

**It's hard to choose the best moment of the "The Debate," but if forced (-and, for the record, our editor, Jill, is (affectionately) forcing us) -we'd go with this one:**

CONGRESSMAN SANTOS

What did the liberals do that so insulted the Republican Party, Senator? I'll tell you what they did.

The liberals gave women the right to vote.

The liberals gave African Americans the right to vote.

The liberals created Social Security and millions of people.

SENATOR VINICK

I'm sorry. I shouldn't have used that word. I know Democrats think liberal is a bad word. So bad you had to change it, didn't you? What do you call yourselves now, "Progressives?" Is that it?

CONGRESSMAN SANTOS

It's true, Republicans have tried to turn liberal into a bad word.

Well, Liberals ended slavery in this country.

SENATOR VINICK

A Republican President ended slavery.

CONGRESSMAN SANTOS

**What did liberals do that was so offensive to the Republican party, Senator? I'll tell you what they did.**

Liberals got women the right to vote.

Liberals got African-Americans the right to vote.

Liberals created Social Security and lifted millions of people.

elderly people out of poverty.

Liberals ended segregation.

Liberals passed the Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act.

Liberals created Medicare.

Liberals passed the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act.

**What did Conservatives do? They opposed every one of those programs. Every one.**

So, when you try to hurl that word "liberal" at my feet, as if it were something dirty, something to run away from, something that I should be ashamed of, it won't work, Senator, because I will pick up that label and I will wear it as a badge of honor.