

**Senate Judiciary Committee
Subcommittee on the Constitution
Response to Written Questions from Senator Welch**

**Will Chamberlain
Hearing on “Enforcing Callais: Implementing the Supreme Court’s Command Against
Racial Gerrymandering”
Tuesday, May 19, 2026**

1. Following the Supreme Court’s decision in *Louisiana v. Callais*, what evidence, in your opinion, should a federal court consider when evaluating whether a legislature has violated Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act?

Evidence that either demonstrates that an electoral map was drawn with the intent to discriminate on racial grounds, *see Callais*, slip op. at 25, or that “give[s] rise to a strong inference that intentional [racial] discrimination occurred” in the map-drawing process. *Id.* at 23.

- a. In your view, is a court permitted to rely on documented evidence of legislators referring to racial minorities residing in their state or municipal jurisdictions using racial slurs and derogatory language?

Yes, such evidence could be used by a court to buttress a finding that racial animus drove a legislature’s map-drawing.

2. You are a Senior Counsel at the Article III Project. On September 10, 2023, Mike Davis, the founder of Article III, tweeted, “Until we address the violence among the Black underclass in America, they have little chance of succeeding. But Democrats need ‘victims’ for their coalition. So they encourage this. Continues vicious cycle of fatherlessness, victimhood, violence, and intergenerational poverty.” Do you agree with this statement?

I agree with Davis that violence is the primary problem facing poor African-American communities, but I think Davis’s statement doesn’t accurately assess Democratic motivations in refusing to confront the epidemic of violence in those communities. I don’t believe that Democratic officeholders “need victims for their coalition,” and thus decide cynically to ignore such violence; rather, I think they are terrified of the social media and political backlash they will receive if they honestly confront that violence, and so they refrain.