

BACK & FORTH

Race

'I'm not a racist. I just don't believe in mixing the races that way.'

KEITH BARDWELL, a justice of the peace in Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana, explaining why he refused to grant a marriage license to an interracial couple. Bardwell added that he has "piles and piles of black friends" but believes the children of mixed-race couples "suffer"

'Perhaps he's worried the kids will grow up and be President.'

BILL QUIGLEY, director of the Center for Constitutional Rights, noting that President Barack Obama is the product of an interracial marriage

Politics

'I'm not gonna hit you, but I'd like to, because you deserve it.'

DAVID KEENE, chairman of the American Conservative Union, ending a contentious interview with conservative radio host and filmmaker John Ziegler

'If David Keene is a guy who is a leader in the conservative movement, that's a movement I don't want to be a part of.'

ZIEGLER, who excoriated Keene for making critical remarks about former Republican vice-presidential nominee Sarah Palin

