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# Tuccille GOVERNOR

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TUCCILLE'S CHALLENGE TO DEBATE ISSUES  
REBUFFED BY WILSON AND CAREY

Gubernatorial contenders Malcolm Wilson and Hugh L. Carey have declined an offer to debate Jerry Tuccille, their third-party rival, Tuccille's campaign director announced today.

"Governor Wilson's office turned down our proposal outright," said Laura Wertheimer. "And Mr. Carey's people were totally evasive despite repeated calls.

"Jerry is the principal independent candidate in this race. From any standpoint--press coverage, funding, advertising, public response--we are waging a major campaign that can't be ignored. In November, the Free Libertarian Party will draw enough votes to obtain permanent ballot status and official recognition as a major New York State party. Establishment politicians like Messrs. Wilson and Carey will then have no choice but to answer our statements. I advise them not to wait that long."

Tuccille commented briefly following Ms. Wertheimer's remarks. He noted this morning's news story in which Governor Wilson charged that the election of Hugh Carey would be "a disaster for the State of New York."

"I agree entirely," said Tuccille. "But Governor Wilson neglected to add that his own election would be equally disastrous. The fact is that there's not a dime's worth of difference between the two candidates. Despite their heated arguments over superficialities, when it comes to fundamentals, they think the same way. Both support policies which will result in more taxation, more inflation and more governmental oppression of individual rights.

"The virtues of our two-party system seem somewhat dubious when Republicans and Democrats are indistinguishable, and when Liberals and Conservatives give rubber-stamp endorsements to the major-party candidates.

"The Free Libertarian Party is the only real alternative being offered to the voter. If Mr. Wilson and Mr. Carey have not yet learned this fact, a lot of other people have. The votes of those people next month may make my opponents wish they had accepted my invitation to debate them."