

[3]

Alan Curtis
President and CEO
The Eisenhower Foundation

DR. CURTIS: The focus of today is to hear from you. We want to listen. We're taking testimony. We do, however, want to set the stage for today by showing you a piece by the late Charles Kuralt done on CBS. We periodically update the Kerner Commission. This was a piece done in 1993 on one of our updates right after the rebellions in South Central Los Angeles.

If we can show the Kuralt now, please.

DR. CURTIS: So that was in 1993, our 25th anniversary update of the Kerner Commission. We're suggesting now as we approach the 40th that not much has changed. We still believe that the problem when it comes to poverty and race and inequality and crime is not lack of knowledge, but lack of political will.

We would encourage you to discuss today not only the solutions, but how to change political will in America so that we can embrace the priorities of the Kerner Commission and we can begin to fulfill America's promise.

We want to hear from you today though. These are just our opinions. We have Bill Moyers' Journal videotaping this. If anyone doesn't want to be on the Moyers video, just signal to the people who are at the cameras here and they will turn off for your part of the testimony.