

9 Sept 74

Caller on talk show (voice sounds like that of intelligent, young woman), is the third to call who is in favor of Ford's pardon of Nixon, out of over a hundred against it. Asked to give her reasons, said, after having described her instant, initial reaction as one of great personal relief:

"When I heard it, as relieved as I felt, I knew the nation would be against it. .... I felt that people would be against him for it, mainly because of the fact that we have such strong feeling today in the United States that the big, powerful man gets off, no matter whether it's Mr. Nixon or, you know, the president of a bank who defaults or whatever - the big, powerful guy gets off while the little guy pays.

"I'm in great sympathy with this kind of feeling, and yet I actually feel in my heart and - you know, we can't go by the feelings of women too much because they tend to be too sentimental - I do feel, though, it was the right and proper thing to do, and I'm sorry to say it was based a great deal on feeling. But mostly as I examine my feelings, it's just too big a burden for me to do my everyday work and carry around the outrage needed to go through with the process necessary to convict a man, whom I also believe was guilty."