

What's Right

Even President Nixon's known inclination toward hyperbole must have seemed somewhat extraordinary when he proclaimed at Florida Technological University last week: "In the whole history of the world, in all the nations of the world, there has never been a time I would rather be a graduate than in the year 1973 in the United States of America."

Once again the President reverted to the familiar Nixon-Agnew line that, whereas his opponents are "mouthing" pessimism about the nation's future, it was he who had come to tell "what is right about this country."

Resort to such rhetoric now is a mark of Mr. Nixon's insensitivity to the distress over his Administration's moral crisis. Americans in increasing number, including many of Mr. Nixon's former supporters, know better than ever what is right and what is wrong about their country today. High on the list of what is right about America is the spreading revulsion against the Nixon Administration's sleazy disregard of law and ethics in politics and government.

If the class of '73, which the President chose to address in Florida, has any reason for optimism about the future of the nation, it is mainly because that popular revulsion has made it possible for the cleansing process to get under way.