

PEARCE'S HISTORY OF DEBATE DODGING

2004

Pearce Declined to Debate King on TV: Pearce did not accept an invitation from KOAT-TV to debate Democrat Gary King. The debate was tentatively scheduled for October 24, 2004. King publicly accepted the invitation. [Albuquerque Journal, September 16, 2004.]

Pearce Did Not Show for League of Women Voters Forum: Pearce did not show up for the October 14, 2004 League of Women Voters Forum that was broadcast on KRWG-TV (PBS affiliate) and seen district-wide. [Las Cruces Sun-News, October 15, 2004]

Pearce Declined Offer to Debate on TV: Pearce explicitly, "declined to participate in a debate KRWG-TV had planned for October 28, 2004 that was to be televised district-wide." [Las Cruces Sun-News, October 14, 2004.]

Pearce Said 3 Appearances Enough: Pearce would only agree to "join in no more than three debates with King," with his spokesman saying that, "three appearances provide ample opportunity for the media and public to compare the candidates side-by-side." [The Associated Press State & Local Wire, September 16, 2004.] [Albuquerque Journal, September 16, 2004.]

Only Televised Debate Not Broadcast in Las Cruces: The only televised debate of the 2004 campaign, on October 25th, was not broadcast in the Las Cruces market. [Las Cruces Sun-News, October 14, 2004.] [Albuquerque Journal, September 16, 2004.]

2006

Pearce Declined Debate on KOB-TV: Pearce declined to appear in a live television debate with Democrat Albert Kissling that would have aired on October 21, 2006. [Albuquerque Journal, September 27, 2006]

KOB Forced to Air 'One Man Debate': KOB decided to still air campaign content on October 17, 2006, broadcasting a question and answer session with Albert Kissling in lieu of a debate between Pearce and Kissling. [Albuquerque Journal, October 19, 2006]

Pearce Appears in Only One Head-to-Head Debate, Not Televised: Pearce agreed to debate Albert Kissling only once in a forum on August 22, 2006 that was organized by the League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces and the American Association of University Women. The forum was not televised. [Albuquerque Journal, August 23, 2006]