

A Comparison of the 2020 Republican and Democratic Platforms

A non-partisan guide on issues of concern to the electorate



Republican Platform

Democratic Platform

Human Life

"The Constitution's guarantee that no one can **"be deprived of life, liberty or property"** deliberately echoes the Declaration of Independence's proclamation that **"all"** are "endowed by their Creator" with the inalienable right to Life" *(meaning your Life is valuable because God created you, not because a government or person states so.) ...*

"Accordingly, we assert the sanctity of human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution and legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment's protections apply to children before birth.

Numerous studies have shown that abortion endangers the health and wellbeing of women, and we stand firmly against it." (Page 13)

"Democrats are committed to protecting and advancing reproductive health, rights, and justice. We believe unequivocally, like the majority of Americans, that every woman should be able to access high-quality reproductive health care services, including safe and legal abortion. We will repeal the Title X domestic gag rule and restore federal funding for Planned Parenthood, which provides vital preventive and reproductive health care for millions of people, especially low-income people, and people of color, and LGBTQ+ people, including in underserved areas." (Page 32)

GLOBAL VISION We will support sexual and reproductive health and rights around the globe. In addition to expanding the availability of affordable family planning information and contraceptive supplies We believe that safe abortion must be part of comprehensive maternal and women's health care and included as part of America's Global Health programming.

Planned Parenthood

"We oppose the use of public funds to perform or promote abortion or to fund organizations, like Planned Parenthood, so long as they provide or refer for elective abortions or sell fetal body parts rather than provide healthcare.... We urge all states and Congress to make it a crime to acquire, transfer, or sell fetal tissues from elective abortions for research, and we call on Congress to enact a ban on any sale of fetal body parts.....In the meantime, we call on Congress to ban the practice of misleading women on so-called fetal harvesting consent forms, a fact revealed by a 2015 investigation." (Page 13)

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(Abortion defines as using any instrument, medicine, drug, or any other device or substance to kill an unborn human being up to one minute before birth)

Marriage

"A Sacred Contract: Defense of Marriage" "Traditional marriage and family, based on marriage between one man and one woman, is the foundation for a free society and has for millennia been entrusted with rearing children and instilling cultural values.....The overwhelming evidence is children raised in a two-parent household tend to be physically and emotionally healthier, more likely to do well in school, less likely to use drugs and alcohol, engage in crime or become pregnant outside of marriage...."
 ...We also condemn the Supreme Court's lawless ruling in *Obergefell vs. Hodges*....In *Obergefell*, five unelected lawyers robbed 320 million Americans of their legitimate constitutional authority to define marriage as the union of one man and one woman." (Page 11)

"Freedom to Marry - Democrats applaud last year's decision by the Supreme Court that recognized Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender people—have the right to marry the person they love. But there is still much work to be done." (Page 19, 2016). In 2020 Platform the word "marriage" is used only once concerning **Foreign Policy**: We will also restore and expand American contributions to the United Nations Population Fund to help guarantee access to health care for women and children around the world and eliminate child, early, and forced marriage. (Page 46)

(Today it is LGBTQQIP2SAAZ -two Q's (queer and questioning); I for Intersex, people with two sets of genitalia, P for Pansexual, people refuse to be either; 2S for Two-Spirit, have both male and female spirits; A for Asexual, people who do not identify with any orientation; A for Allies, supporters of all, and Z for Zoophiles those who prefer sex with animals.)

First Amendment (Religious Liberty)

"We pledge to defend the religious beliefs and rights of conscience of all Americans and to safeguard religious institutions against government control.We value the right of America's religious leaders to preach, and Americans to speak freely, according to their faith. Republicans believe the federal government, specifically the IRS, is constitutionally prohibited from policing or censoring speech based on religious convictions or beliefs, and therefore we urge the repeal of the Johnson Amendment." (Page 11)

"Democrats believe that freedom of religion and the right to believe—or not to believe—are fundamental human rights. We will never amplify or legitimize the voices of racism, misogyny, anti-Semitism, anti-Muslim bigotry, or white supremacy. Democrats will protect and promote the equal rights of all our citizens—women, LGBTQ+ people, religious minorities,... We will reject the Trump Administration's use of broad religious exemptions to allow businesses, medical providers, social service agencies, and others to discriminate." (Pages 6, 48, 84)

Healthcare

"Any honest agenda for improving healthcare must start with repeal of the dishonestly named Affordable Care Act of 2010: Obamacare..... American's insurance premiums have dramatically increased while their deductibles have risen about eight times faster than wages in the last ten years.
 We agree with the four dissenting judges of the Supreme Court: "In our view, the entire Act before us is invalid in its entirety." It must be removed and replaced with an approach based on genuine competition, patient choice, excellent care, wellness, and timely access to treatment." (Page 36)

"Democrats have fought to achieve universal health care for a century. We are proud to be the party of Medicare, Medicaid, and the Affordable Care Act. Because of the Obama-Biden Administration and the Affordable Care Act, more than 100 million Americans with pre-existing conditions, from heart disease to asthma, are secure in the knowledge that insurance companies can no longer discriminate against them. Women can no longer be charged more than men just because of their gender. And more Americans are able to get health coverage than ever before." (Page 26)

Second Amendment (Firearms)

"We uphold the right of individuals to keep and bear arms, a natural inalienable right that predates the Constitution and is secured by the Second Amendment. Lawful gun ownership enables Americans to exercise their God-given right of self-defense for the safety of their homes, their loved ones, and their communities."We support firearm reciprocity legislation to recognize the right of law-abiding Americans to carry firearms to protect themselves and their families in all 50 states. We support constitutional carry statutes and salute the states that have passed them.Lawful gun ownership enables Americans to exercise their God-given right of self defense for the safety of their homes, their loved ones, & their communities. (Page 12)

"We will incentivize states to enact licensing requirements for owning firearms and extreme risk protection order laws that allow courts to temporarily remove guns from the possession of those who are a danger to themselves or others. We will pass legislation requiring that guns be safely stored in homes. And Democrats believe that gun companies should be held responsible for their products, just like any other business, and will prioritize repealing the law that shields gun manufacturers from civil liability." (Page 48)

Judges

A critical threat to our country's constitutional order is an activist judiciary that usurps powers properly reserved to the people through other branches of government. Will appoint judges who respect the rule of law expressed within the Constitution and Declaration of Independence, including the inalienable right to life and the laws of nature and nature's God, as did the late Justice Antonin Scalia. (p. 10) We support the appointment of judges who respect traditional family values and the sanctity of innocent human life." (Page 13)

"The Republican Party has packed our federal courts with unqualified, partisan judges who consistently rule for corporations, the wealthy, and Republican interests. They have undermined the legitimacy of our courts through an anti-democratic, win-at-all costs campaign that includes blocking a Democratic president from appointing a justice to the Supreme Court and obstructing dozens of diverse lower-court nominees. The Democratic Party recognizes the need for structural court reforms to increase transparency and accountability." (Page 58)

Education/School Choice

"We support options for learning, including home-schooling, career and technical education, private or parochial schools, magnet schools, charter schools, online learning, and early-college high schools. We especially support the innovative financing mechanisms that make options available to all children: education savings accounts (ESAs), vouchers, and tuition tax credits. A young person's ability to succeed in school must be based on his or her God-given talent and motivation, not an address, ZIP code, or economic status."(Page 34)

"Charter schools were originally intended to be publicly funded schools with increased flexibility in program design and operations. Democrats believe that education is a public good and should not be saddled with a private profit motive, which is why we will ban for-profit private charter businesses from receiving federal funding. And we recognize the need for more stringent guardrails to ensure charter schools are good stewards of federal education funds. We support measures to increase accountability for charter schools, including by requiring all charter schools to meet the same standards of transparency as traditional public schools, including with regard to civil rights protections, racial equity, admissions practices, disciplinary procedures, and school finances." (Page 67)

Sex Education

We renew our call for replacing "family planning" programs for teens with sexual risk avoidance education that sets abstinence until marriage as the responsible and respected standard of behavior." (Page 34)

"We will protect the rights of transgender students." "We believe that comprehensive health services, including access to reproductive care and abortion services, are vital to the empowerment of women and girls."(Page 82)

Medical Research

"We call for expanded support for the stem cell research that now offers the greatest hope for many afflictions — through adult stem cells, umbilical cord blood, and cells reprogrammed into pluripotent stem cells — without the destruction of embryonic human life. We urge a ban on human cloning for research or reproduction, and a ban on the creation of, or experimentation on, human embryos for research." (Pages 37-38)

"We will substantially increase funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)... Democrats will support medical and public health research grants for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and other Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs), which are particularly well suited to research health disparities in the context of COVID-19." (Page 10)

Healthcare and Conscience

"Any honest agenda for improving healthcare must start with repeal of the dishonestly named Affordable Care Act of 2010: Obamacare.... To simplify the system for both patients and providers, we will reduce mandates and enable insurers and providers of care to increase healthcare options and contain costs." (Page 36)

"Democrats believe health care is a human right. We will incentivize states to expand Medicaid and enroll low-income people who do not otherwise have health insurance in a new, high-quality public option without premiums. We will double investments in community health centers and rural health centers, and expand mobile health units, to make it easier for low-income people to access health care." (Page 24)

Israel

"Like the United States of America, the modern state of Israel is a country born from the aspiration for freedom and stands out among the nations as a beacon of democracy and humanity. Beyond our mutual strategic interests, Israel is likewise an exceptional country that shares our most essential values.

It is the only country in the Middle East where freedom of speech and freedom of religion are found. Therefore, support for Israel is an expression of Americanism, and it is the responsibility of our government to advance policies that reflect Americans' strong desire for a relationship with no daylight between America and Israel. We recognize Jerusalem as the eternal and indivisible capital of the Jewish state and call for the American embassy to be moved there in fulfillment of U.S. law." (Page 47)

"Democrats believe a strong, secure, and democratic Israel is vital to the interests of the United States. Our commitment to Israel's security, its qualitative military edge, its right to defend itself, and the 2016 Memorandum of Understanding is ironclad. Democrats recognize the worth of every Israeli and every Palestinian. We support a negotiated two-state solution that ensures Israel's future as a Jewish and democratic state with recognized borders and upholds the right of Palestinians to live in freedom and security in a viable state of their own. Democrats oppose any unilateral steps by either side—including annexation—that undermine prospects for two states. Democrats will continue to stand against incitement and terror. We oppose settlement expansion. We believe that Jerusalem should remain the capital of Israel, an undivided city accessible to people of all faiths." (Page 91)

Iran

"We consider the Administration's deal with Iran, to lift international sanctions and make hundreds of billions of dollars available to the Mullahs, a personal agreement between the President and his negotiating partners and non-binding on the next president....

.....Because of it, the defiant and emboldened regime in Tehran continues to sponsor terrorism across the region, develop a nuclear weapon, test-fire ballistic missiles inscribed with "Death to Israel," and abuse the basic human rights of its citizens." (Page 46)

"Democrats will call off the Trump Administration's race to war with Iran and prioritize nuclear diplomacy, de-escalation, and regional dialogue. Democrats believe the United States should not impose regime change on other countries and reject that as the goal of U.S. policy toward Iran. Democrats support a comprehensive diplomatic effort to extend constraints on Iran's nuclear program and address Iran's other threatening activities, including its regional aggression, ballistic missile program, and domestic repression." (Page 90)

Foreign Assistance

"The integrity of our country's foreign assistance program has been compromised by the current Administration's attempt to impose on foreign recipients, especially the peoples of Africa, its own radical social agenda while excluding faith-based groups — the sector with the best track record in promoting development — because they will not conform to that agenda. We pledge to reverse this course...." (Page 52)

"We will immediately terminate the Trump Administration's discriminatory travel and immigration bans that disproportionately impact Muslim, Arab, and African people, and invite those whose visas have been denied under these xenophobic and un-American policies to re-apply to come to the United States." "Democrats believe in improving and increasing opportunities for legal, permanent immigration." (Pages 61, 64)

Climate Change/Global Warming

"We firmly believe environmental problems are best solved by giving incentives for human ingenuity and the development of new technologies, not through top-down, command-and-control regulations that stifle economic growth and cost thousands of jobs." (Page 22)
Conservation is inherent in conservatism. As the pioneer of environmentalism a century ago, the Republican Party reaffirms the moral obligation to be good stewards of the God-given natural beauty and resources of our country. (Page 20)

"Democrats will immediately rejoin the Paris Climate Agreement, commit the United States to doing its fair share and lead the world in the effort to keep global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and convene a world summit aimed at new and more ambitious global targets to reduce greenhouse gas pollution. We will revive and expand climate-related foreign assistance including by recommitting to the Green Climate Fund." (Page 79)

Wealth, Poverty, and "Economic Fairness"

We will not divide the American people into winners and losers. We will eliminate as many special interest provisions and loopholes as possible and curb corporate welfare, especially where their erosion of the tax base has created pressure for higher rates. We will be mindful of the burdens on families with children and the impact on an aging population. We oppose tax policies that deliberately divide Americans or promote class warfare. (Page 2)

"Americans deserve an economy that works for everyone—not just for the wealthy and the well-connected. But our system has been rigged against the American people. Democrats believe that it is a moral and an economic imperative that we support working families by rebuilding the American middle class for the 21st century, making sure this time that everyone can make it and thrive, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability status, national origin, age, or ZIP code." (Page 14)

Mention of God

"Name of God is sovereign sixteen times In Republican Platform found on pages i, ii, 9, 10, 12, 20, 31 & 34

We affirm-as did the Declaration of Independence: that all are created equal, endowed by their Creator with inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We believe that people are the ultimate resources-and that the people, not the government, are the best stewards of our country's God-given natural resources. (Page i)

Plus every time we sing "God Bless America" we are asking for help. We ask for divine help that our country can fulfill its promise. (Page ii)

That God bestows certain inalienable rights on every individual, thus producing human equality; that government exists first and foremost to protect those inalienable rights; that man-made law must be consistent with God-given, natural rights; and that if God-given, natural, inalienable rights come in conflict with government, court, or human-granted rights, God-given, natural inalienable rights always prevail' that there is a moral law recognized as "the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God." (Page 9)

...Enshrines our God-given individual rights and ensures that all Americans stand equal before the law, defines the purposes and limits of government. In a free society, the primary role of government is to protect the God-given, inalienable rights of its citizens. ...Strong families, depending upon God and one another, advance the cause of liberty by lessening the need for government in their daily lives. (Page 9)

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In 2012 Democrats tried to take the Name of God entirely out of the Platform. There was such an outcry they put it back in. In 2016 the Name of God mentioned three times as follows: Page 2,14,& 45 using the words: *God given potential.*

We will end the school-to-prison pipeline and build a cradle-to-college pipeline instead, where every child can live up to his or her *God-given potential.* (Page 2)

Democrats believe that everyone deserves the chance to live up to his or her God-given potential. (Page 14)

Our values of inclusion and tolerance inspire hope around the world and make us safer at home. The world will be more secure, stable, and peaceful when all people are able to reach their *God-given potential* and live in freedom and dignity. (Page 45)

In 2020 Platform words "God" or "Faith in God" are not used at all. There is a mention of God-given potential once in the section about ending poverty: "Democrats remain committed to ending poverty and enabling all Americans to live up to their God-given potential." (Page 23)

For comparison the word "LGBTQ+" is used 32 times.



Biblical Scriptures To Judge Platforms



Human Life

"Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Jeremiah 1:4-5

"For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb." Psalm 139:13

"Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked." Psalm 82:3-4

"You shall not murder." - Deut. 5:17

"If a man or woman takes the life of any human being, he shall surely be put to death." Leviticus 24:17

Marriage

There is no clearer definition of marriage in the New Testament than in I Cor. 7 and it is always between a man and a woman.

"Each man should have sexual relations with his own wife, and each woman with her own husband." 1 Cor 7:2

And Jesus said, "Have you not read that He who created *them* from the beginning made them **MALE AND FEMALE**, and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and the two shall become one flesh? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.'" Gen 2:24

Education

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction." Prov 1:7

"Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

"Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe in your commandments." Psalm 119:66

"Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance." Prov 1:5

"For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding." Prov 2:6

HealthCare and Conscience

"Lord said, "If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the Lord who heals you." Exodus 15:26

"God clearly explains in the Book of Leviticus that He is against homosexuality. "You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination." Leviticus 18:22

Wealth & Poverty-Economic Fairness

"Jesus saw wealth as a gift from God to be used in His service." Matt. 25:14-30

"If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?" 1 John 3:17

"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment." 1 Timothy 6:17

Planned Parenthood

"Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name... And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him—for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and my God has become my strength" Isaiah 49:1,5

"There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and **hands that shed innocent blood**, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers." Proverbs 6:16-19

Second Amendment-Firearms

"And He said to them, "When I sent you out without money belt and bag and sandals, you did not lack anything, did you?" They said, "No, nothing." And He said to them, But now, whoever has a money belt is to take it along, likewise also a bag, and whoever has no sword is to sell his coat and buy one. For I tell you that this which is written must be fulfilled in Me, '**AND HE WAS NUMBERED WITH TRANSGRESSORS**'; for that which refers to Me has *its* fulfillment." They said, "Lord, look, here are two swords." And He said to them, "It is enough." Luke 22:35-38

Sex Education

Sex is a gift to us from God and should be viewed as such. God created sex for two purposes: procreation and unity between husband and wife

"God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth." Gen1:28

"Any other use of sex is sin --"Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals." 1 Cor. 6:9

Israel

"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they that love thee shall prosper." Psalm 122:6

"I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." - Genesis 12:1-3

"They were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in the Jews' spiritual blessings, they owe it to the Jews to share with them their material blessings." - Romans 15:27

Climate Change/Global Warming

"For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now." Romans 8:19-22

First Amendment- Religious Freedom

"And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." Mark 16:15

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Luke: 4:18-19

"Nor does *anyone* light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lamp-stand, and it gives light to all who are in the house." Matthew 5:15

"For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery." Gal 5:1

Judges

"But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully, as knowing this, that law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and unruly, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, for fornicators, for abusers of themselves with men, for men stealers, for liars, for false swearers, and if there be any other thing contrary to the sound doctrine;" 1 Timothy 1:8-10

Medical Research

"Is there no medicine in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why is there no healing for the wounds of my people?" Jeremiah 8:22

"All kinds of trees providing food will grow along both banks of the river. Their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. Each month they will bear fresh fruit because the water comes from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be used for food and their leaves for medicine." Ezekiel 47:11-12

"Behold, I, the Lord, will bring to it health and healing, and I will heal them and reveal to them abundance of prosperity and security." Jeremiah 33:6

Iran

"This is what Cyrus king of Persia says: "The Lord, The God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and He has appointed me to build a Temple for Him at Jerusalem in Judah. Anyone of his people among you - may his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem in Judah and build The Temple of The Lord, The God of Israel, The God who is in Jerusalem." Ezra 1:2-3

Foreign Assistance

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Matt. 5:13-16