

Kelly Miller Compares Landon with Roosevelt
Kelly Miller

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.

...On the other hand, President Roosevelt's friendly and generous treatment of the colored man is known and acknowledged of all men. He has placed on the relief roll perhaps one-third of the colored race. Selection has been made according to need and not according to race.

The administration has expressly forbidden and condemned race discrimination in such assignments as far as these matters can be controlled by government authority.

But Roosevelt seeks to reduce this discrimination to a minimum.

President Roosevelt has appointed or has had assigned more colored persons to high places under the government than occurred under Taft, Harding, Coolidge and Hoover, his four Republican predecessors since Theodore Roosevelt.

"Mrs. Roosevelt, the president's helpmate and companion, is deeply and vitally concerned with questions of social justice and civic righteousness. She does not disdain to include the colored race in this ennobling circle. Her sympathy for, and her interest in, the welfare of the race is no less manifest than that of her distinguished husband."

Mrs. Roosevelt's bold and courageous stand for the betterment and fair treatment of colored people will and should attract many colored voters, especially among the women who constitute half of the voting strength of the race.

Miller, Kelly. "Kelly Miller Compares Landon with Roosevelt" *Afro American* (Baltimore). 9 September 1936, p. 6.