

The Next President of the United States

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In November, 2008, the American people will go to the polls to elect the next President of the United States. There are currently more than a dozen individuals, representing the two main political parties, who have declared their candidacy for the most powerful elected position in our country. Who will be our next president and what qualities will he/she possess which will enable him/her to govern our great country most effectively? I have collected a list of issues which should be on the minds of all Americans as we exercise our democratic right to vote for the person who will hold the title and enact the powers entrusted to the position of President of the United States of America.

1. The War Against Islamic Fascism. This is a real war. It is not a war concocted by George W. Bush for political advantage as a few Democrats (Ted Kennedy, Al Gore, Howard Dean, et. al.) have charged. My hope is that all Americans will awaken to the reality that we are engaged in a war as real as World War I, World War II, or the Cold War. Islamic fanatics have declared war on America and all of Western civilization. They wish to destroy us all and establish an Islamic Empire in a world ruled by Shari'a law. We cannot use law enforcement measures to defeat terrorists. The next President of the United States must enact policies and practices which will confront and defeat our enemies before they can further harm us. We may not be happy with how the battle in Iraq has gone so far, but withdrawing our military forces before the Iraqi government can defend itself from attack would be disastrous, leading to a slaughter of Iraqis similar to the Cambodian slaughter following the US military withdrawal from Vietnam in 1973. A premature withdrawal from Iraq would lead to a huge increase in oil prices, crippling our economy, and an increase in terrorism as al-Qaeda would declare victory over the US. Additionally, Iran would become the major power in the Middle East and would be emboldened to pursue its nuclear ambitions and its desires to eliminate the state of Israel and, ultimately, the "Great Satan" America itself. Despite the obvious horrible consequences of a premature withdrawal, there are some who would prefer to see America lose in Iraq because of political benefit. We should never elect a person to serve as president or any other political office who would trade military victory for political advantage.

2. America and the United Nations. America is a force for good in the world. Our country does more for freedom and standing up for what is right than all other countries in the world combined. We are not an empire. We have sacrificed more of our blood and treasure in the defense of freedom than any other country in the world and we have never asked for any land in return except for small plots abroad in which to bury our dead who gave their lives so that others may be free. Contrary to the feelings of many members of the United Nations who promote anti-American and anti-Semitic resolutions, America is a great nation where "American exceptionalism" is true. The United Nations is a corrupt, power-hungry organization mostly made up of dictatorial, oppressive regimes who are hostile to American interests. The next president should believe in the concept of "America first" and should not be an internationalist who cedes American power to the

United Nations. Our country should never sign international treaties or agree to any world policies that are slanted against us or subvert our Constitutional rights to other entities who are largely hostile to us, such as Russia, China, and the Middle East cabal in the United Nations. The next president should make it very clear to the UN that our Supreme Court is the ultimate arbiter of our laws and not the International Court of Justice.

3. Taxes and the size of government. The framers of the Constitution of the United States were very concerned about the size and power of government. As Thomas Paine once said, "The government is best which governs least". Government, by its nature, tends to be wasteful, inefficient and incompetent. Just remind yourself of your last visit to the Division of Motor Vehicles. Some candidates for president have proposed massive new government programs, costing billions of dollars, to regulate everything from health care to retirement programs. It is very important that the next president does everything in his/her power to reduce the size of government, keep taxes low, eliminate our trade deficit, balance the budget, and reduce the national debt. Small business owners, as well as large companies, are good for America. Businesses provide employment and benefits for millions of Americans. The unemployment rate in our country is at a near-historic low. The government should be very careful about adding new taxes or regulations on business. Encouraging people to be dependent on government is counterproductive to success and the antithesis of personal freedom. Government programs perpetuate poverty by keeping the poor dependent on handouts and do nothing to help the poor help themselves. The next president should promote policies which reward individual achievement due to ambition and strength of personal character.

4. The role of judges. There are three, separate but equal, branches of the government - the Executive, the Legislative, and the Judiciary. The role of the Judiciary should be to act like umpires over disputes in the laws created by the legislature and enacted by the president. Judges should determine whether laws are in accordance with the Constitution. Instead, many judges today impose their will over cases before them to enact legislation never passed in congress. There are several issues which are now under review by activist judges across America - enforcement of our borders, the definition of marriage, the right to own a gun, and the recognition of God in public - to name a few. Our rights are being eroded by these judges who cite international law or come up with far-fetched rationale to justify their decisions. The next president should appoint judges who will not legislate from the bench to enact or change laws they do not personally like.

The next President of the United States, more than any other attribute, should possess the highest character trait of all - common sense. Policies should be promoted because they work - not because they make us feel good. I want a president who believes in American values and the greatness of our country and puts the well being of Americans above all else.

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