-10:00 a.m. Convening of session. Opening remarks.

Representative Doug Walgren (D-Pennsylvania) (*Coordinator*)
Senator Alan Cranston (D-California)
Representative Tom Harkin (D-Iowa)
Alice Brandeis Popkin, Attorney (*Coordinator*)

Tape and Slides of Allard Lowenstein

10:15-12:00 Noon **Domestic Political Priorities**
(345 Cannon Building)

Mr. Ronnie Duggar (*Moderator*)
Editor and Publisher, *The Texas Observer*
Honorable Robert Drinan, S.J., (former Congressman D-Massachusetts)
Honorable Frances T. Farenthold, Attorney
Honorable John Lewis, Councilman, City of Atlanta, Georgia
Honorable Susan McLane, former Republican State Senator (R-New Hampshire Legislature)
Representative Andrew Jacobs (D-Indiana)

10:15-12:00 Noon **National Security and Arms Control**
(210 Cannon Building)

Honorable James Woolsey, Attorney (*Moderator*)
Representative Les Aspin (D-Wisconsin)
Representative Sonny Montgomery (D-Mississippi)
Honorable Paul C. Warnke, Attorney
Mr. Ben J. Wattenberg, Senior Fellow American Enterprise Institute

Saturday

12:15- 1:15 p.m. Break for Lunch
(Cafeteria in basement of Longworth House
Office Building will close at 1:15 p.m.)

1:30- 3:15 p.m. **Participation and Social Change**
(345 Cannon Building)

Honorable Gary Hart (*Moderator*)
California State Assembly
Mrs. Marian Wright Edelman, President
Childrens Defense Fund
Ms. Janice Fine, National Chairperson
United States Student Association
Mr. Robert O. Muller, Executive Director
Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.
Honorable Don E. Siegelman, Secretary of State
State of Alabama

1:30- 3:15 p.m. **Human Rights and American Foreign Policy**
(210 Cannon Building)

Professor Stephen Cohen (*Moderator*)
Georgetown Law Center
Ms. Mary Benson, South African writer, subject to
house arrest and banned in 1966
Mr. David Hawk, former Executive Director
Amnesty International, U.S.A.
Mr. William Wipfler, Director Human Rights Office
National Council of Churches

3:30- 5:15 p.m. **The Unsettled Political Spectrum**
(345 Cannon Building)

Representative Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts) (*Moderator*)
Representative Jim Leach (R-Iowa), Chairman,
RIPON Society
State Representative Midge Miller, (D-Wisconsin State Assembly)
Democratic National Committee Woman
Professor Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., Writer and Historian

5:15- 5:30 p.m. Closing Remarks
Larry Lowenstein

Sunday

10:00 a.m. Discussion on Allard K. Lowenstein Fund and other future plans and update of "Friends of AI" list
Executive Room, Shoreham Hotel, 3500 Calvert Street, N.W.

12:30 p.m. Gathering at the Cemetery Office
Main Parking Lot, Arlington National Cemetery

12:45 p.m. Proceed in cars to the Grave site

1:00 p.m. Ceremony at Grave site
Arlington National Cemetery
Remarks by Douglas Hunt, Special Assistant to the Chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**The Allard K. Lowenstein Fund
Statement of Purpose**

"The fund will serve as a vehicle through which AI Lowenstein might continue to have some small impact on our society.
It will finance the extremely costly job of cataloging and preserving AI's personal papers to aid future students and scholars.
It will also confer Allard K. Lowenstein Leadership Awards upon persons who have demonstrated a commitment to social justice, human and civil rights or any of the other causes AI championed. AI's life represented the truth of the phrase: "One man can make a difference." These awards will recognize those who continue to give truth to that phrase."

Newslay



"The closest thing that has arisen yet to genuine internationalism is what is coming out of young people. We are extremely fortunate that the next generation is in revolt against hypocrisies encrusted in the affluent world and is committed to basic social change. If this revolution had been directed in favor of racism, war or privilege, we would be in dark straits. Instead of regarding it as a threat, we should welcome the energy unleashed through people who have almost everything materially and, precisely because of that, find it inadequate for human beings. . . .
By welcoming young people in their efforts, we could create some form of international community that would be not only the generational one of the affluent young revolting in Paris or Italy or here, but of all people concerned about a world in which the processes of change could be encompassed without extermination and death. If we don't do that, I think, the world will fall apart. What could be a greater calamity and misreading of the necessities of the than to assume this is inevitable? "

Allard K. Lowenstein
Princeton, December, 1969



Newsday



“He has been a devoted friend of all causes dedicated to the furtherance of brotherhood and the struggle for liberty.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.

We appreciate the support of Larry Lowenstein,
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and Doug Lowenstein.

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