News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Oct. 10, 1996

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Gore & Kemp: 'Two philosophical lovebirds,' says Libertarian VP candidate Jo Jorgensen

Both say 'I Do' to government-imposed solutions, charges excluded challenger

WASHINGTON, DC — American voters tuned in on Wednesday night expecting a vicepresidential debate — but got a "vigorous agreement" instead, says Jo Jorgensen, who is running for vice president on the Libertarian ticket with Harry Browne.

"Democrat Al Gore and Republican Jack Kemp pledged fidelity to government programs and spent 90 minutes vigorously agreeing on almost everything," said Jorgensen, an entrepreneur who owns a computer software firm in Greenville, SC. "Their biggest challenge was trying to find an issue where they had fundamentally different views.

"Each candidate spoke favorably of a vast array of federal programs, from government-approved economic empowerment zones to Medicare to Social Security to American involvement in Haiti, Bosnia, and Iraq," she said. "The debate made clear that without Harry Browne on the ballot in all 50 states, Americans would have only two choices in November: Big government or *really* big government."

The Browne-Jorgensen ticket was excluded from the debates, along with Reform Party candidates Ross Perot and Pat Choate, who will also be on the ballot in all 50 states.

After watching the discussion, Jorgensen said, "I thought I was seeing double. On one side of the stage we had Al Gore bragging that Bill Clinton saved Medicare, and on the other side stood Jack Kemp boasting that Bob Dole had saved Social Security. Rather than philosophical adversaries, they looked like two big-government lovebirds at the altar."

She also observed: "Both candidates spent a lot of time bragging about the timidness of their tax cuts. In fact, Kemp boasted that the Dole/Kemp tax cut represented a meager 1.5% of the American economy over six years. Both candidates are fanatically reluctant to let you keep your own money — and proud of that fact."

Jorgensen said she agreed with one point made during the debate. "Al Gore said that in 27 days, voters have a very important choice to make. But it's not between Democrats and Republicans, both of whom will expand the welfare state and shrink personal freedom. The real choice is between larger government and the Libertarian ticket, who know it is not government — but freedom from government — which guarantees prosperity and liberty."

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