I am a Democrat! As a matter of fact, I am a three-time Democrat:
I am a Democrat by genetics . . . by tradition . . . and by choice.
I am a Democrat because I believe in leadership. I believe in leadership that reaches out . . . that opens up government . . .
and the political process . . . and our Party.
I am a Democrat because I believe the Democratic Party is the voice for those who would otherwise not be heard; because I
believe the Democratic Party is the source of power for those who lack power . . . or the money to buy power.
I am a Democrat because I believe in both the work ethic and the worth ethic.
I am a Democrat because I believe the Democratic Party stands for the opportunity that is every person’s God-given right.
I am a Democrat because I am motivated by faith . . . and not by fear; by hope . . . and not by hate.
I am a Democrat because I believe that religion is a precious freedom to be enjoyed by all . . . not a tool for the repression by
a few of the rights of many.
I am a Democrat because I believe in stewardship: of our land . . . and our water . . . and our air; stewardship of those
natural and human resources that make our America such a special place; stewardship for those who need our help . . . and
those who cannot help themselves.
I am a Democrat because I believe in growth: the growth of every individual through education . . . the growth of working
women and men through good jobs . . . the growth of families, the elderly, the sick, the troubled and impoverished, and the
young through programs of empowerment that focus on results, not policies that focus on process . . . and the growth of our
economy and our communities through creative good sense and bottom-line good business.
I am a Democrat because I believe in tomorrow: in the future that every one of us . . . and every one of our children . . . and
every one of our grandchildren . . . has a stake in.
I am a Democrat because I believe we can shape our future; we can shape what America will be like in the next year . . . in
the next decade . . . and in this new century.
I am a Democrat because I believe in inclusion, not exclusion.
I am a Democrat because I believe in partnerships. I believe in partnerships between communities and neighborhoods . . .
partnerships between business and industry and labor and education . . . partnerships between people of all races and
ethnicity and faiths; all genders and commitments . . . partnerships between rural and urban and suburban America.
And because I am a Democrat I believe that all the partners must all be at the table . . . and that all must know that they have
a stake in what happens to everybody else.
I am a Democrat because I believe in listening; listening to the concerns and ideas of those who share my philosophy . . .
and of those who do not.
I am a Democrat because I believe in unity. I believe that there is more that unites us than separates us . . . that we must
never abandon dialogue and resort to demagoguery . . . and that pride must never win out over principle.
I am a Democrat because I believe in service. I’ve believed in service all my life, and I’ve worked hard to convert my
conviction into conduct.
I am a Democrat because I believe in giving my best to my job . . . my Party . . . and my Country. In this new century . . . this
Democrat . . . and this Democratic Party . . . have the challenge and the opportunity to show this nation what giving our best
is all about. Together . . . we share a common commitment to tomorrow. And that is why we are Democrats.