



2016 PARTY PLATFORM COMPARISON



REPUBLICAN	ISSUE	DEMOCRAT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Proud to be the party that protects human life and offers real solutions for women” and “strongly oppose[s] infanticide.” Supports the following: the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act; a human life constitutional amendment; a ban on abortion at 20 weeks, when unborn babies can feel pain; a ban on abortion based on sex or disability; a ban on dismemberment abortion “in which unborn babies are literally torn apart limb from limb”; abortion clinic safety regulations; a ban on human cloning, and creating or experimenting upon human embryos, including three-parent embryos; a ban on any sale of fetal body parts; and a ban on the “use of public funds to perform or promote abortion or to fund organizations, like Planned Parenthood.” 	<p>Sanctity of Human Life</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calls for “repealing the Hyde Amendment” to allow the government to fund abortion. • Will “overturn—federal and state laws and policies that impede a woman’s access to abortion” • “We believe unequivocally that every woman should have access to ... safe and legal abortion—regardless of where she lives, how much money she makes, or how she is insured.” • “We will continue to stand up to Republican efforts to defund Planned Parenthood health centers”
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The American family... is the foundation of civil society, and the cornerstone of the family is natural marriage, the union of one man and one woman.” • “We condemn the Supreme Court’s ruling in ... <i>Obergefell v. Hodges</i>” and “we urge its reversal, whether through judicial reconsideration or a constitutional amendment returning control over marriage to the states.” 	<p>Redefining Marriage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the Court’s ruling in <i>Obergefell</i> “that recognized LGBT people ... have the right to marry the person they love.”
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Strongly support[s] the freedom of Americans to act in accordance with their religious beliefs, not only in their houses of worship, but also in their everyday lives.” • “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 urge repeal of the Johnson Amendment.” 	<p>Religious Liberty vs. LGBT Agenda</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “We support a progressive vision of religious freedom that respects pluralism and rejects the misuse of religion to discriminate.” • “Democrats will fight for comprehensive federal non-discrimination protections for all LGBT Americans” to “end discrimination on the basis of ... gender, sexual orientation, gender identity.”
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the conscience rights of doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and health care plans that do not want to participate in morally objectionable services like abortion. • Supports “the right of parents to determine the proper medical treatment and therapy for their minor children.” 	<p>Conscience Rights in Healthcare</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the HHS “no-cost contraception” mandate and the Obama administration redefinition of “sex discrimination” to include sexual orientation and gender identity.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “If God-given, natural, inalienable rights come in conflict with government, court, or human-granted rights, God-given, natural, inalienable rights always prevail.” • “We support the public display of the Ten Commandments as a reflection of our history and our country’s Judeo-Christian heritage.” 	<p>God in Government</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not addressed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “We support the appointment of judges who respect traditional family values and the sanctity of innocent human life.” • Seeks to “enable courts to begin to reverse the long line of activist decisions—including <i>Roe</i>, <i>Obergefell</i>, and the <i>Obamacare</i> cases.” 	<p>Supreme Court</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will “appoint judges who defend the constitutional principles of liberty and equality for all, protect a woman’s right to safe and legal abortion ... and see the Constitution as a blueprint for progress.”





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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will “fight for school choice” and “local control” • Recognizes that “parents,” not the government, “are a child’s first and foremost educators.” • Supports home-schooling, private or parochial schools, vouchers, and tuition tax credits, etc. • Encourages teaching the Bible as an elective in public schools. 	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “We believe a strong public education system is an anchor of our democracy” for “all children.” • Does not address school choice.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports “sexual risk avoidance education that sets abstinence until marriage as the responsible and respected standard of behavior.” 	Sex Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognizes that “affordable comprehensive health care, evidence-based sex education and a full range of family planning” reduce “unintended pregnancies” and “abortions.”
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opposes the Obama administration’s Title IX transgender bathroom edict, since it is “at once illegal, dangerous, and ignores privacy issues,” and “impose[s] a social and cultural revolution upon the American people by wrongly redefining sex discrimination to include sexual orientation or other categories.” 	Transgender Bathrooms in Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the Obama administration’s redefinition of “sex discrimination” in Title IX to mandate transgender bathrooms in public schools through “the continued development of sex discrimination law to cover LGBT people” and “improve school climates”.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “We reject the use of the military as a platform for social experimentation and will not accept or continue attempts to undermine military priorities and mission readiness.” • “Military readiness should not be sacrificed on the altar of political correctness.” • “Support[s] the religious freedom of all military members, especially chaplains, and will not tolerate attempts to ban Bibles or religious symbols from military facilities.” • Opposes the “Selective Service registration of women for a possible future draft.” 	Social Experiments in the Military	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the “repeal of Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” • Claims “our military is strongest” when it includes “people of all ... sexual orientations and gender identities,” • Include elective abortion coverage in veterans benefits.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opposes the federal government funding abortion overseas and calls for restoring the Mexico City Policy, to prevent federal money from going to NGOs which “provide or promote abortion,” or are complicit in China’s one-child policy. • Condemns the Obama administration for “impos[ing] on foreign recipients, especially the peoples of Africa, its own radical social agenda while excluding faith-based groups.” 	International Abortion and LGBT Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calls for “repeal of harmful restrictions that obstruct women’s access to health care” including “the Helms Amendment” that bars American funding “to provide, safe, legal abortion throughout the developing world.” • Will “ensure America’s foreign policy is inclusive of LGBT people around the world ... including combating efforts by any nation to infringe on LGBT rights or ignore abuse.”
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Radical Islamic terrorism poses an existential threat to personal freedom and peace around the world. We oppose its brutal assault on all human beings, all of whom have inherent dignity.” 	On Terrorism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Believes in “defeating terrorism.”

