The Waco News-Tribune Wednesday, Aug. 8, 1973

'Sissy' Tells Lutheran Youths U.S. Policy Sometimes Immoral

HOUSTON (AP) — Despite its moral pretenses, this country is no better than others in the conduct of its foreign policy, Frances Farenthold, president of the National Political Women's Caucus, told Lutheran youth Tuesday.

"American policy, like that of any other nation, is often immoral and ignoble," Mrs. Farenthold told a sectional conference at "Discovery '73," a national youth gathering sponsored by all three major Lutheran denominations.

"I was brought up on the idea that we didn't question our foreign policy," said Mrs. Farenthold, who came in second in balloting for the 1972 Democratic vice presidential nomination.

She said when the late Dr. Martin Luther King spoke out against the Vietnam War she thought at the time he should stick to his civil rights business.

"Well he was right and it was a hard lesson I had to learn. And it has been a painful experience," she said.

"I am a great deal more worried with the warfare state we have in this country than the demagoguery about the welfare state," she told about 2,000 youths attending the conference.

The U.S. military machine is out of control today with more colonels than second lieutenants and more generals and admirals than we had at the end of the World War II when our armed forces were seven times larger, she said.

The United States also must face problems of racism and sexism to assure justice for its citizens, she said.

"We in some naivete went through the 60s convinced that if laws were passed, that would suffice to eliminate racism," she said. But quoting Malcolm X, she said, only the young people of this country can eliminate it.

Turning to sexism, she said that every institution in society is dominated by men, "and I should qualify that to say by white men.

"The women's movement is a peaceful revolution," Mrs. Farenthold added. "But it will be a persistent one and it will go only as far as women demand.

"Women don't want dominance. We've had enough of that. But we do want to share in society."

She said women, Negroes and Mexican-Americans have been denied a place in political life too often because they were unqualified.

"I am working for the day when unqualified women, blacks and browns may join the unqualified white men in the governing of our country," she said.