

## The 1984 Senate Campaign <sup>[1]</sup>

In 1984, Senator Jesse Helms faced re-election for the second time. His opponent was Jim Hunt, then finishing his second term as governor. The election was the most expensive non-presidential election in the nation's history to that point, and it was also one of the ugliest. Although Helms trailed by 20 percent in polls a year before the election, he won re-election by 4 percentage points, helped by Ronald Reagan's landslide victory that year.

### **The Old South vs. the New** <sup>[2]</sup> (*Time*, September 24, 1984)

Jesse Helms and James Hunt, 47, the Democrat who hopes to wrest away his seat, met in the second of four scheduled television debates. It was a battle of the Old South vs. the New. Hunt is North Carolina's popular, two-term Governor, an earnest, mild-mannered and moderate Democrat.

#### **User Tags:**

[elections](#) <sup>[3]</sup>

[history](#) <sup>[4]</sup>

[Jesse Helms](#) <sup>[5]</sup>

[Jim Hunt](#) <sup>[6]</sup>

[NC](#) <sup>[7]</sup>

[North Carolina](#) <sup>[8]</sup>

[North Carolina History](#) <sup>[9]</sup>

[Page](#) <sup>[10]</sup>

[politics](#) <sup>[11]</sup>

[State of North Carolina](#) <sup>[12]</sup>

[Students](#) <sup>[13]</sup>

[Teachers](#) <sup>[14]</sup>

[Creative Commons BY-NC-SA](#) <sup>[15]</sup>

#### **From:**

[ANCHOR: A North Carolina History Online Resource](#) <sup>[16]</sup>

#### **Copyright Date:**

2010

3 January 2018

---

**Source URL:** <https://ncpedia.org/anchor/1984-senate-campaign>

#### **Links**

<sup>[1]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/anchor/1984-senate-campaign> <sup>[2]</sup> <https://content.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,923642,00.html> <sup>[3]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/elections> <sup>[4]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/history> <sup>[5]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/jesse-helms> <sup>[6]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/jim-hunt> <sup>[7]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/nc> <sup>[8]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/north-carolina-5> <sup>[9]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/north-carolina-6> <sup>[10]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/page> <sup>[11]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/politics> <sup>[12]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/state-north> <sup>[13]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/students> <sup>[14]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/teachers> <sup>[15]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/creative-commons> <sup>[16]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/entry-source/anchor-north>