

EDWARDS INTERVIEW

there personal morals and public morals? Are there personal morals and political morals?

EDWARDS: Yes. I am personally opposed to the use of alcohol and tobacco, but I don't think it would be appropriate to pass a law prohibiting the use of alcohol and tobacco. I think society ought to let people take responsibility for their lives until it becomes a problem for the rest of society and then we have a responsibility to intervene and stop them.

PREJEAN: For example, to incapacitate a violent person. But do you think there's a parallel between being personally opposed to the use of alcohol and being opposed to a legal execution? In the case of an execution a governor has real power in his or her hands to save life or to kill.

EDWARDS: It's not a parallel, it's just another example of the dichotomy in a person, sworn by his oath to do his public duty, and in his heart espousing another view.

PREJEAN: Is the oath of office of a governor to execute someone because the people say they want it or is it to protect the people from violent criminals?

EDWARDS: It is to uphold the law and the constitution. And the law and the constitution say that once the process reaches the point of carrying out the execution, you should not interfere unless there is compelling evidence that there has been some miscarriage of justice. I don't know whether or not citizens of New Mexico could accuse Anaya of violating his oath of office. I