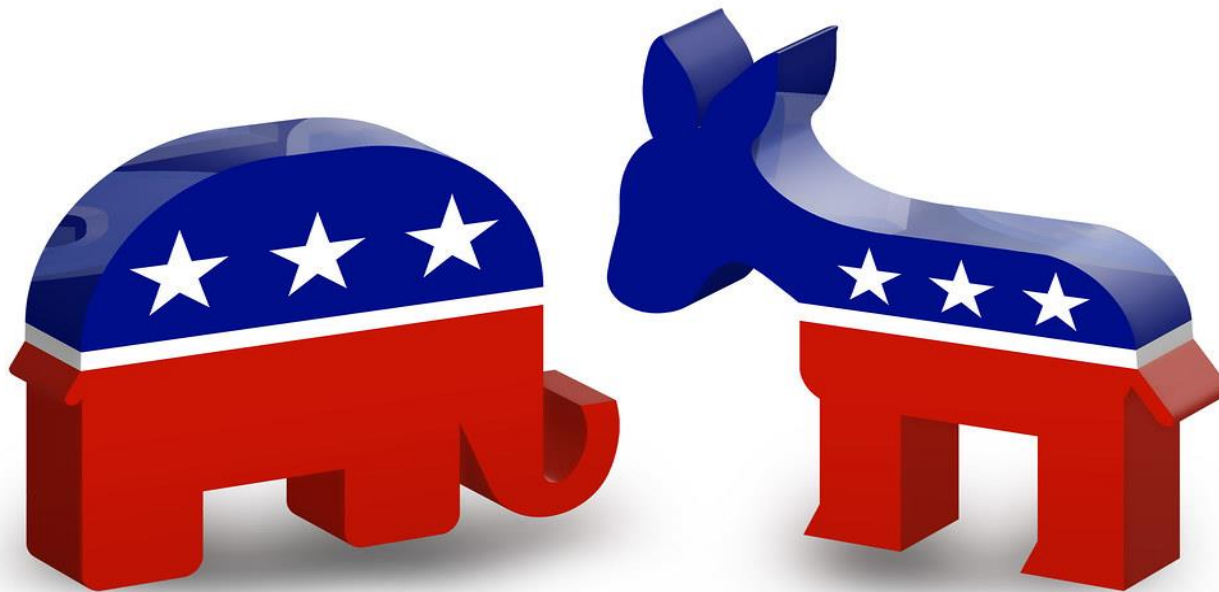


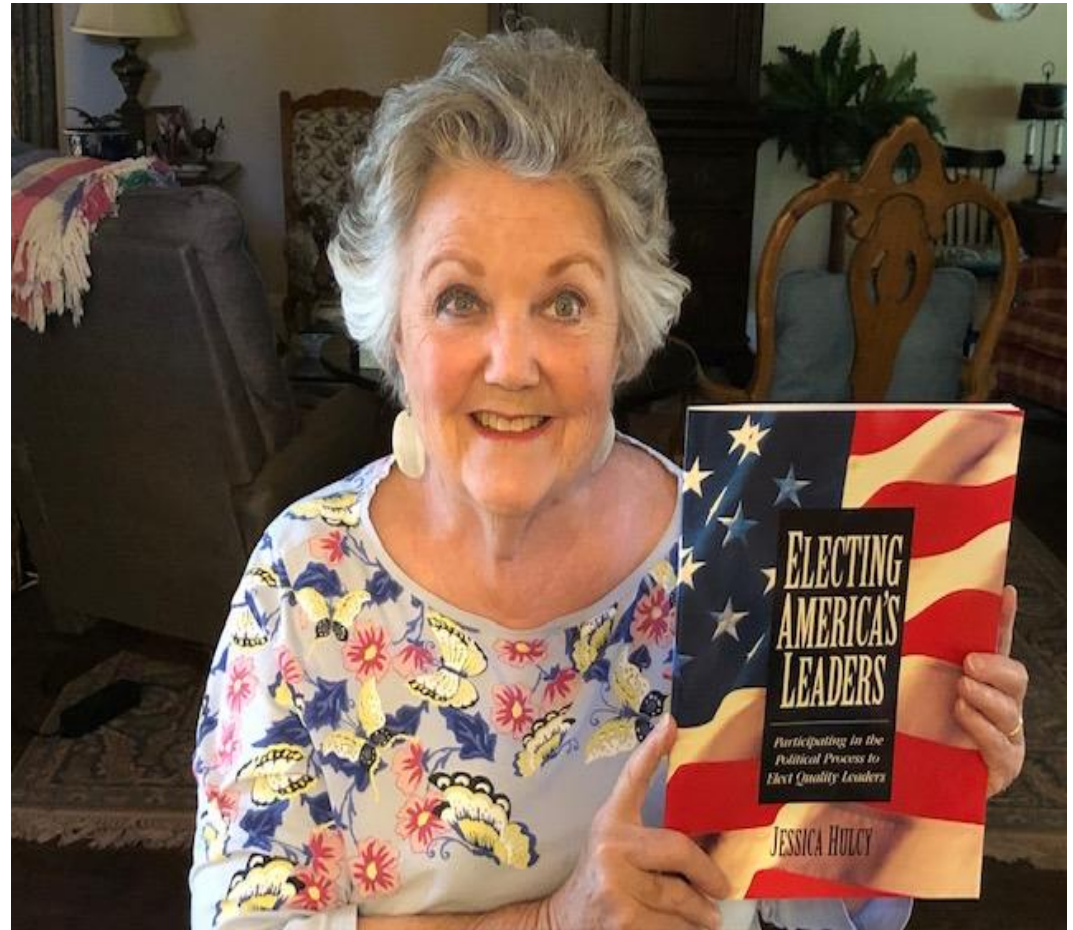
Build Republican & Democratic Platforms to Compare Parties' Stances



Taken from:

Electing America's Leaders

by Jessica Hulcy



Electing America's Leaders

The Political Process

Government

4. Two things go up the ladder from precinct convention to senatorial convention to state convention to national convention - *delegates*, who are elected and *resolutions*, which are passed. To have your children understand this concept, let the toy characters in Activity 20 carry a paper resolution with them to each level of convention they attend. Remind your child that a resolution, introduced way back in the precinct convention by a regular citizen, can ultimately become a plank in the party's platform. WOW! Any citizen can influence the ideas and principles of his party!

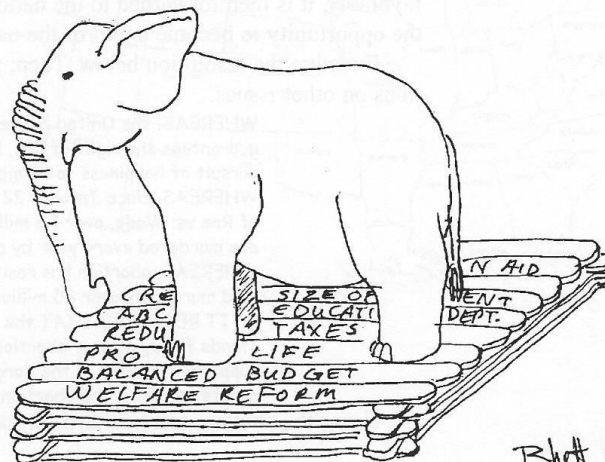
Arts/Crafts Government Current Events

5. Using the platform information of an *issues comparison* of Republican and Democratic candidates, build a platform for each party, using popsicle sticks. You will be making two platforms – a Democratic and a Republican platform.

As you would build a log cabin, make a square base by laying four popsicle sticks flat on the table. Glue the corners together. Continue to glue and stack additional popsicle sticks on top of your base, about 4-5 sticks high on each side. This should look like the walls of a log cabin and form the base of your platform. When you complete the first base, make the second base.

Write or call the Republican and Democratic headquarters, asking them to send you their most recent party platform. Select the most important issues that the two parties disagree on and have included as planks in their platforms.

Write the party's position on each issue on a popsicle stick. Make a flat platform on top of the base by gluing the sticks side by side.



Rhett 96

Rational:

Because students remember 80%
of what they DO vs 20% of what
they READ....

We are “physically” building
Democratic & Republican Party
Platforms *to Compare* for the
2020 election

Goal:

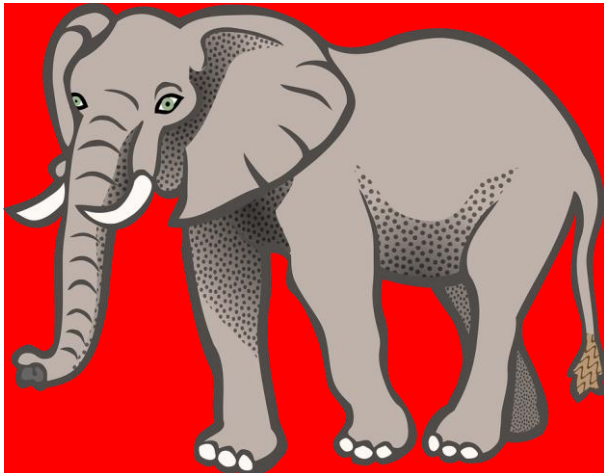
To teach students the differences in the
Republican & Democratic Platforms
by
comparing the two parties'
stances (stands) OR positions
on 14 plank issues

Background:

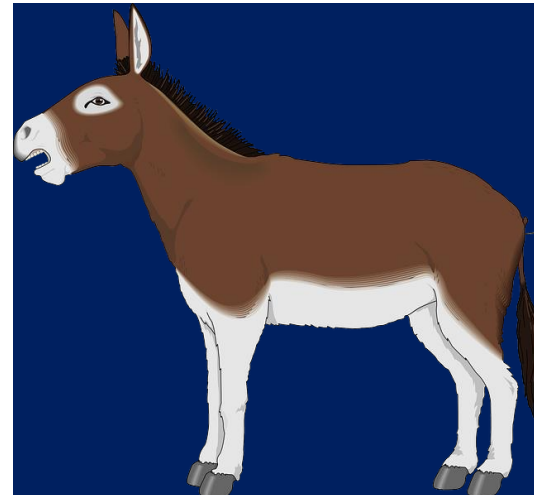
There are Two Political Parties

Republican or GOP
(meaning “Grand old
Party”)

Red & Elephant mascot



Democrat
Blue & Donkey mascot



Supplies

- 100 popsicle sticks (allows 28 mess ups)
- Electric drill with 3/16" bit
- 14 Red & 14 navy-blue yarn in 24" lengths
- 1"-2" plastic elephant & donkey/horse
- Fine tip marker
- Glue bottle, glue stick, & scissors
- Printed list of Party plank issues
- Printed list of Party positions/stances

Method Summary

BUILD : 2 platforms that are 6 popsicle sticks high

DRILL : 24 popsicle sticks at one end. (Problem: Only 12 sticks fit on TOP of each platform... but we have 14 issues; hence, 2 popsicle sticks **MUST** have 2 plank issues & be drilled on both ends to include all 14 issues)

WRITE : Issues on popsicle planks, 2 sets

CUT : Apart the issues AND the stances from the red & blue lists

TIE : 14 blue & 14 red yarn each 24" long to appropriate popsicle plank's drilled hole

GLUE : a) 12 planks on top of appropriate platform b) paper issues to end of string c) Party positions to back of appropriate paper issue d) mascot to the top of correct platform

Step #1 **BUILD** : 2 platforms that are 6 popsicle sticks high



Step #2

**** If you drill
popsicle sticks
singly...they split.
BETTER to drill
stack of 5 sticks
together.**

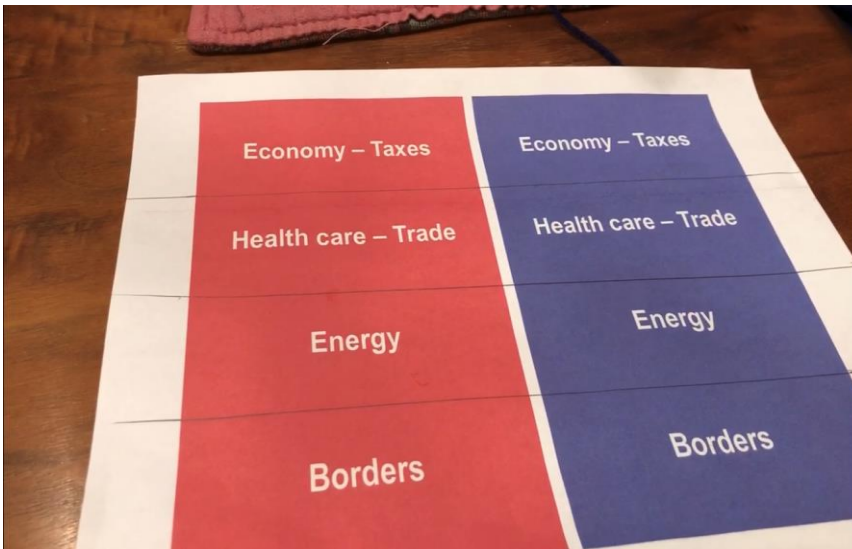
DRILL: Using 3/16" bit drill 24 popsicle sticks at one end. (Problem: Only 12 sticks fit on TOP of each platform... but we have 14 issues; hence, 4 popsicle sticks **MUST** have 2 plank issues & be drilled on both ends to include all 14 issues)



Step #3 **WRITE** : issues on popsicle planks, 2 sets for 2 parties



Step #4 **CUT** : Apart the issues AND the stances from the 2 lists



Step #5 **TIE** : 14 blue & 14 red yarn
each 24" long to appropriate
popsicle plank drilled hole



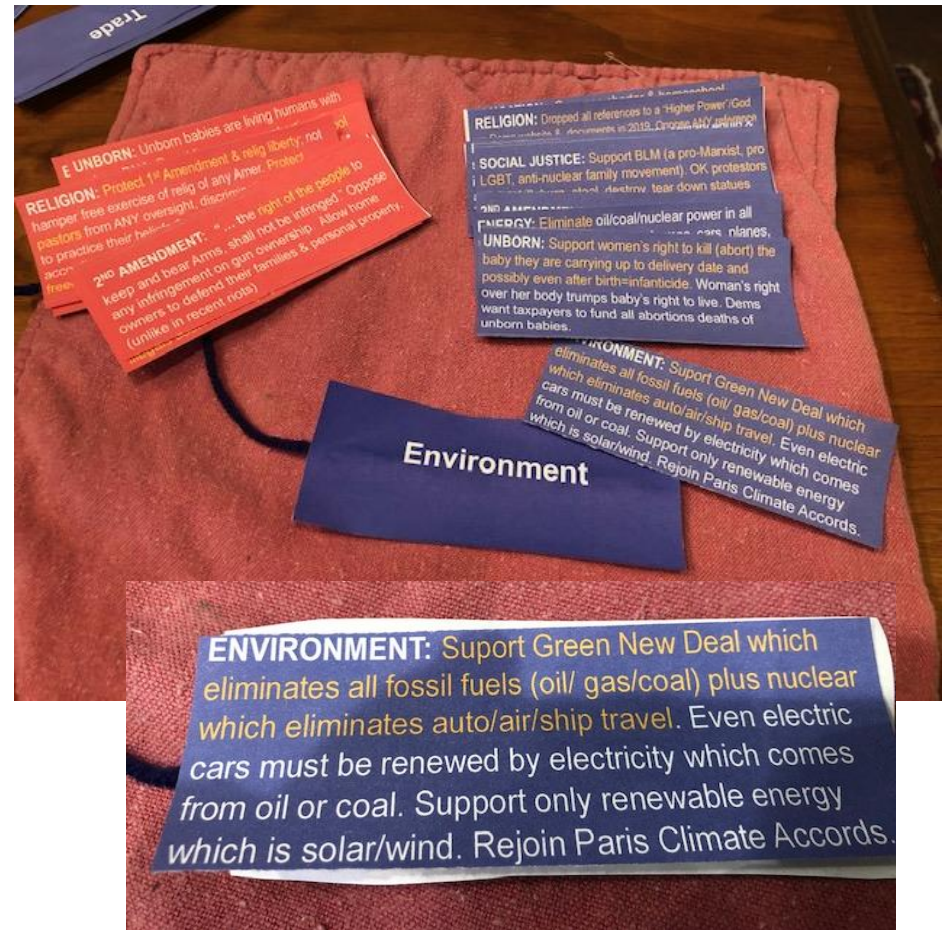
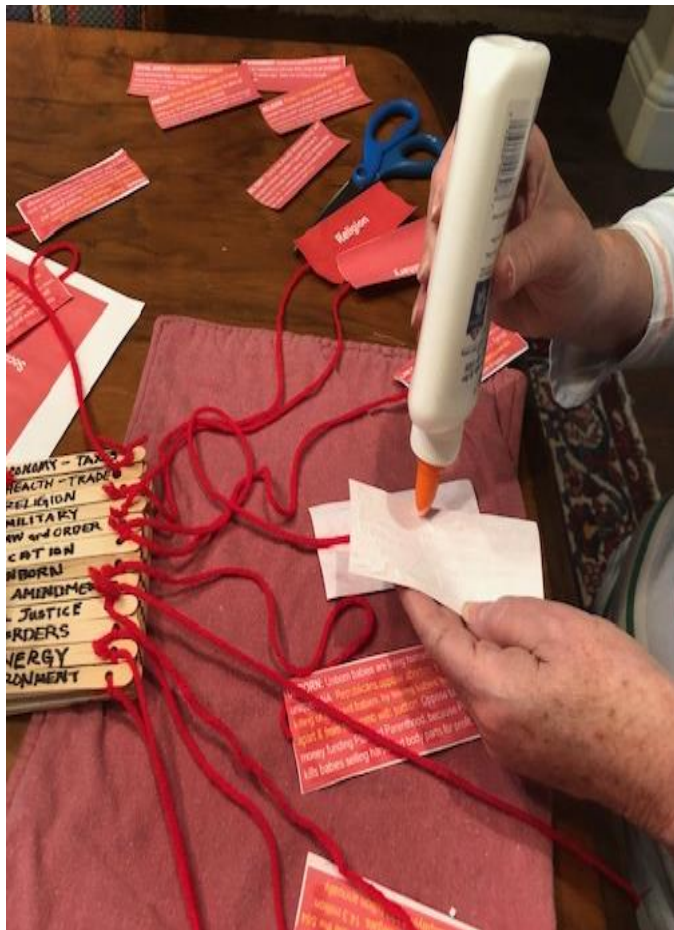
Step #6 **GLUE** : 12 planks on top of
appropriate platform **showing 14 issues**



Step #7 **GLUE** : Correctly colored
paper issues to end of correctly
colored string

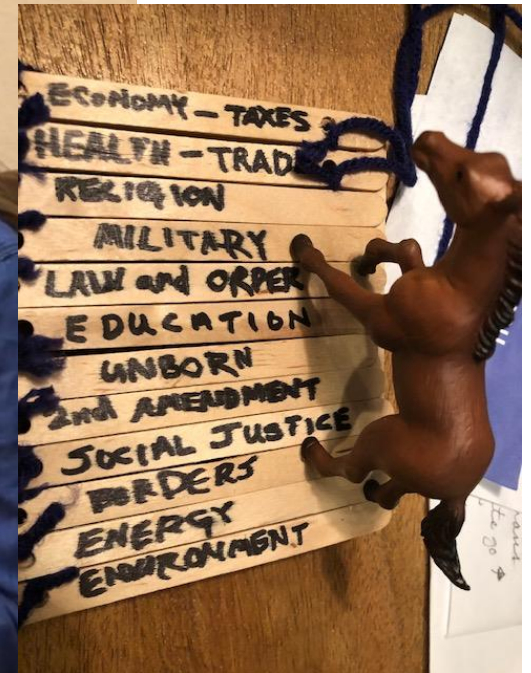


Step #8 **GLUE** : Party positions to back of appropriate paper issue w/ glue stick



Step #9

GLUE : Mascots to the top of correct platform



Finished Platforms

Republican



Democratic



14 issues as appear on popsicle sticks

Economy-Taxes

Health-Trade

Religion

Law & Order

Military

Education

Unborn

2nd Amendment

Social Justice

Borders

Energy

Environment

Economy-Taxes

Health-Trade

Religion

Law & Order

Military

Education

Unborn

2nd Amendment

Social Justice

Borders

Energy

Environment

Cut apart issues for gluing to yarn

Economy

Taxes

Health care

Trade

Economy

Taxes

Health care

Trade

Cut apart issues for gluing to yarn

Religion

Law & Order

Military

Education

Religion

Law & Order

Military

Education

Cut apart issues for gluing to yarn

Unborn

2nd Amendment

Social Justice

Borders

Unborn

2nd Amendment

Social Justice

Borders

Cut apart issues for gluing to yarn

Energy

Environment

Energy

Environment

Cut apart stances: glue to back of issue

ECONOMY: Reduce regulations; allow privately owned businesses to compete driving prices down; Govt gives stimulus & tax incentives & uses tariffs discouraging foreign companies from undercutting American-Made products. With this plan, Trump had highest Stock Market EVER, highest average income, created 7 million jobs...which netted lowest unemployment in US history for blacks, Hispanic, Asian, women. Highest labor participation showing capitalism works.

TAXES: Lower taxes giving people **right to choose** how to spend their own \$\$\$\$\$. Trump implemented largest tax cut in history which stimulated greatest economy in history i.e. encouraged investments in old/new business which in turn created jobs. Trump reduced corporate taxes (taxes on businesses) which caused the return of trillions\$\$\$\$ to US from foreign investments. Because of high taxes, companies put \$ in foreign banks to avoid US.

HEALTH CARE: Choice of affordable care & right to choose your own doctors, hospitals, & specialist even if in another state. Under Trump drug prices dropping 12% per yr. FDA approved more generic drugs than ever before & health care providers are forced to post costs of services. Even w/ a Dem House of Rep, Trump insured 200k uninsured HIV patients w/ FREE drugs for 11 yrs, added \$1.8b to Autism, \$19m to Lupus research, and \$6b to fight opioid crisis. For COVID, Trump closed travel from China, sent hospital ships NY/CA, made ventilators, created OperationWarpSpeed vaccine. Allowed states to decide reopening pace.

TRADE: Protect Amer workers, farmers, medical, manufacturers, business with fair trade agreements that force nations to trade on level playing field. Trump used the leverage sanctions (penalties to nations who break trade agreements) & tariffs (a tax charged to other nations on certain imported goods) He again used sanctions/tariffs to protect intellectual property from international theft, esp. China. Sanctions also kept N. Korea & Iran from dev nuclear bomb.

ECONOMY: Regulate business; nationalize (govt own) many businesses; eradicate competition. \$15 minimum wage. Create a guaranteed income for every person whether citizen or illegal alien which removes incentive to work and will be costly. Guaranteed income is socialism/Marxism & has destroyed every economy where implemented & is totalitarian...as in Cuba, Russia, Venezuela, China, North Korea, Laos, Vietnam.

TAXES: Raise taxes to pay for all FREE govt programs. Wealth tax to tax the rich & middle class. High corporate taxes. Redistribute money from rich to poor (take from the rich and give to the poor which is a Marxist/communist concept). This forces businesses to move to foreign countries where they can make a profit which in turn reduces jobs for Americans.

HEALTH CARE: One gov't plan with no private health insurance. No choice of doctor or hospital. Health care for ALL including illegals which will cost Amer taxpayer \$23 billion yearly. Bureaucrats decide who gets health services. Obamacare still has death panels who decide if grandma deserves surgery, radiation, chemo or not. High taxes to pay for all FREE govt programs with no personal choice leaves little disposable income for families.

TRADE: Past Demo trade agreements + Demo high corporate taxes forced Amer bus overseas killing jobs & placing Amer workers, farmers, manufacturers at unfair advantage until Trump. Past Demo trade agreements appeased foreign nations OR ignored the abuse of Amer workers by the trade agreement. Trump stood up for Amer workers by brokering better trade agreements for workers & farmers than former Demo Obama/Biden administration.

Cut apart stances

RELIGION: Protect 1st Amendment & relig liberty to not hamper free exercise of relig of any American. Protect pastors from oversight, discrimination or regulation allowing them to practice beliefs & teach congregations according to their beliefs. Give chaplains freedom to share faith with military personnel. Trump issued EO prohibiting US govt from discriminating against Christians and another EO allowing govt to withhold \$ from anti-Semitic colleges.

LAW & ORDER: Weed out & punish bad cops. Enforce laws on books. Fair but firm policing & sentencing. Support police with more funding to return order to cities...NY, Chicago, Portland, Seattle and Atlanta. Since Geo Floyd's horrible death, 18 police murdered, even innocent children and funeral goers murdered, 1 officer paralyzed from neck down, & 800 injured by "protestors" that burn, rob, destroy livelihood, harass & kill citizens in violent riots. Rep support police, law & order, AND FAIR TREATMENT OF ALL and a SAFE America for all. Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness!

MILITARY: Trump RE-BUILT strong, well equipped military capable of quick response to terrorist/threats from nations from the shambles he inherited from Obama/ Biden. With killing Al-Bagdadi/Solemani ISIS on run. Created US Space Force, a 6th Branch of US Military to protect US/Allied interest in space. Trump reorg VA from shambles: no waiting because private doctors can be used & VA charged, fired incompetent staff members, created White House Hotline staffed by vets helping vets get help.

EDUCATION: Support parent's choice for school ...whether homeschool, charter, private, or public school. Give vouchers to parents(70% parents favor) to send children to better schools creating competition & accountability between schools. Trump increased Education Choice Funding by \$42million making \$ available for choices. Teach legitimate history vs revisionist history. Open schools in fall 2020.

RELIGION: Demo Party dropped all references to a "Higher Power"/God on Demo website & documents in 2019. Oppose ANY reference to Christianity/ Jesus/ Christ in public places. Make LGBT protected right.... so no law, person, or business can oppose LGBT rights (i.e. Christians refusing to bake a wedding cake for gay wedding would be unlawful even though such participation would violate their religious freedom). Oppose chaplains sharing faith with military personnel.

LAW & ORDER: Defund the police, (cut money for salaries and equip). Send social workers to intervene in mental problems & domestic abuse... but not available at night, because social works don't work 24/7 like police. Abolish bail aka "cashless bail" allows criminals back on the streets instantly.

MILITARY: Demo minimally fund ANY military but as recent as July 2020 Dems NOW want to defund the military as proposed by Bernie Sanders' Senate Bill. The Bill was voted down but 25 of 100 Senators voted for it! Wondering if Dems propose to send social workers to dialogue with terrorist instead of Navy Seals. In 2016 Obama gave \$1.7 billion in cash dropped on Iranian tarmac to buy Iran's non-aggression toward the US which Iran promptly used to continue their nuclear bomb development. Contrast Dems appeasement results to Trump's sanctions.

EDUCATION: Oppose school choice....charter, homeschool & vouchers. Favor new curriculum with LGBT focus AND new *1619 Project* teaching kids "that all American progress is illegitimate, because it was built on the backs of slaves who first arrived in 1619." *The 1619 Project* is revisionist history. Demo oppose schools opening in fall 2020 (except virtually)

Cut apart stances

UNBORN: Unborn babies are living humans with unique DNA. Republicans oppose abortion, the killing of innocent babies, by tearing babies' bodies apart with suction & then suctioning parts from the womb. Oppose tax money funding of Planned Parenthood, because PP kills babies & sells harvested body parts for \$\$\$\$\$. Over 60,000,000 living babies have been suctioned to death since 1973.

2ND AMENDMENT: "... the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." Oppose any infringement on gun ownership. Allow homeowners to defend their families & personal property, (unlike in recent riots in St. Louis, MO). Republicans believe criminals will always get guns & restrictions to gun ownership only punishes law abiding gun owners. Republicans believe school shootings and mass shootings are mental health problems, not gun problems.

SOCIAL JUSTICE: Trump & NC Sen Tim Scott creating Opportunity Zones ...govt \$\$ is infused into blighted, areas, to start businesses & create jobs for minorities. Trump's 1st Step Act minimizes prison terms for 1st time drug offenders + makes return to society easier. Trump partnered with bus in Ready to Work Law to help felons secure jobs upon release. Trump gave 14% more than any other president to Black Colleges for long term contract eliminating yearly asking.

BORDERS: Supports legal immigration. Support building wall between Mexico & US (1,933 mi) to prevent illegals (who take jobs from Amer), gang members, felons, human traffickers, opioid traffic, & terrorist from crossing. Trump has built 257 miles of border wall to date with 400+ expected to be completed by end of 2020. Republicans believe No Borders = No Sovereignty. Eliminate the 564 sanctuary cities which protect illegals from deportation.

UNBORN: Support women's right to kill (abort) the baby they are carrying up to the delivery date and possibly even after birth = infanticide. Woman's right over her body and convenience are more important to Democrats than a baby's right to live. Dems want taxpayers to fund ALL abortion deaths of unborn babies. If Dems really cared about the black population they would oppose abortions bc black women are 3.5 Xs more likely abort babies than whites.

2ND AMENDMENT: Ban assault weapons and high capacity magazines. Red flag laws to ban mental patients from gun ownership. Eliminate the purchase of firearms at gun shows and online & strict background checks on all gun purchases (only punishes law abiding gun owners). Law abiding gun owners have stopped several mass shootings like in White Settlement, TX at the Church of Christ. Dem Michael Bloomberg said only police should deal with active shooters.

SOCIAL JUSTICE: Support BLM (a pro-Marxist, pro-LGBT, anti-nuclear family movement). Dems believe ok for protestors led by Antifa (Marxist activist group using physical violence/property damage to create anarchy) to riot, kill, burn, steal, destroy, tear down historical statues because they're angry. Dems want "systemic racists" (anyone white) weeded out & retrained in org/business thus RE-establishing segregation. Dems want police defunded, demand slavery reparations. Seattle, WA wants to release all but violent offenders & close main jail. Doesn't sound like MLK dream!

BORDERS: Refused to fund Border Wall. Want open borders, elimination of ICE (Immigration & Customs Enforcement), protect sanctuary cities, free health care to illegal aliens. To put that in perspective, 14.3 million illegals now in t Amer, cost taxpayer \$132 billion annually. Dems want DACA adults (Deferred Action on Childhood Arrivals) who came to US illegally as children with parents to become citizens instantly without citizenship classes.

Cut apart stances

ENERGY: Trump has already made US Energy Independent by removing regulations to allow oil drilling on 19 million acres of (Arctic National Wildlife & Refuge) ANWAR which has enough oil/gas for 53-79 yrs. US has enough coal for 150 yrs. Being energy independent means US no longer worries about piracy of tankers in Persian Gulf because US sells, not buys oil.

ENVIRONMENT: Continued support of clean water & air regulations. US has 90% drop in air pollution over 30 yrs. Even if US cut to 0% emissions, China's emissions ALONE will overtake world. Trump took US out of Paris Climate Accords which told govts to mandate tax incentives to unpredictable solar/wind companies but ignore nuclear. Trump against Paris Accords telling US how to do what we are already doing better than others. We are not world's piggy bank! Plus Trump has preserved 1.3m A of wilderness and added 5 nat'l monuments.

ENERGY: Eliminate oil/coal/nuclear power in all buildings, businesses, plants, homes, cars, planes, trucks, and ship. Mandate all homes use only solar. Depend only on solar/wind which has not been successful to date because it is unreliable. This plan would eliminate travel by car, planes and ships as well as movement of all goods & food across the US. Even electric cars must be recharged by electricity which comes from oil, coal or nuclear power plants.

ENVIRONMENT: Support Green New Deal which eliminates all fossil fuels (oil/ gas/coal) plus nuclear. This eliminates auto/air/ ship travel. Even electric cars must be renewed by electricity which comes from oil or coal. Supports only renewable energy (solar/wind) even though intermittent & unpredictable. Rejoin Paris Climate Accords which includes paying for other countries (India & China) to meet the standards.

3 Point Wrap Up

Republican

- **LOW Taxes**
- **FREEDOM** for **ALL**
education
health care
- **PROTECT** keep **SAFE**
speech
religion
life & property of citizens
*through police
*through military
*through ICE

Democrat

- **HIGH Taxes**
- **CONTROL** of **ALL**
education
health care
- **PROTECT** and **EXPLOIT**
illegal aliens & felons
Antifa & BLM
looters & rioters
*through defund police
*through defund military
*through eliminate ICE

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