

Racism

**You start out in 1954 by saying
"Nigger, nigger, nigger."**

**By 1968 you can't say "nigger"
– that hurts you, backfires.**

**So you say stuff like, uh, "forced busing,"
"states' rights," and all that stuff,
and you're getting so abstract.**

**Now, you're talking about cutting taxes,
and all these things you're talking about
are totally economic things and a by-
product of them is, blacks get hurt
worse than whites. ... "We want to
cut this" is much more abstract than
even the busing thing, uh, and a hell of a
lot more abstract than "Nigger, nigger."**

Lee Atwater, 1981