

## 2024 Agenda (Common Sense, Common Decency)

Intelligence & integrity are foundational to all people of good will, including all religions. An agenda of win-win fiscal conservatism & social moderation is reasonable & balanced, just and needed, rather than win-at-all-costs, party & power idolatry, fighting, or gridlock. In no particular order, here are the top 20 issues. Other things may have importance, but don't get caught wading in the weeds!

**Economy.** Greatest economy based on STEM, innovation, leading & supplying the world's products.

**Government.** Streamlined & prioritized; no waste, abuse or inefficiencies. Best bang for the buck.

**Military.** World's greatest for self-defense, with technology, & endangering personnel the least.

**Taxes.** Fair to all, & all pay in. Fair civic service for those who can't afford to.

**Politicians.** Honest (ethical) & hard working; not win at all costs biased, liars, greedy or self-centered.

**Poverty.** End severe poverty, justly, by Welfare empowering self-sufficiency.

**Debt.** Bring down the national debt, so future generations aren't burdened by our spending.

**Enemy Nations.** Dealing with them (trust but verify), by negotiations or toleration; war as a last resort. Reinforced & expanded alliances, & close relations with our NATO allies, justly paid for.

**Entitlements.** Any & all get repaid to taxpayers, for justice.

**Energy.** As energy independent as possible, while not severely impacting the environment.

**Management/Labor.** Workers give an honest day's effort, & employers treat them right.

**Guns.** No law-abiding citizen has their guns confiscated. Background checks & red flag laws never abused.

**Social Security & Medicare.** Funded, but also allocated by need & funds availability; no injustice.

**Immigration.** Allow in skills our economy needs, not taking jobs from Americans, & not accessing the safety net for years, or inclined to vote for Socialism.

**Education.** World-class education for all, so none fall through the cracks.

**Foreign Aid.** Only in our national interests, & best bang for our buck. American interests first.

**Budget.** Balanced federal budget within 15 to 20 years. Aim for a surplus.

**Abortion.** Heartbeat law, with exceptions for mom's life & vegetative baby cases.

**Law & Order.** Crime reduction, not trampling criminal rights or using excessive or unjust force.

**LGBTQ.** Respect for all, but government not favoring or disfavoring any interest groups.

## [AMERICANANSWERS.ORG](http://AMERICANANSWERS.ORG)

This website is the culmination of decades of analysis, observation and creativity, and encompasses a variety of subjects, including all of the following. A full index of all topics is at the Campaign Updates button, page 221. The site is much larger than its exterior may indicate.

- Americana
- Apologetics
- Architecture
- Business
- Calvinism vs. Arminianism
- Charismatic Theology
- Christians & The MAGA Movement
- Comedy
- Discipleship
- Evangelism
- Futurism
- Global Vision
- Innovation
- Investing
- Life Wisdom
- Logic
- Lordship Salvation
- Music
- New Testament
- Parenting
- Political Solutions to ~Every Problem
- Politicians' Tricks
- Politics
- Presidents' Wisdom
- Religion
- Rhetoric
- Youth Challenges
- 13 Books for sale
- Etc.

## **AN APPEAL**

This author and political candidate is available for any speaking engagements anywhere (white or black church, civic organization, radio, TV, newspaper, magazine or other media outlet, local or national, from any political slant). We especially invite our detractors to offer up whatever hard ball questions you think you can handle. This is an ideas/solutions promotion campaign to get the best political ideas to the general public, ASAP, and hear what's on the mind of the American public.

We will be soon launching a boots-on-the-ground/campaign trail political campaign, which involves three aspects:

1. **Poor People**. Educating people on money-saving and job improvement tips, so especially the poor can have better lives.
  - If there are community leaders able to gather the poorest (including homeless) to learn how to better their lives with what they currently possess, please also contact us.
2. **Businesses & the Rich**. Free business consulting of any medium- to large company, in the areas of strategy, efficiency, R & D/new product innovation, problem-solving and architecture.
  - If your company wants to benefit from ideas from The World's Most Innovative Man, please contact us, so we can maximize those we help, and all correspondence will be kept strictly confidential.
3. **Everyone**. Public policy speeches.
  - If any of the prior-referenced groups would like myself to speak to 'your people' (black church, white church, civic organization, Republican or Democrat gatherings, talk radio, TV news programs, colleges, interest groups, Chambers of Commerce, Kiwanis, Rotary, VFW, NAACP, AARY, NRA—of any political stripe—please also contact us ASAP. We would covet any cordial/civil debate of conservative talk radio hosts, local or national! (Ex.: Limbaugh, Hannity and Levin).

We have something *good* to offer to every unique crowd and group, and will challenge you if your positions might need to morally stretch and grow. We are also open to all feedback and constructive criticism, because you cannot heal what you deny, and our nation needs to come together over the common sense solutions our writings clearly and thoroughly lay out.

Thank you! Jim Meroney (AAorg2020@gmail.com)

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

What if it were possible for ‘we the people’ to take control of Congress and cause them to make the right decisions in the best interests of our country? There is a way, and it’s quite easy, doesn’t take much effort on your part, and doesn’t require a third party.

The ‘Pledgers’ campaign is an effort to recruit *at least* 33 Congress persons (politically experienced, or not) from any political party to leverage power between any bad extremes and/or policies of either party.

Pledged politicians will sign the Principled Politician’s Pledge, agree to fully reveal their true beliefs, and seek to implement as many common sense policies as possible (further defined in *Dumb as a Donkey, Fat as an Elephant* or at *AmericanAnswers.org*). They are beholden to principle more than party or political career (including seeking to run the least expensive and most ethical SUCCESSFUL campaigns possible).

For voters, this solution is as simple as ‘Sign, Select and Speak.’ Sign the Petition for Principled Politics, select Pledged candidates, and consider telling others about this ‘Pledger movement’s’ principles.

## POLITICAL ALTERNATIVES

Neither political party owns a monopoly on good ideas. In fact, they are both imperfect. Americans need to take the good in both parties, and reject the bad. We have proposed the majority public voting in enough Congress persons to broker power between the two parties' extremes, so that common ground can be found using common sense for the common good. These politicians will sign a vow to adhere to certain moral principles and logical solutions to the nation's most-pressing needs, and, above all, value the nation and principles over party or political ambition.

More can be learned at @Pledgers2020 and our Facebook message, entitled 'Pledged Politicians.' However, let's consider the alternatives (which we often witness, or see evidence of their serious possibility in the future):

- 1. Demonizing Domination.** It appears to be the dream of many political operatives to put the other party out of business (i.e., a one-party nation and one-party rule). They demonstrate this ambition through demonizing their opponents' positions, and sometimes personnel. They spend time, money and energy seeking to defeat the opposite party in every election venue they can (and through gerrymandering, voter restrictions, and other methods). However, if you understand the concept of checks and balances, and the importance of both balance, and the dangers of many extremes, you will see the foolishness of this collective ambition.
- 2. Grinding Gridlock.** We the people pay professional politicians a pretty penny to produce results we would be fired over for lack of productivity! Gridlock is better than passing bad or morally or logically compromised legislation, but it is a poor substituted for simply passing good laws, which place America's needs and interests above whether any given party derives a feather in their cap for their side winning on any given matter.
- 3. Ping Pong Politics.** Every four to eight years, American voters often choose to change majority/ruling parties, expecting better results. However, if you read opinion polls, or simply pay any attention to Washington, you can attest to the fact that there is a lot of heat, but not a lot of light shed in all their efforts. There is a better way, and we have detailed exactly what that way is (referenced above).
- 4. Selfish Secession.** In many ways, the Civil War continues, often along race/minority lines, and somewhat related big vs. small government ideologies. No one can honestly believe that a literal division of our United States of America would be a good thing, and though, at times, voter frustration rises to the level that such things are sometimes called for, it is always necessary that cooler heads prevail.  
So when you get the chance to vote for 'Pledged Politicians' from either party, please do not forget to think for yourself, consider America's needs above blind party fidelity, and, in short, "do the right thing!," please. Thank you.

## **PLEDGED POLITICIANS**

Don't you sometimes wish you could bang politicians' heads together, tell them to 'shut up' with all the insults, games and non-sense and just get something GOOD done for our nation? There IS a way, and it's actually easy for you, and easy to implement. Soon, you merely have to vote for any and all candidates who claim to be "Pledged Politicians," and that process can start!

What is a "Pledged Politician?" It is any person—male or female, Democrat, Republican or otherwise, incumbent or newcomer—running for any office—Senate, House, or otherwise—who has committed to prioritizing principles and priorities over party or personalities. They will adhere to the (novel) concept of taking the good in any and all parties and rejecting their bad—on an issue-by-issue basis, and they will find common ground through common sense for the common good of our great country.

We will get enough such politicians (through educating the public on this concept) that they can serve as power brokers for 'We the people' to force Congress to "do the right thing" (a likely 'Pledger' campaign slogan).

If this sounds like a cause you are interested in or you see that it's one of the FEW ways available for laymen/voters/"average Joes" to take their RIGHTFUL place in being the bosses in D.C. of our so-called "public servants," I hope you'll join us in cleaning up the mess which is Washington!

We must throw out all the bums, but also know that not all are bums. A BIG part of differentiating which is which is if a candidate has filled out our "Politicians Profile" (that details EXACTLY where they stand on a host of pressing issues) and signed our "Principled Politician's Pledge," both available soon at [AmericanAnswers.org](http://AmericanAnswers.org).

This author-lawyer has a total of thirteen books coming out as part of the Pledged Politician's campaign, but three that completely describe and detail the "Pledger" concept and show common sense solutions on most issues that America faces (Dumb as a Donkey, Fat as an Elephant, Wit and Wisdom: Don't Speak About Politics or Religion, and The Way Things Ought To Be). They will also be available through that website.

In the meantime, pray for our nation to remain vigilant in insisting on common sense ruling the day in Washington, and thank you for taking the effort to read this, and to vote.

Sincerely, James Meroney, JD, MBA, MDiv

See us also at @JamesMeroney @Pledgers2020 @ImMadTooEdwin @PledgersARCHIVE; and read the "LIKED" sections of the last three Twitter accounts), or contact us at: AAorg2020@gmail.com or James Meroney (Facebook)

## **A POLITICAL CALL TO ACTION**

If you want to end the dysfunction in Washington as soon as possible, to pass good, principled common ground legislation which helps the most people with the least-sized budget, vote for a 'Pledged' politician, when offered.

To every American man, woman, and young person: It's time that 'we the people' take back our government from its inaction, waste, gridlock and partisanship, so our representatives truly represent OUR views. It's time to take the good of both parties and reject the bad, effectively, and with little inconvenience to our lives.

**We are calling for at least 33 qualified women and men of all parties—current politicians or not—to make themselves available to serve in Congress, to broker power between extremists, elitists and party loyalists, in favor of common ground, common sense solutions to our nation's many challenges.**

We are asking the *voting public* to seriously consider this group of patriots to actually represent their views that same year. As an outward demonstration of a candidate's commitment to so governing, the following *Principled Politician's Pledge* is made available for signing, with its result to be publicly broadcasted.

The policies this 'Pledged politician' group will enact should reflect both the *will of the people* and the common sense spirit our country was built on, and can be defined further through their candidacies. However, a great place to start is the top 12 priorities, 3 mega plans and 115 common sense positions found in *Dumb as a Donkey, Fat as an Elephant*, available through *AmericanAnswers.org*.

It's time that American politics to return from the mire and scorn of so many failings, and reasonable, common ground legislation with integrity to again be our norm. No more games, tricks, lies, bloat or blame—just responsible governing, or politicians risk losing their job!

By my response (below), I demonstrate my interest in considering a run for political office, or voting for qualified common ground candidates of integrity.

- I would consider running as a Pledged Congressional candidate. I want to learn more about this opportunity.
- I would consider voting for Pledged Politicians, as I learn more about the positions they stand for.
- I would consider volunteering my services to elect a team of at least 33 Pledged Politicians to turn our country toward a better, more common sense and common ground future. Please tell me how I can serve.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## **THE CASE FOR PLEDGED POLITICIANS**

**82% of Americans believe Congress members should not be re-elected.**

**–Today Show** (8/10/11)

**Nearly 6 in 10 voters, or 57%, say they would defeat every lawmaker, including their own. –USAtoday.com** (7/24/13)

**51% Independent, 28% Republican, 21% Democrat. –Today Show**

(The New American Center poll, 10/15/13)

**9% Congressional approval. –Tonight Show** (1-11-13)

**74% not happy with the US's direction. –Today Show** (10/13/11)

**77% of American adults identify with a Christian religion. –Gallup poll** (12/24/12)

How is the log jam which is Washington D.C. ever resolved? We're all tired of it (82% are dissatisfied with Congress' so-called results), and we pay them good money to be as unproductive as they are! We the people want good, common sense results, and solutions to our many challenges, within budget and with debate, but not with all the drama and stubborn intransigence. Politicians work for us, and even we aren't allowed to get away with doing so little.

There are several ways to get Congress to change (detailed in our book, *Dumb as a Donkey, Fat as an Elephant*), but the best solution I know is to elect thirty-three (or more) Congress persons to broker power between the parties' bad policies, so mainstream, majority common ground policies get implemented. They would be composed of career politicians and everyday citizens from any party, dedicated to certain governing principles and subject to severe consequences for their violation.

A sincere commitment to bridging the differences between Democrat and Republican would be central to their campaigns (though never compromising their core values). The positions they support would be revealed in their personal Politician Profile, reflecting truly felt opinions, and serving as a guide to voters.

## VICTORY STRATEGY

Can this ‘solution’ work, and how would Pledgers’ campaigns be different? Looking at the statistics above, we see there are several demonstrable ways to achieve victory, including any combination of the following:

1. Moderate Republicans and Democrats, finding common ground while maintaining party loyalty.
2. Independent (‘swing’) voters (who, by themselves, make up approximately 35% of the voting public), and/or
3. The largest voting block of the non-voter (disillusioned, uninspired or merely not yet informed of a better way of doing U.S. politics—something both our books and web site *easily* and quickly resolves).
4. Voters sympathetic to ethical and common sense governance, which should include, among many others, the 77% of adult Americans who identify themselves with a Christian religion.

Pledged politicians are anticipated to represent some of the least expensive campaigns in history, as our book and website provide a sufficient quantity of material to educate even the least-interested voter (or even the most educated political junkie). This would allow candidates to focus on connecting with the people, hearing their needs and concerns, and, above all, truly serving the public in the way their campaigns are run.

We have tried status quo party vs. party long enough! How many decades will it take for us to realize that the system is broken, and needs improvement. And third parties never seem to have the numbers to win, serving as either protest votes or votes for singles causes. So will you choose to make our American political system more effective and respected by one single act? America’s positive future ultimately depends on you, the individual voter—not special interests or even lobbyist’s money.

## **CAMPAIGN METHODOLOGY**

Since the Pledger movement is NOT a third party, all aspiring Congress persons are free to get elected any way they chose. Incumbents, obviously already know how to succeed in that venture, and may only sign the Pledge and fill out the Profile. For others, their campaign methodology may be more complex (and anyone is free to reference our personal campaign blueprint—privately; no need for any opponents to get a heads up!). For all involved, it is hoped that you would run the most transparent, inexpensive and ethical campaign possible, and my personal wish is that you find ways to listen to the needs of voters and demonstrate true leadership by incorporating some civic service in your campaign-NOT just give speeches and have the focus only be yourself. Thank you.

## **APPENDIX**

## **Are You *Highly Pleased* with the Accomplishments & Productivity of Washington?**

The majority of Americans are mainstream, and need their *voices of reason* heard louder to broker between warring political parties. ‘We the people’ can work within our system to *legally require* political leaders to adhere to *common sense principles* and behave with *common decency*. The Principled Politician’s Pledge” legally binds politicians to address freely agreed to standards of behavior, and the Politicians’ Profile educates voters on candidates’ familiarity with and positions on relevant issues they may face in office.

Please read the Principled Politician’s Pledge, and sign the Petition below, so ‘we the people’ can have more say over what our employees decide, and how they behave.

### **PETITION FOR PRINCIPLED POLITICS**

By our signature below we express our desire to have the Principled Politicians’ Pledge and Politician’s Profile be *required* disclosures of all political candidates—Presidential, Congressional, Gubernatorial, State Congressional Mayoral, City Council. Because of their opt-out provisions, all responses are free-willed, and no one is forcing any candidate to adopt any particular position through their responses.

My signature freely expresses support of this Petition, and for it to be made into law by ballot box Proposition (or otherwise) as soon as possible.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

To see (or take) the **Politician’s Profile**, go to: [www.AmericanAnswers.org](http://www.AmericanAnswers.org)

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## **PRINCIPLED POLITICIAN'S PLEDGE**

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**(Multiply the # of checks in the first 3 sections by 5, to indicate what percentage of a "Pledger" you are)**

### **PERSONALLY:**

#### **Fighting.**

- I will criticize my opponent only in a constructive, principled and civil way.
- I will seek collaboration and meeting-in-the-middle with the other side whenever possible.
- I will seek to get to know my colleagues on both sides of the aisles as human beings.

#### **Integrity.**

- I will not knowingly lie or promise anything I do not intend to do.
- I will remain sexually faithful to my spouse for the duration of my candidacy and time in office.

#### **Financial.**

- I will not spend more money than is needed or significantly beneficial to my fellow countrymen.
- I will not make a decision primarily because those favoring the decision made financial contributions.

#### **Independence.**

- I will not be 100% beholden to anyone, including my own party, where my conscience leads otherwise.
- I will uphold these standards, not waiting for others to make this same Pledge.
- Before election I will publicly disclose my positions differing from Dumb as a Donkey, Fat as an Elephant.

### **PUBLICLY:**

- I will vote for **ethics reform** with 'teeth' (i.e., serious fines) for specified, intolerable political 'tricks.' (Ex.: Lying, deception, misrepresentation, malicious insults, hypocrisy, expedient flip flopping, etc.)
- I will publicly reveal all my **lobbyist** interactions—names, date, agenda items, contribution amounts.

### **POLITICALLY:**

#### **I will work for legislation to make all bills:**

- Public at least 3 days before they are up for vote.
- Contain layman-language summaries, and reveal all bills' negatives and positives.
- Be read by all members of Congress before voting (at least an executive summary thereof).
- Be funded before they can be voted on.

### **PENALTIES:**

- I willingly submit to donating to charity \$\_\_\_\_\_ from my own money for any clear violations of checked items.
- I will resign (or be subject to recall) if I violate over \_\_\_ of my checked items over a period of \_\_\_ months.
- I will publicly report any pressure I receive from party leadership to violate this pledge.
- I will publicly explain any violations to this pledge made for good, moral reasons.

**OR**

- I have read this pledge and decline to fill out any portions of it.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TO ALL FROM ANY PARTY WHO HAVE SIGNED THIS PLEDGE,  
GO WIN THE HEART OF THE PEOPLE, AND MAY THE BEST PERSON WIN!**

## **PERSONAL POSITIONS**

(On 50 Issues)

Can you give reasons for positions held that benefit America rather than just your personal preferences (because opinions are like rear end orifices—everyone has one)?

- 1. Abortion.** I personally find all abortions abhorrent, but government cannot sanction unsafe, back alley abortions. Roe is super precedent, and if it were ever overturned (which I personally oppose), it could never be overturned again (as the Supreme Court would be politicized). Responsible government should encourage not aborting (except, perhaps, in the three exception cases), and if the public's majority ever clamored for Roe being overturned, red states would have to allow their female citizens access in other states, and likely pay all associated costs, including travel (i.e., equal protection).
- 2. Affirmative Action.** I believe public pressure on businesses to hire 'color blind' is a better way to advance qualified minorities, as with making it easier for the Commerce Department to prosecute EEOC violations (which, at present, is harder to prove than it needs to be).
- 3. Affordable College.** Because of its importance to our economic future, government has a legitimate interest in finding ways to make colleges more affordable and competitive. On a local or state level, community colleges, and even 'free' college is fully their right to decide.
- 4. Balanced Budget, National Debt & Deficit Reduction.** A balanced federal budget would be ideal, but with \$19 trillion in debt (and counting), it's more practical to aspire to find ways to reduce our debt, over time.
- 5. Bureaucracy.** Public servants are under-appreciated heroes. Though Dr. Do-little types may be few and far between, government should not have any. It is not good to America, nor is it fair to taxpayers. Give any identified as such time to self-reform, then fire them after adequate due process rights are provided, if they cannot break bad habits (i.e., unfriendly, anal-retentive enforcement of trivial laws, slow-paced, entitlement mentality, etc.).
- 6. Crime, Law & Order & Police Brutality.** Any and all morally good criminal laws should be enforced to the full and fair extent of the law. This does not require a police state or Marshall law, but crime should always be on the decline (while never abusing criminal's legal rights, as with their right to just sentences and no police abuse, etc.)
- 7. Death (Estate) Taxes.** Though nest eggs are usually legally earned, as with every business transaction, government (on behalf of society as a whole) has a right to their fair share of such transfers of property ownership. It is not good public policy to allow families to indefinitely hoard all their excess (nor is that providing a level playing field to those without such inheritances).
- 8. Drug Wars, Illegal Drugs & Opioid Epidemic.** On a state by state basis, I do not oppose legalizing safe marijuana (especially for medical uses). At the same time, such users would need to inhale responsibly vs. abuse (Ex.: if susceptible to it serving as a gateway drug, such people should avoid it entirely). Stronger drugs need to be ever more vigilantly kept out of U.S. citizens' hands and our nation. Government needs to research how many opioid abusers have no access to healthcare to rehab out of such addictions (**See also:** Healthcare).
- 9. Education, Social Promotion & Vouchers/School Choice.** U.S. education needs to be top tier, world class, and all obstacles to that end should be brought down, using every resource and creative solution available. Social promotion harms the student (in the real world), and vouchers unfairly benefit the rich (who can more easily pay the difference between its amount and private tuition's usual—high—costs). If a struggling school cannot show reasonable improvement in 1-3 years, nearby parents should be given the option to send their kids to better, nearby schools. I am not for private schools ending the historically respected (though needing revamping) public school system.

## **10. Energy Independence, Climate Change, Pollution, Sustainability & Green Living/Ecology-**

**Environment.** Full energy independence lessens America's stabilizing influence in often war-torn regions. Using up all natural resources before having a plan for what's next is also irresponsible. Green energy for health purposes (if not climate change amelioration) should be our future's focus, though oil and oil derivatives will always be needed.

**11. Equal Pay.** Women whose productivity and quality matches that of a male should be equally paid, with zero discrimination against them for becoming mothers anytime during that process. Businesses deciding to make this their policy is the better route, but continuing to allow the gender wage disparity is intolerable. Employed males will not give up any earned wages, but employers and H.R. departments need to start enforcing this principle in all future hirings.

**12. Family Leave.** If state governments choose to subsidize such time off, it would better remain at that level, than national, and businesses are best able to decide how much time to offer employees for time with their newborn children.

**13. Flat Tax & Consumption Tax.** I oppose the flat tax, as it is an unfair burden on the poor. Everyone needs basic essentials, and this is an attempt to lessen the rich's tax bill, while the poor do not equally sacrifice when they are treated exactly the same as rich people, through this tax scheme.

**14. Free Speech, Hate Speech, & Hate Crimes.** Free speech is an American moray and tradition, legally, but morally, our nation also needs moral citizens, who self-refrain from hateful speech (and, especially, hateful deeds). Hate crime laws may have merit, but intent (i.e., what's in a criminal's mind, at the time) is hard to prove.

**15. Free Trade, Fair Trade, & Protectionism.** I am for free trade, but not for any nations' businesses taking unfair advantage over others. What's 'fair' is freely negotiated, if trade deals exist between nations, but exploitation and abuses only engender ill will toward the offending nation, which is not in the medium- or long-term best interests of America. I am all for putting the American economy first, but that aim would never be realized by withdrawing from our interconnected global economy

**16. Gangs.** Freedom of association is not freedom of criminal enterprise (or RICO violations). Better economic opportunities, safer drug transactions and zero tolerance for violence are necessary.

**17. Gay Marriage.** It is the law of the land. Pastors should not be forced to conduct weddings, and business owners with a religious objection should not be forced to cater gay weddings, if and only if a similar business exists within ten miles.

**18. Gun Control & the Right to Bear Arms.** The government should never take a citizen's guns, but registering them, ensuring they've taken safe usage and storage courses, and are bought legally (i.e., not on the black market vs. legal gun show or online purchases) are beneficial.

**19. Homelessness.** If a person is deemed mentally sane and legally competent, and they choose to remain homeless, society cannot help them (beyond present government and charitable acts). At the same time, if local and/or state governments decide to implement programs to improve their lives and make them self-sustaining, let the people decide (as everything costs money—taxpayer money).

**20. Human Trafficking.** To the fullest extent of the law and its enforcement, this modern form of slavery should also be abolished from within our (and every) society.

**21. Immigration, Amnesty, Dreamers & Closed borders.** Illegal aliens should go to the back of the line, in terms of citizenship considerations, and pay back taxes and any safety net resources used. The only people who should be deported are recent violators—never disrupting established lives. Dreamers should have a path to citizenship—they (vs. their parents) did nothing wrong. Our borders should be 100 percent under our own control, through technology and needed manpower—not by a wall that is unsightly and can be breached in many ways (and that Mexico will never pay for).

- 22. Hacking, Internet Viruses & Identity Theft.** Government and private business should be working full force to curb and, ideally, eliminate these heinous and illegal practices.
- 23. Lobbyists, Special Interests, Pork Barrel Projects, Political Action Committees, & Campaign Finance Reform.** Lobbyists have too much influence on politicians, and the need for money is too all-consuming for politicians seeking re-election. Any and all laws and other enforcement tools need to come to bear to remedy this problem, so that the voice of the people is never drowned out by the voice of the dollar bill. Special interests have a right for their voices to be heard, but all interactions with politicians need to be transparent, and all perks and gifts fully revealed, and done legally. Relatedly, as important to the U.S. economy as Wall Street is, Main Street is equally important (in God's eyes).
- 24. Healthcare, Medical Research, Medicaid & Medicare.** All American citizens should have access to at least a minimum level of healthcare. Poor people should get that minimum level, only in exchange for token civic service repayment. That is only fair to tax payers who are not their employers or family. The middle and upper classes should never be forced to take lower quality care under a universal healthcare plan. Current levels of medical research are never enough, but unless and until our economy grows, current spending levels should be maintained, at least until majority public sentiment changes (and current efforts streamlined to prevent redundancy). Businesses, as well, should be incentivized to design drugs and other tools to eliminate as many diseases as possible. All fraud, waste and abuse in the Medicaid system should be eliminated, and Medicare has likely over-promised what those who have paid in can expect to take out, given our government's current debt and financial condition.
- 25. Minimum Wage.** As an economy does well, executives and shareholders should not be the only ones for whom the tide rises. \$15 an hour (except in places where the cost of living is high) is too much, but our economy is doing well enough that stagnant wages in the working class should be aided by some increase in the minimum wage.
- 26. NASA.** I am a huge, life-long fan of NASA. However, unless legitimate economic or scientific payback can be proved, where the benefits outweigh the costs, NASA should not receive increased funding, and should be evaluated for how current tax dollars are spent.
- 27. National Defense, Preemptive Strikes, Military Spending, War & War Strategy.** Diplomacy and economic sanctions are always preferable first steps to war and military conflict. However, America has a right to defend herself, including preemptive strikes with actionable intel in the national interest. If and when America goes to war, we should always be in it to win in—nothing less. Technology should be maximized to minimize casualties and collateral damage, where available/reasonable. Current spending levels seem adequate, but, as with every government department, best bang for the buck and effective streamlining are always in order.
- 28. Obesity Epidemic.** Any and everything government can do to lessen this problems should be undertaken, especially in the public school system, where government exercises the most control over their exercise and unhealthy food choices. At the same time, calorie police should not control all bad eating decisions, but mandatory P.E. should be reinstated everywhere in the public school system.
- 29. Original Intent/Strict Constructionism vs. Judicial Activism.** Judges should not make, but interpret laws. If laws are bad, legislatures should fix them—that's what they're paid to do. I oppose politicizing any and all judiciaries.
- 30. Outsourcing.** Outsourcing has been over-done. Some in the lower class is only recently waking up to this fact, though many formerly in manufacturing and in the 'Rust belt' have known this for decades. Though most such jobs are gone for good, anything government can do to make these industries more competitive in America would be in our nation's (and its people's) best interest.

- 31. Partisanship & Gridlock.** I oppose Kumbaya unity between the two parties, as they both serve a rightful checks and balance function, but abusing that concept to perennial gridlock is an even greater problem for the good of America.
- 32. Poverty.** Government, businesses, churches, charities and even individuals should do what they can to make sure all poor Americans get the right tools (i.e., education and in demand job skills) to live self-sustaining, and as successfully as those skills allow.
- 33. Public Arts.** Most people enjoy art, as a positive influence and diversion from life's many ills. However, with an economy that is not booming/humming, art is a luxury, vs. necessity, and current spending levels should not be increased, unless an economic benefit exceeding the cost can be proven/justified.
- 34. Racial Profiling.** I fully oppose racial profiling. However, I do not believe police should ignore accurate suspect information that details identifying features, including race, clothes, weight, height, gender, etc., as that would be ludicrous. Also, any statistical data showing certain crimes as more prevalent in any particular group should never cause any suspicion of any members of that group, absent evidence.
- 35. Prison & Jail Over-Crowding, Sentencing Justice & Standardization.** Once sentencing reform is implemented, not always incarcerating every drug crime participant or non-violent offenders, if U.S.A. suffers a large rise in criminal activity, I suppose more detention centers would be needed. Creative sentencing options are sometimes beneficial, and should also be explored (i.e., rehabilitation vs. just punishment). As much as is possible, same exact crimes should have same exact sentences across the land. However, states vary in their degree of commitment to punishment and deterrence, and those local peculiarities will likely never be ameliorated.
- 36. Social Security.** Social Security is quickly going bankrupt. No politician seems to be saying this, recently, but it needs to be buttressed (by a higher qualifying age and lower payouts), and our youth (i.e., people under age 30) encouraged to invest for their future—early on—as the probe may not be well fixed, in the long run.
- 37. Spousal Abuse.** Any and everything government can do to minimize these evil occurrences should be done, including education, police taking all reports seriously, etc.
- 38. Suicide.** Any and everything government can do to discourage suicides, and encourage proper mental health should be done. It is always a bad decision to make, no matter your circumstances.
- 39. Three Strikes Laws.** If there are instances where minor violations cumulate to an unfair stigmatizing and sentencing, those injustices should be remedied. However, in other cases, this policy's intent is to lessen repeat criminality (i.e., recidivism)
- 40. Taxes, Tax Cheats & Tax Loopholes.** Every tax payer should pay what the law intended them to pay. Loopholes should be eliminated, as with ways to cheat the government and not get caught. If you feel you are paying too much, lobby to have tax law changed in your favor—not by self-help or breaking our laws.
- 41. Term Limits.** Though I seriously appreciate the intention (i.e., getting rid of all bums—and there are often many), America loses experience, and much expense in time and money is wasted having too many green politicians in government, as a result.
- 42. Terrorism & Torture.** I oppose terrorism, but water boarding may not fit that definition. All terrorists who can't be rehabilitated (a majority, if not all) should be killed, before they seek to target you. Methods to persuade groups which empower and instill such thought in youth need to also be addressed, in the longer-term.

**43. The United Nations.** The U.N. could be used to do a lot of good in the world, but some nations abusing their rules to have negative influences to such being achieved have caused the organization to need a revamping.

**44. Unions.** There is nothing innately evil about unions, and when they conduct themselves properly (vs. violence, etc.) they can help workers who feel less able to negotiate their own best employment terms and conditions.

**45. Urban Development.** ‘Locals’ are in the best position to decide when enough is enough, or the landscapes they cherish are endangered by economic growth. However, if any local majority is so swayed that nature’s irreplaceable sceneries are worth destroying, for profit, the matter becomes a national interest.

**46. Veteran Affairs.** Our vets and active service members are America’s freedom. We owe them more than a mere debt of gratitude. All reasonable solutions to any medical crises they face at VA offices should get fixed, while with the understanding that Uncle Sam cannot address every want, as he has no money tree.

**47. Voter Fraud.** Any and all such violations should be stopped, using technology and personnel, as it is unfair to law-abiding voters and whichever party, or parties, did not engage in such. This fraud prevention extends to any and all outside the United States interferences.

**48. Wealth Re-Distribution.** A small amount of wealth redistribution to end severe suffering, is not immoral. Selfish hoarding excess and money idolatry are behind those who oppose any government help of people already maximizing their employment skills. In the medium-term, all poor people need to be enabled to be financially self-sustaining, as a hand-up is preferred to permanent hand-outs and entitlement thinking.

**49. Weaponizing Space/Star Wars.** To the extent needed, and financially feasible, America should always retain the technological upper hand in being able to fend off any and all attacks on ourselves and our allies, anywhere in the world.

**50. World’s Policeman.** American does not want or have to play this role, but unless and until other nations pay their fair share in manpower and money, only when in our national interests, we will always have to lead in this activity.

**Etc.**

## PLEDGER VICTORY EVIDENCE

### Generally.

The largest party in America, by the way, is neither the Democrats nor the Republicans.  
It's the party of non-voters. **-Robert Reich**

It is now accepted that independent voters make up about 30 percent of the American electorate, and with every new election they're proving to be a powerful swing vote. In a 2010 Gallup poll to determine the ideological makeup of the country, people identifying themselves moderates were within five percentage points of the conservative block.

**-Tom Brokaw** [The Time of Our Lives, pp. 17-18 (Random House: New York), 2011]

If the United States were one congressional district, it would be  
35 percent Independent, 33 percent Democrat, and 32 percent Republican.  
[The Two Percent Solution, by Matthew Miller (PublicAffairs: NYC), 2005]

## THE PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN 20/20: A PERSONAL PLEA

Do the right thing. It will gratify some people and astonish the rest. **–Mark Twain**

It's time to replace career politicians with citizen's politicians.  
It's time to elect people who are going to stand up to the Washington elite...

**–Christine O'Donnell**

I am not a politician and my other habits are good also. **–Artemis Ward**

I will prepare and someday my chance will come. **–Abraham Lincoln**

We need a candidate who runs on law and order and common sense.

**–Michael Savage** (5/15/14)

I cannot tell a lie. **–George Washington**

I think I had the lowest net worth of any American president in the 20th Century  
when I took office. **–Bill Clinton**

So for me, at least, the lack of wealth or corporate support wasn't a barrier to victory.

**–President Obama**

If there is anything that a man can do well, I say let him do it.

Give him a chance. **–Abraham Lincoln**

I hope someone comes along who catches fire. **–Dr. Ben Carson**

It always seems impossible until it's done. **–Nelson Mandela**

### Introduction.

Frank Lunce once said that the top two things the American people want in a politician is someone who *says what they mean and means what they say*, and someone of uncompromising integrity, to which Sean Hannity replied, 'they have to *rule by common sense* (3/2/11). You have to have a Northern Star.' (*paraphrased*). NBC's Today Show once said, "Authenticity is what the American public is looking for." (10/5/11) It's like they had already read our book, *Dumb as a Donkey, Fat as an Elephant*, and what it calls for from *all* our leaders.

Because of my love for country and sincere belief in the positions expressed in this book, I am willing to implement these common sense and moral policies (which would also bless the world), as a Democrat candidate for president. This is no ego trip. One person can do little to change Washington's bad habits, but we voters can elect enough like-minded Congresspersons to have the numbers to restrain both parties' extremes and errant policies.

My convictions are so firm about our three politic book's vision for America, that if I ever significantly deviated from its principles, I would welcome public censure, and ultimately resignation. *No one making the claims and criticisms voiced in this book could be taken seriously if they were not willing to subject themselves to the same scrutiny as a political candidate*, so I offer my services as a *true* servant of the public. If America finally hits rock bottom with its frustration with status quo Washington, I hope you will vote for myself, as our ideas (which were clear by 2020—a year symbolizing our seeing with all the clarity that date symbolizes) truly trump all others.

### Campaign Goals.

- ◆ Do the Top 12 Priorities, and the Three Plans, bi-partisanly.
- ◆ Seek to run an inexpensive a campaign as possible (Ex.: The "social media candidacy").

### Personal Pledges.

- ◆ I would only support implementing things the majority of the people want or, more importantly, need, within moral boundaries and a reasonable budget, and set principles over party or personal gain. If I were ever elected, you are welcome to keep a video camera on my every move—I am *not* afraid to have my public actions under intense scrutiny, because I try to keep a clean conscience in my decisions.
- ◆ As I've done all my adult life, I would promise to not lie to you and to tell the truth and facts (as I know them), though I would not tell personal, top secret or confidential information. The American people deserve to know the truth, whether it be positive or negative (cautiously presented if the content is drastic). I wouldn't sidestep any on-the-spot issue if I'm sufficiently informed on the latest facts of the situation.
- ◆ Possibly for the first time in history, you could be a part of directly impacting federal legislation by going to our blog to suggest credible solutions to America's problems (especially based on actual programs that have worked), as *no one* has a monopoly on common sense solutions.
- ◆ With a background like mine (Ex.: my 'religious' website), I would happily agree to make no religious statements until after I resign from politics (or only on Sundays). No one wants public servants trying to encourage anyone toward their religion.

### **Party Affiliation.**

Since the day of Trump's election, this author has been dedicated to running as a Democrat (though previously a lifelong Republican), because party label is not nearly as important as getting sound policies *implemented*, and my policies would not have varied in either party. Under our current system, you have to be one or the other, if you want to win!

### **Personal Qualifications & Experience.**

Mr. Meroney is a true Renaissance man—a Lawyer, prolific Author, Management Consultant, Minister and College Professor. JD, MBA, M.Div., BBA. We respect and vote for candidates who are veterans (have fought, militarily), lawyers (who have fought intellectually), famous people (who have done something extraordinary) and CEO's (who have fought their way up the corporate business ladder). I have fought as a lawyer, business man and been fighting the good fight for over 30 years of dealing with the top priorities of life, and changing obstacles to their implementation (**See:** Church Conflicts on YouTube and my other website). Most importantly, I have always striven to do whatever the Lord's will was in all endeavors, including my career.

It's time we vote for candidates who have a track-record of frugal living and knowing the value of a dollar, as a predictor for how they'll spend *our* money. Honesty is this political hopeful's number one character trait, may I say humbly—unbiased and wanting good for the world.

For any candidacy, I would crave the conservative Protestant church's vote, but not at the expense of calling them to their top priorities (as my other website does). How stupid would an aspiring politician be to turn off, anger or /offend (i.e., distance himself) from the very people whose votes he needs and seeks? Only one more committed to faithfully pursuing just solutions than hiding the facts, because he trusts that there might be others of like mind, if not only our Lord. For this reason alone running as a conservative Democrat—an anomaly—may be more efficacious.

### **Personal Positions.**

This author is an independent thinker, radically in the mainstream majority—fiscally conservative and socially moderate. So where do I stand on the two parties' strengths and weaknesses?

### **Where I Agree With Democrats:**

Help the poor, government can do good things (people won't fully or naturally solve on their own), business, the rich and any greedy need restraint (as they won't stop their compulsion on their own, and it hurts society as a whole), consider and help other countries vs. just ourselves or our country alone. Consider taxing churches run like a business. For compulsory community service. No other way people help their society in our selfless lives. For the progressive tax. The rich can afford to pay more, and have the privilege of making money in our society. Believe in the minimum wage. For bank regulation. (Abuses hurt families). For solving global social problems (if and when we can afford it). Agree America has done some bad things in the world that contribute to anti-Americanism. Believe unions/workers should be treated fairly (equal with management). For healthcare for all, but *not* for free.

### **Where I Agree With Republicans:**

Close our borders to illegal aliens vs. legal immigrants. Streamline the federal budget; pro-death penalty in the right circumstances. Support our military to win, when engaged. Though my background favors management, believe they are only to be equal with (fair treatment) workers/unions. Wealth should not be capped or limited (though tax percentages should enlarge, the more you earn), etc.

### **Where I Disagree With Both Parties:**

Claiming to want bi-partisanship, but deeds disprove it. Self-promotion, party loyalty at all costs, mudslinging, misleading ads, influenced by PACs, wasting tax payer money, bringing home pork (under the argument if I don't, voters aren't being served and other states will take it), etc.

### **Possible Slogans & Mottos.**

- ◆ Do the right thing.
- ◆ Solve problems and do good, within budget.
- ◆ The truth campaign and/or the people's movement.

### **Challenge & Appeal.**

You may vote for someone with better slogans and more fame, but you will not vote for someone with more practical or needed solutions. Make your political heroes implement them—I don't care that my ego must be one of the ones actually implementing them. Just 'get 'er dun!'

### **Critic Questions.**

#### **1. What Have You Accomplished?**

**Answer:** By God's grace, over the past six years I have significantly changes U.S. Christianity and presidential politics, through VIP's watching us write our latest political book live online. What haven't I done? (joke). I've done, to His credit, exactly what my Lord called me to do (especially handling problems much more important than mere political ones, evidenced in 'Church Conflicts' at WillYouLiveForever.org)—multiple books, and Ernst & Young Management Consultant, Lawyer, sales, primarily a minister, teacher and author—all jobs based on their providing me the time to complete these books (while supporting my family). I have a track record of honesty and doing what I say I will, and our multiple books demonstrate innovative thinking for *better* ways of doing things (and a perspective and moral-sensitivity not commonly found in American politics).

#### **2. Why Vote for You?**

**Answer:**

- We have been used of God to change both American Christianity & politics

- We are the source of most of the good ideas Trump adopted; NOT his bad behaviors (yes, he steals)
- We are the source of many news-making events the past 6+ years
- We provide justice, balance, common sense, & the solution to the gridlock & dysfunction of
- We appeal to the mainstream majority middle, to lessen the impact of both sides' extremes
- We have been known about by many if not most VIPs, and most major media organizations, for years
- We helped turn the one church we directly worked on, into one of the most biblical, and the fastest growing church
- We are the reason Bloomberg & Schultz launched their Presidential runs Washington
- We have documented accurate predictions, and more evidence of innovation skills than anyone
- **In short, we have better political solutions than anyone running, period, by the grace of God alone**

Our three political books provided you many ideas—hopefully deemed to be good—and I would be one of the more rare, *non-lying* politicians. This is not a contradiction in terms but a welcome change and breath of fresh air. With a class of Pledged Congress persons, we *would* get the job done for the American people in ways the two parties themselves seem incapable of doing.

### **Disclaimers & Apologies.**

- ◆ This political hopeful certainly has his moral failures. Fortunately, God uses imperfect people—it's all He has to work with.