

elected governors in New Jersey and Virginia won because of their stand for abortion. Whether that's true or not I don't know. I know that it is an issue that both sides are concerned about.

It was like that on ERA. There was no middle ground. You were either for ERA or against ERA, and, supposedly, if you were not for ERA, they would all vote against you or vice versa. But I never did see, even in a state like Louisiana, which was very anti ERA that it became an over-riding issue. I don't know whether capital punishment is an overriding issue in a governor's race. It's one of the issues, but not an over-riding issue.

PREJEAN: Well, the recent election seems to bear out what you're saying. Florida's Bob Martinez boasted in television commercials of signing 90 death warrants and he was defeated. And in the California governor's race, Dianne Feinstein, who, before the campaign had opposed capital punishment, flipped on the issue and described herself as "the only Democrat for the death penalty." She also was defeated.

EDWARDS: Even a person who would vote against a politician because he's against the death penalty, I don't think would warm up to a guy who brags about killing people. Clayton Williams (Governor's race, Texas, 1990) made the death penalty one of his central themes for about two months and then finally got off it. (Williams was defeated in the election.)