

Resource Sheet #4

Text of President Roosevelt's Howard University Address

Read the following newspaper article that pertains to the 1936 presidential election and list the reasons provided for African Americans to vote for the Democrats or for the Republicans. Record your answers in section two of Resource Sheet 2.

"I have a special interest in Howard University because the government of the United States has long had a special relationship to this institution.

Since 1879 Congress has made continuous and increasing appropriation year by year to help meet the general expenses of the university and its various departments and to provide new buildings. And in part, at least, the Department of the Interior shares in the responsibility for the administration of the university. In a very real sense, therefore, Howard is one of the nation's institutions.

But I would be interested in this university even though the government had no such relationship.

Its foundation as an institution for the American Negro was a significant occasion. It typified America's faith in the ability of man to respond to opportunity regardless of race or creed, or color..."

"Text of President Roosevelt's Howard University Address." *Afro American* (Baltimore). 31 October 1936, p. 7.