### Trump vs. Biden

#### Where They Stand on Every Key Issue

By John Perazzo October 30, 2020

Published by <u>DiscoverTheNetworks.org</u>

A project of the David Horowitz Freedom Center

#### **Table of Contents**

- Abortion
- Criminal Justice
- Democrat Support for Radical Islam
- Democrat Support for Slavery Reparations
- Democrats' Close Ties to Al Sharpton
- Democratic Party and Black Lives Matter
- Democrats' Plan to Eliminate the Suburbs
- Democrats Aim to Eliminate the Electoral College
- Democrats "Packing the Senate"
- Democrats' Long Record of Failure
- Economy
- Education
- Environment & Energy
- Guns & the Second Amendment
- Health Care
- Immigration, Asylum, & Refugee Policy
- Iran Nuclear Deal
- Israel
- Love of Country
- National Defense
- Supreme Court
- Terrorism / Defeating ISIS
- Trump & China
- Trump & Russia
- Trump's Historic Peace Agreements
- Trump's Leadership Through the Coronavirus Crisis
- Voting Rights

#### **Trump & Republicans**

#### **Abortion**

(Return to Table of Contents)

Trump was the first sitting U.S. President to speak at the annual March for Life. He spoke again at the March for Life rallies in 2019 and 2020.

"Right <u>now</u>, in a number of states, the laws allow a baby to be [torn] from his or her mother's womb in the ninth month. It is wrong; it has to change.... [W]e have just issued a new proposal to protect conscience rights and religious freedoms of doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals."

### Criminal Justice (Return to Table of Contents)

#### Trump Signs The First Step Act In 2018, Trump <u>signed</u> The First Step Act,

#### **Biden & Democrats**

#### **Abortion**

(Return to Table of Contents)

"Restore federal funding for Planned Parenthood."

Joe Biden <u>supports</u> abortion "under any circumstance."

#### **Opposed to the Hyde Amendment**

Biden & Democrats vow to "repeal the Hyde Amendment," which bars the use of public money to fund abortions. Biden says the Hyde Amendment "can't stay" because "times have changed."

#### **Support for Infanticide**

In 2019, NY Governor Andrew Cuomo <u>signed</u> a law which <u>allows</u> abortions at any point in a pregnancy and permits <u>infanticide</u> by repealing protections for babies that initially <u>survive</u> an abortion procedure.

Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo signed a similar bill in her state.

Virginia legislator Kathy Tran <u>proposed</u> a similar <u>bill</u>, which Governor Ralph Northam <u>supported</u>.

Former Democrat presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg has <u>said</u> that in cases of unsuccessful abortions, "it should be up to the woman" to decide whether or not to end the life of the infant.

### Criminal Justice (Return to Table of Contents)

#### **Low Regard for Police**

Joe Biden says there is "absolutely" systemic

which put in place numerous key protections and benefits for prisoners — of whom a disproportionate share are black and Hispanic.

### Trump's Great Respect for, and from, the Police

Early in his presidency, Trump told a gathering of officers: "I will always support the incredible men and women of law enforcement as much as you have always supported me."

America's major police organizations have <u>unanimously</u> voiced their support for Trump in the 2020 election. These <u>include</u> such <u>notables</u> as the National Association of Police Officers, the Fraternal Order of Police, and the International Union of Police Associations.

racism in law-enforcement.

Kamala Harris <u>says</u> "we do have two systems of justice in America."

#### **No Prison for Drug Crimes**

"No one should be in prison solely because they use <u>drugs</u>," thus "Democrats will decriminalize marijuana use.... All past criminal convictions for cannabis use should be automatically expunged."

Biden says "<u>nobody</u> should be in jail for a nonviolent crime" or "for a <u>drug</u> problem."

#### **Abolish the Death Penalty**

"Democrats continue to support <u>abolishing</u> the death penalty."

#### **End the Cash Bail System**

"Democrats support eliminating the use of cash <u>bail</u> and believe no one should be imprisoned merely for failing to pay fines or fees."

Biden <u>says</u>: "Cash bail is the modern-day debtor's prison."

Analysis: Ending the cash-bail system would allow most criminal suspects charged with misdemeanors and nonviolent felonies to walk free without having to post bail — regardless of their criminal history.

#### **Protect Deportable Criminal Aliens**

Democrats seek to make it more difficult to deport criminals who are in the U.S. illegally.

The New Way Forward Act, which in 2019 was co-sponsored by 45 House Democrats, said that no illegal alien could be deported unless he had committed a crime punishable by at least *five* full years in prison. And any criminal aliens deported since 1996, who might not have been deported under this new standard, could return to the U.S. — at taxpayer expense — to have their cases reconsidered.

#### **Defund the Police**

At least 13 Democrat-run cities voted to defund their police departments to varying degrees.

### **Democrat Support for Radical Islam** (Return to Table of Contents)

In 2019, more than 120 Democratic <u>members</u> of Congress sent letters to the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) — a Muslim Brotherhood-linked, Hamas-linked organization — "welcoming" their upcoming 25th anniversary gala.

### **Democrat Support for Slavery Reparations**

(Return to Table of Contents)

In January 2019, Democrat Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee <u>introduced</u> legislation designed to address, by means of reparations payments, the "lingering negative effects of slavery on living African Americans and society." The bill had 125 co-sponsors, all Democrats.

The Biden campaign says the U.S. should "gather the data necessary to have an informed conversation about <u>reparations.</u>"

Kamala Harris <u>says</u> "we need to study the effects of generations of discrimination and institutional racism and determine what can be done ... to correct course."

Nancy Pelosi calls for "an <u>open</u> mind and full participation of the public in that discussion."

The Democratic Party Platform says: "We... will establish a national <u>commission</u> to examine the lasting economic effects of slavery."

#### Democrats' Close Ties to Al Sharpton

(Return to Table of Contents)

For more than 40 years, <u>Al Sharpton</u> has been a highly prominent racist, black supremacist, and Jew-hater.

Joe Biden calls Sharpton "a champion in the fight for civil rights." Biden speaks to Sharpton on a regular basis, and Sharpton advised him on whom to pick as a vice presidential running mate.

Kamala Harris <u>lauds</u> Sharpton as a "<u>friend</u>" who "has spent his life fighting for what's right."

Senator Elizabeth Warren says that Sharpton "has <u>dedicated</u> his life to the fight for justice for all."

In 2018, Nancy Pelosi said: "Reverend Sharpton, <u>thank</u> you for saving America."

Barack Obama has called Sharpton "a <u>voice</u> for the voiceless and ... dispossessed," and a man whose work "is so important to change America." Records <u>show</u> that Sharpton visited the White House <u>118 times</u> during the Obama administration.

#### Democratic Party and Black Lives Matter (Return to Table of Contents)

Black Lives Matter (BLM) is a violent organization that views America as a racist cesspool, and has been involved in 95 percent of all the destructive riots that have erupted across the United States in 2020. BLM is openly Marxist. It calls for the destruction of the "nuclear family." It is anti-Semitic, supporting the Hamas-inspired Boycott, Divestment & Sanctions (BDS) movement that seeks to destroy the state of Israel. And BLM's principal heroine is Assata Shakur, the lifelong revolutionary Marxist, convicted copkiller, and longtime fugitive who was a

member of the murderous Black Panther Party and the Black Liberation Army.

In August <u>2015</u>, the Democratic National Committee approved a <u>resolution</u> explicitly "<u>affirming</u>" BLM and its mission.

BLM activists <u>visited</u> President Obama in the White House many times. Obama praised them for "making history," and voiced his confidence that they "are going to take America to new heights." Obama also <u>likened</u> BLM to the abolition, suffrage, and civil rights movements of yesteryear, calling them "part of that longstanding tradition."

At the Democratic Convention in 2020, Obama told BLM activists that "you are this country's dreams <u>fulfilled</u>," "you can give our democracy new meaning," "you can take it to a better place," and "you're ... the ones who will decide whether or not America becomes the country that fully lives up to its creed."

Kamala Harris\_describes BLM and its allies as "a new coalition of conscience."

## Democrats' Plan to Eliminate the Suburbs (Return to Table of Contents)

The AFFH rule was mostly gutted by the Trump administration soon after Trump took office in 2017. In July 2020, the president officially repealed what was left of the AFFH. As Trump tweeted at the time: "I have rescinded the Obama-Biden AFFH Rule."

Joe Biden and the Democrats, however, would reinstitute it.

### Democrats' Plan to Eliminate the Suburbs

(Return to Table of Contents)

Democrats vow to "vigorously <u>enforce</u> the ... Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing [AFFH] rule."

Stanley Kurtz, a Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center, says AFFH aims to empower cities "to annex their surrounding suburbs." When Obama-Biden first began to implement the policy in 2015, Kurtz wrote:

"AFFH obligates any local jurisdiction that receives HUD funding to conduct a detailed analysis of its housing occupancy by race [and] ethnicity.... [If certain suburbs' diversity is less than that of their neighboring cities],

those suburbs could be obligated to nullify their zoning ordinances and build high-density, low-income housing at their own expense. [They] would have to direct advertising to potential minority occupants in the [neighboring urban] region.... Suburbs will literally be forced to import population from elsewhere, at their own expense and in violation of their own laws.... In effect, they will become more like the cities their residents chose to leave in the first place."

This policy will tend to shift people who are mostly Democrats, from the cities to the suburbs. This will increase the number of majority-Democrat suburbs and Congressional Districts.

# Democrats Aim to Eliminate the Electoral College (Return to Table of Contents)

Kamala Harris has stated that she is "open to the discussion" of abolishing the Electoral College.

Senator Elizabeth Warren says: "It's <u>time</u> to elect presidents with a national popular vote, and that means getting rid of the Electoral College."

Democrat Rep. Adam Schiff says, "I would <u>favor</u> doing away with the Electoral College system."

### Democrats "Packing the Senate" (Return to Table of Contents)

Leading Democrats say they would like to create two new U.S. states — Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico — so as to gain 4 additional, guaranteed seats in the Senate.

The 2020 Democratic Party Platform openly declares that one of its objectives is: "making

Washington, D.C. the 51st State."

Senator Charles Schumer says "everything is on the table" if Democrats win a majority of the Senate, including eliminating the Senate filibuster rule, increasing the number of Supreme Court Justices, and adding four new senators and two new states. "I would ...love to make [D.C. and Puerto Rico] states. And as for the filibuster, I'm not busting my chops to become majority leader to do very little or nothing. We are going to get a whole lot done, and as I've said, everything, everything is on the table."

#### **Democrats' Long Record of Failure** (Return to Table of Contents)

Of the 50 cities that have the highest violent crime rates in the United States, 46 are governed by Democratic mayors and administrations; only 4 are governed by Republicans. Moreover, 42 of the top 43 are governed by Democrats.

Of the 50 cities with the highest poverty rates, 41 are governed by Democrats, and just 9 are governed by Republicans.

#### Economy (Return to Table of Contents)

#### The Disastrous "Community Reinvestment Act"

The Democratic Party Platform states: "We will invest in low-income ... communities of color by strengthening the Community Reinvestment Act [CRA]."

The CRA was enacted with near-unanimous Democrat support in 1977. It required banks to make special efforts to seek out and lend to minority mortgage of meager to modest means. The Clinton administration later transformed the CRA from an outreach effort into a strict quota system where, if a bank failed to approve enough loans to low-income

#### **Economy** (Return to Table of Contents)

#### The Trump Economic Boom

Prior to the coronavirus pandemic, Trump presided over a historic economic boom.

In 2018, the national poverty rate fell to 11.8%, the lowest annual figure since 2001.

In 2019, median household income reached \$65,084 — the highest level ever recorded, and a gain of \$4,144, or 6.8%, since the start of Trump's presidency. During the final 7½ years of Obama's presidency, median household income rose by just \$1,043 (1.7%).

Between January 2017 and August 2019, the

total number of people <u>employed</u> nationwide increased by 6.6 million.

In February 2020, the overall <u>unemployment</u> rate was a mere 3.5%, the lowest figure since December 1969.

The <u>black</u> unemployment rate in August 2019 was 5.4%, an all-time low.

The <u>Hispanic</u> unemployment rate in September 2019 was 3.9%, an all-time low.

The <u>Asian</u> unemployment rate in June 2019 was 2.1%, the lowest level since 2003.

The <u>female</u> unemployment rate reached its lowest level in 65 years.

<u>Youth</u> unemployment reached its lowest level in more than 50 years.

During Trump's first 30 months in office, manufacturing jobs in the U.S. <u>increased</u> by 499,000 — a 4.0% rise. This was the fastest rate of growth in manufacturing since 1988.

During Trump's first 30 months, 6.27 million people discontinued their participation in the food stamps program.

In November 2019, Chase Bank CEO Jamie Dimon said that Trump's economy was "the most <u>prosperous</u> economy the world has ever seen."

#### **Taxes**

Signed into law by Trump on December 22, 2017, the Tax Cut and Jobs Act of 2017 created more than 8,700 separate Opportunity Zones in low-income, economically distressed, mostly-minority communities.

The law <u>reduced</u> 5 of the 7 income tax brackets by between about 3% and 14%, while leaving two brackets unchanged.

It <u>raised</u> the estate tax exemption for single

minorities, it could be penalized severely. Thus, banks had no recourse other than to approve many subprime loans to borrowers with weak credit credentials.

This made the real-estate market a proverbial house of cards. When the indebtedness from unpaid loans reached a critical mass, the ensuing financial crash produced a tidal wave of home foreclosures across the United States.

Notwithstanding the colossal disaster which the CRA inflicted on the American people, and on nonwhite minorities in particular, the Democrats now seek to reinstate it — all in the name of "racial equity."

#### **Taxes**

Asserting that "the wealthiest Americans can shoulder more of the tax burden," Joe Biden and the Democrats pledge to "make sure the wealthy pay their fair share in taxes."

Analysis: The wealthiest Americans already pay a disproportionate share of the nation's taxes. As the Tax Foundation reported in 2018: The top 1% of earners took in 19.7% of all income in 2016, and they paid 37.3% of federal individual income taxes. The bottom 90% combined paid only 30.5% of all income taxes, and the bottom 50% paid only 3% of those taxes.

Condemning Trump for enacting "<u>irresponsible</u>, sugar-high tax cuts," Biden says it is "pure <u>selfishness</u>" for anyone to object to paying higher taxes.

Biden: "When I'm president ... we're going to reverse those Trump tax cuts."

Biden: "Eliminating just a few of the [Trump] tax cuts [would be inadequate]. I'm going to eliminate most all of them."

Biden's proposed tax hikes would total \$4 trillion over 10 years — which would make them the steepest increases in world history.

filers from \$5.6 million to \$11.2 million, a change slated for reversal after 2025.

It <u>reduced</u> the corporate tax rate from 35%, which was nearly the highest rate in the world, to 21%.

Some 500 companies used their tax savings under the Trump tax cuts, to fund bonuses and wage increases for 4.8 million workers.

Trump <u>advocates</u> a reduction in capital gains tax rates as well.

#### **Entitlements & Welfare Benefits**

In 2018, Trump issued an <u>executive order</u> requiring able-bodied adults on food stamps to work, train, or volunteer for at least 20 hours per week.

#### **Clear Rejection of Socialism**

In his 2019 State of the Union address, President Trump <u>said</u>: "Tonight, we renew our resolve that America will never be a socialist country." Republicans stood in thunderous applause.

### Limited Government & Decreased Regulation

Trump has taken unprecedented measures to cut the size and power of government. In January 2017, he signed an executive order that called for the cutting of two regulations for every new regulation proposed. In February 2017, Trump said that "every regulation should have to pass a simple test: Does it make life better or safer for American workers or consumers?"

Curtis Copeland, a former specialist at the Congressional Research Service, said in 2017: "By any empirical measure, it is a level of [deregulation] activity that has never been seen. It is unprecedented."

During the first year of Trump's administration, regulatory activity <u>declined</u> by 74 percent from where it had been during the

The 2020 Democratic Party Platform <u>says</u> that "corporate tax rates, which were cut sharply [from 35% to 21%] by the 2017 Republican tax cut, must be raised," and that "estate taxes should also be raised back to the historical norm."

Regarding the <u>capital gains</u> tax rate, Biden says: "I believe ... we should raise the tax back to 39.6 percent instead of [the current] 20 percent."

#### **Entitlements & Welfare Benefits**

In 2013, Democrats unanimously opposed an amendment to enact federal welfare work requirements on people seeking eligibility for food stamps. Republicans voted in favor of this, 226-6. Democrats voted against it, 192-0.

#### **Affinity for Socialism**

When Trump rejected socialism at his 2019 State of the Union address, most Democrats remained seated and did not applaud.

The Social Democrats USA and the Communist Party both work inside the Democratic Party and pledge to someday "capture" it entirely.

In 2015, Chris Matthews and Chuck Todd both asked DNC chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz to explain "the difference between a Democrat and a socialist." The congresswoman dodged the question and then attempted to change the subject: "The relevant debate that we'll be having over the course of this campaign, is what's the difference between a Democrat and a Republican."

same period of the Obama administration.

#### Education

(Return to Table of Contents)

#### **Charter Schools**

<u>Charter schools</u> often serve as outstanding alternatives to failing, substandard public schools — particularly in poor urban areas. They are exempt from many state or local regulations related to operation and management.

President Trump strongly supports charter schools, calling them "the <u>ladder</u> of opportunity for Black and Hispanic children." In July 2020, <u>Trump signed</u> an executive order to expand school choice for Hispanics and improve access to charter schools.

#### School Vouchers

School <u>voucher</u> programs allow low-income, mostly-minority parents to take the taxpayer money that is normally allocated for their child's education in a failing, substandard public school, and to use it instead to cover the cost of tuition at a private school of their choice. "We're <u>fighting</u> for school choice, which really is the civil rights [issue] of all time in this country, frankly," says Trump.

#### **Education**

(Return to Table of Contents)

#### **Charter Schools**

"Democrats ... will ban for-profit private <u>charter</u> businesses from receiving federal funding."

Joe Biden is <u>opposed</u> to "any federal money" being used to fund charter schools, on grounds that they "<u>sipho[n]</u> off money for our public schools, which are already in enough [financial] trouble."

#### **School Vouchers**

"Democrats oppose private school vouchers and other policies that divert taxpayer-funded resources away from the public-school system."

#### Free College

The 2020 Democratic Party Platform <u>pledges</u> to "make public colleges and universities tuition-free for students whose families earn less than \$125,000."

For Democrats, it is not enough to fund the massive costs of tuition. The 2020 Party Platform says: "We will [also] increase federal support for services like child care on college campuses ... [and] increased funding for wraparound services, including covering the cost of textbooks and fees [and] programs to address campus food insecurity."

Analysis: As bestselling author Mark Levin points out, free-college proposals are highly unjust. Only about one-third of all Americans hold a college degree, and college graduates earn a great deal more than non-graduates. "Free college" means that the lower-earning non-graduates would be required to subsidize, via their tax payments, the education of the higher-earning graduates.

### **Environment & Energy** (Return to Table of Contents)

### Trump Withdraws U.S. from the Paris Climate Agreement

On June 1, 2017, President Trump announced that he was withdrawing the U.S. from the Paris Climate Agreement, into which the Obama-Biden administration had entered. The *Daily Signal* gives an overview of the key elements of the Paris accord:

- "[It] would kill hundreds of thousands of jobs, harm American manufacturing, and destroy \$2.5 trillion in [GDP] by the year 2035."
- "Even if every country met its commitments ... the changes in the earth's temperature would be almost undetectable."
- "[It] called for a Green Climate Fund that would collect \$100 billion per year by 2020. The goal of this fund would be to subsidize green energy and ... to get buy-in (literally) from those poorer nations for the final Paris Agreement."

When announcing America's withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, President Trump <u>said</u>: "The agreement is a massive redistribution of [U.S.] wealth to other countries.... Even ... with total compliance from all nations, it is estimated it would only produce a two-tenths of one degree ... reduction in global temperature by the year 2100."

#### Oil Drilling & Pipelines

In January 2018, the Trump administration announced a five-year plan to open up all offshore drilling areas — in the Gulf of Mexico, the Atlantic coast, the Pacific coast, and the Alaskan coast — to leasing. Whereas under Obama, 94 percent of the outer continental shelf was off-limits to drilling, the Trump plan opened 98 percent of the oil reserves in those regions to extraction. This

### **Environment & Energy** (Return to Table of Contents)

#### **Supporting the Paris Climate Agreement**

"We will <u>rejoin</u> the Paris Climate Agreement ... on Day One."

### The Green New Deal — Socialism Posing As Environmentalism

In 2018, congressional candidate Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez made <u>reference</u> to a "Green New Deal" that would make the U.S. 100% reliant on renewable energy sources (wind, water, solar) — and <u>eliminate</u> all fossil fuels from the U.S. electric grid — by 2030.

Joe Biden <u>appointed</u> Ocasio-Cortez to cochair his presidential campaign task force.

In addition to environmental and energy matters, the Green New Deal would "build on FDR's second bill of rights by guaranteeing" a number of major benefits:

- "economic security for all who are unable or unwilling to work"
- "a [federal] job with a familysustaining wage"
- "family and medical leave, vacations, and retirement security" for all
- "high-quality education, including higher education and trade schools," with free tuition
- "high-quality health care" run by the federal government
- "safe, affordable, adequate housing"

Noting that "none of these <u>proposals</u> has anything at all to do with climate change," Heartland Institute president Tim Huelskamp describes the Green New Deal as "the most radical socialist proposal in modern congressional history"

In a 2019 interview, Ocasio-Cortez's chief-of-staff, Saikat Chakrabarti, acknowledged that

was part of the Trump administration's pursuit of "energy dominance" as a strategy for increasing national security by eliminating American dependency on OPEC.

### Rolling Back Obama-Biden Regulations on Coal

In March 2017 Trump issued an executive order initiating an immediate review of the Clean Power Plan (CPP), which <u>restricted</u> greenhouse gas emissions at coal-fired power plants. The president described the CPP as a "crushing attack" on workers, loaded with "job-killing regulations." Trump also lifted an Obama-Biden moratorium on new coal leases on federal lands.

Heritage Foundation scholar <u>Stephen Moore</u> noted the inevitable futility of imposing economy-crushing regulations on the coal industry, as the Democrats sought to do: "[E]ven if the U.S. cut our own coal production to zero, China and India are building hundreds of coal plants. By suspending American coal production, we are merely transferring jobs out of the U.S."

#### **Support for Fracking**

President Trump is an avid proponent of <u>fracking</u>, the horizontal-drilling technology that allows oil and gas to be extracted from shale rock thousands of feet below ground. Fracking has been a vital component of America's success in achieving energy-independence.

### America Becomes Energy-Independent & the World's Largest Oil Producer

In September 2018, the U.S. <u>overtook</u> Saudi Arabia and Russia to become the world's largest oil producer.

According to the Institute for Energy Research: "U.S. energy <u>production</u> in 2019 ... attained the long-held goal of 'energy independence' ... One can thank the oil and gas industry and its use of [fracking] and horizontal drilling for that milestone."

the Green New Deal had not been devised to protect the environment, but rather to implement <u>socialism</u>. "The interesting thing about the Green New Deal," he said, "is it wasn't originally a climate thing at all. Do you guys [reporters] think of it as a climate thing? Because we really think of it as a how-do-you-change-the-entire-economy thing."

While Ocasio-Cortez introduced the Green New Deal in the U.S. House, Democrat Ed Markey introduced it in the <u>Senate</u>. By March 14, 2019, eleven U.S. Senators and ninety U.S. House Members — all Democrats — had officially <u>signed</u> on as co-sponsors of the Green New Deal.

The Biden presidential campaign website says that "Biden <u>believes</u> the Green New Deal is a crucial framework for meeting the climate challenges we face," because "our environment and our economy are completely and totally connected."

In March 2019, Kamala Harris said: "I'm a <u>proud</u> co-sponsor of Senator Markey's Green New Deal resolution."

#### **Ban Fracking**

During a July 2019 presidential primary debate, Biden was asked, "Would there be any place for fossil fuels, including coal and fracking, in a Biden administration?" He replied, "No, we would work it out. We would make sure it's eliminated."

In September 2019, Senator Kamala Harris stated: "There's no question I'm in favor of banning fracking."

#### **Biden Pledges to "End Fossil Fuel"**

In a September 2019 campaign appearance, Biden told a questioner: "I want you to look at my eyes. I guarantee you, I guarantee you, we're going to end fossil fuel."

"We've made OPEC relatively <u>irrelevant</u>," says Kathleen Sgamma, president of the Western Energy Alliance.

#### Trump: America's Air Has Become Much Cleaner in Recent Years

While Democrats contend that radical restrictions on all fossil-fuel-based energy sources are crucial to the promotion of a clean environment, America's air quality has already been improving dramatically, thanks mostly to environmental innovations developed by the free market.

In February 2020, the International Energy Agency <u>reported</u> that while CO2 emissions in China and India were growing at a rapid rate, the U.S. in 2019 saw the largest decline in energy-related CO2 emissions of any country on earth.

Heritage Foundation scholar Stephen Moore writes: "Emissions of lead, sulfur, carbon monoxide, and other air pollutants from coal plants [in the U.S.] have fallen by more than half, and in some cases 90%, in recent decades."

### **Guns & the Second Amendment** (Return to Table of Contents)

#### The Heller Supreme Court Decision

In its 2008 decision in *District of Columbia v. Heller*— the Supreme Court ruled that the Second Amendment guarantees an individual right to possess firearms that are "in common use at the time"— independent of service in a state militia— and to use those firearms for lawful purposes such as self-defense at home.

#### **Trump's Support for the 2nd Amendment**

In April 2017, President Trump told a National Rifle Association gathering: "And we want to ensure you of the sacred right of self-defense for all of our citizens.... Our police and sheriffs also know that when you ban guns, only the criminals will be

### Guns & the Second Amendment (Return to Table of Contents)

#### **Rejecting the 2nd Amendment**

In 2019, Joe Biden was asked, "Do you agree with the *D.C. v. Heller* decision?" He <u>replied</u>: "If I were on the Court, I wouldn't have made the same ruling."

In 2016, Hillary Clinton called *Heller* "a <u>terrible</u> decision" and said: "[T]he Supreme Court is wrong on the 2nd Amendment, and I am going to make that case every chance I get."

#### **Banning Weapons**

The Democratic Party Platform says: "Democrats will <u>ban</u> the manufacture and sale of assault weapons and high capacity

armed.... As your President, I will never, ever infringe on the right of the people to keep and bear arms."

magazines."

<u>Analysis</u>: The term "assault weapons" is a nebulous term that generally refers to any semiautomatic firearm.

Biden calls for <u>banning</u> the sale of semiautomatic firearms and "clips that have multiple bullets in them," which would amount to a ban on nearly all firearms.

In 2019, Biden had an <u>exchange</u> with CNN's Anderson Cooper regarding firearm confiscation: <u>Cooper</u>: "So, to gun owners out there who say ... a Biden administration means they are going to come for my guns." <u>Biden</u>: "Bingo! You're right if you have an assault weapon."

<u>Says</u> Biden: "Why should we allow people to have ... pistols with 9mm bullets and can hold 10 or more rounds?"

#### **Gun Buyback Programs**

Joe Biden would "institute a national <u>buyback</u> program" for semiautomatic firearms.

Kamala Harris <u>supports</u> forced, government-<u>mandated</u> buybacks of semiautomatic rifles. She says, "I think it's a good idea.... We have to take those guns off the streets."

### **Biden Names Beto O'Rourke to Lead Gun- Control**

Biden has promised to name Democrat Rep. Beto O'Rourke as his point man on gun control. "You're going to take care of the gun problem with me," he <u>told</u> O'Rourke. "You're going to be the one who leads this effort. I'm counting on you.... You're the best."

Some noteworthy quotes by O'Rourke:

- "We need a <u>mandatory</u> buyback of every assault weapon in our country."
- "I want to be <u>clear</u> ... Americans who own AR-15s and AK-47s will have to sell their assault weapons. All of

#### them."

- "Hell yes, we're going to <u>take</u> your AR 15, your AK 47."
- "It's not voluntary.... It is mandatory. It will be the law. You will be required to comply with the law."

### **Biden & Democrats: Permitting Lawsuits Against Gun Manufacturers**

Democrats believe that gun manufacturers should be held criminally <u>liable</u> if the weapons they produce are later used in crimes. Such a policy would cause many gun manufacturers to go out of business.

#### Health Care (Return to Table of Contents)

### **Shopping for Health Insurance Across State Lines**

In October 2017, Trump signed an executive order giving Americans "<u>freedom</u> to purchase health insurance across state lines, which will create a truly competitive national marketplace that will bring costs way down and provide far better care."

#### "Right-to-Try" Legislation

In May 2018, Trump signed "right-to-try" <u>legislation</u> allowing terminally ill patients to access experimental medical treatments not yet approved by the FDA.

### Additional Health Care Measures by Trump

During his first 20 months in <u>office</u>, President Trump also:

- signed the most comprehensive legislation ever written to advance childhood cancer research and treatments
- expanded short-term, limited-duration health plans

### **Health Care** (Return to Table of Contents)

#### **Government-Run Health Care**

Advocating a government-run system of "single-payer," "<u>universal</u>" health care, the 2020 Democratic Party Platform says: "Democrats have fought to achieve universal health care for a century."

In February 2019, Democratic Rep. Pramila Jayapal <u>introduced</u> a single-payer, Medicarefor-All plan that had 118 <u>co-sponsors</u>, all Democrats.

#### The "Public Option"

Biden and the Democrats favor the creation of a "public option" — i.e., a government insurance agency to "compete" with private insurers.

Analysis: Because such an agency would not need to show a profit in order to remain in business, and because it could tax and regulate its private competitors in whatever fashion it pleased, this "public option" would soon force private insurers out of the industry. That is the unspoken objective of the policy.

### **Taxpayer-Funded Health Care for Illegal Aliens**

- cut Obamacare's individual mandate penalty, which imposed heavy fines on people who failed to purchase health insurance
- signed legislation repealing
   Obamacare's Independent Payment
   Advisory Board, a.k.a. "death panels"
- proposed a Title X rule to help ensure that taxpayers would not be required to fund the abortion industry
- reinstated and expanded the Mexico City Policy to keep foreign aid from supporting the abortion industry in other countries
- oversaw formation of a new HHS division to protect the rights of conscience and religious freedom
- signed an executive order to help ensure that religious organizations would not be forced to violate their religious beliefs by complying with Obamacare's contraceptive & abortifacient mandate
- signed four executive <u>orders</u> directing HHS to take several key steps to lower the costs of prescription drugs

### **Immigration, Asylum, & Refugee Policy**

(Return to Table of Contents)

When Donald Trump ran for the presidency in 2016, he laid out a <u>10-Point Plan</u> to:

- 1. construct a wall along the southern border
- 2. end the "catch-and-release" policy that permitted illegal border crossers to request asylum and then be automatically released into the American interior with instructions to

The Democratic Party Platform says: "We will expand access to health care for people living and working across the United States by extending Affordable Care Act coverage to Dreamers" — i.e., <u>illegal aliens</u> who first came to the U.S. as minors.

Biden says federal benefits like Medicare and Medicaid should be available to all, "regardless of whether they are documented or undocumented,"

Kamala Harris <u>says</u>: "Let me just be very clear about this. I am opposed to any policy that would deny in our country any human being [regardless of immigration status] from access to public safety, public education or public health, period."

In a June 2019 Democratic presidential primary debate, co-moderator Savannah Guthrie asked the candidates to raise their hand if their healthcare plan would cover "<u>undocumented</u> immigrants." Joe Biden, Kamala Harris, Bernie Sanders, and numerous others raised their hands.

### Immigration, Asylum, & Refugee Policy

(Return to Table of Contents)

#### **Border Wall**

The Democratic Party Platform condemns the construction of "an <u>unnecessary</u>, wasteful, and ineffective wall on the southern border"

Joe Biden says: "We don't need a wall."

Kamala Harris says: "a border wall is a <u>waste</u> of money ...We simply don't need it."

- appear for an asylum court hearing at some time in the distant future
- 3. employ a zero-tolerance policy for criminal aliens, a policy that would entail the hiring of many additional ICE and Border Patrol agents
- 4. end funding for <u>sanctuary cities</u>, whose governments refuse to work with federal immigration authorities that seek to identify and process criminal illegal aliens
- 5. cancel unconstitutional executive orders and enforce all existing immigration laws
- 6. suspend the issuance of visas to people from nations where adequate screening cannot take place
- 7. require other countries to take their people back when they are deported from the U.S.
- 8. implement a biometric entry-exit visa tracking system
- 9. demand the widespread use of E-Verify, a web-based system that allows employers to confirm the eligibility of their employees to work in the U.S.
- 10. reform America's legal immigration system to serve the best interests of the U.S. and its workers

In January 2018, Trump <u>said</u>: "The United States is a compassionate nation. We are proud that we do more than any other country to help the needy, the struggling, and the underprivileged all over the world. But as President, my highest loyalty, my greatest compassion, and my constant concern is for America's children, America's struggling workers, and America's forgotten communities."

In an Oval Office address on January 8, 2019, Trump attempted to make his case for border security directly to the American people. He <u>stated</u>:

#### **Dreamers & DACA**

Joe Biden is in favor of granting citizenship to so-called "Dreamers" [illegal aliens who first came to the U.S. as minors] and to illegals affected by President Obama's 2012 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). The latter was an executive action that allowed hundreds of thousands of illegals to gain temporary legal status, work permits, access to social services, and protection from deportation.

In 2017, Biden <u>denounced</u> President Trump's plan to rescind the DACA program: "These people are all Americans," Biden wrote. "So let's be clear: throwing them out is cruel. It is inhumane. And it is not America."

Kamala Harris, who has vowed to expand the number of people covered by DACA from about 700,000 to approximately 6 million, says: "These young people are just as American as I am."

#### Amnesty & a Path to Citizenship

Joe Biden <u>said</u>: "Within 100 days, I'm going to send to the United States Congress a pathway to citizenship for over 11 million undocumented people. And all of those so-called DREAMers, those DACA kids, they're going to be immediately certified to be able to stay in this country and put on a path to citizenship."

Biden has also said: "You know, <u>11 million</u> people live in the shadows. I believe they're already American citizens."

#### **Opening the Refugee Floodgates**

The Democratic Party Platform <u>says</u>: "We will significantly raise the annual global refugee admissions target, and work with Congress to create a minimum annual number for refugee admissions."

#### **Asylum Policy**

Democrats seek to <u>restore</u> a system where most asylum seekers who cross the southern

"Some have suggested [that] a barrier is immoral. Then why do wealthy politicians build walls, fences, and gates around their homes? They don't build walls because they hate the people on the outside but because they love the people on the inside. The only thing that is immoral is [for] the politicians to do nothing and continue to allow more innocent people to be so horribly victimized."

### **Limiting Immigration by People Dependent on Welfare**

In 2019, Trump — reasoning that immigrants to the U.S. should not impose social or economic burdens on American taxpayers — announced that it would now be more difficult for a "public charge" — a person receiving welfare benefits — to be approved for citizenship.

#### **Refugee Policy**

President Trump <u>understands</u> that it is impossible to adequately screen potential refugees from certain countries that are chaotic hotbeds of terrorism and extremism. Indeed, high-ranking Obama administration officials like FBI Director James Comey, Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson, and CIA Director John Brennan made this <u>same</u> case years ago. In light of this reality, Trump has sought to find ways of helping refugees without risking the lives and safety of the American people.

In January 2017, Trump <u>persuaded</u> Saudi Arabia's King Salman to join the U.S. in supporting the creation of safe zones in Syria and Yemen, where refugees from the Middle East could be housed and sheltered.

Trump also <u>persuaded</u> Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan to support safe zones for refugees displaced by war and terrorism in the region.

#### Trump's So-Called "Muslim Ban"

U.S. border illegally, are released into the American interior — never to be seen again.

"Democrats will <u>end</u> ... prosecution of asylum seekers at the border and policies that force them to apply from 'safe third countries."

Joe Biden was asked: "Should undocumented immigrants, arrested by local police, be turned over to immigration officials?" He replied, "No. Look, we are a nation of immigrants. Our future rests upon the Latino community being fully integrated....
Xenophobia is a disease."

#### An End to Immigration Raids

The Democratic Party Platform says: "We ... will end workplace and community <u>raids</u>. We will protect sensitive locations like our schools, houses of worship, health care facilities, benefits offices, and DMVs from immigration enforcement actions."

### **Increasing Immigration from Muslim Countries**

"Immediately <u>terminate</u> the Trump Administration's discriminatory travel and immigration bans that have had disproportionate impact on Muslim and African people, and invite visa re-application for individuals from these countries."

Says Joe Biden: "Make no mistake, this anti-Muslim <u>bias</u> is not only morally wrong, it's like putting up a great big recruiting banner for terrorists."

### Welcoming Immigrants Dependent on **Public Welfare Programs**

Democrats condemned the Trump administration's 2019 <u>announcement</u> that it would make it more difficult for people who are a "public charge" — dependent on government benefits — to apply for citizenship.

The Biden-Sanders Unity Task Force of 2020

By now, virtually every American has heard about Donald Trump's infamous "Muslim ban." In January 2020, Joe Biden characterized Trump's "ban" as a "morally wrong" manifestation of "anti-Muslim bias" that constituted "a betrayal of all our foundations of American history and American freedom, religious freedom."

The term "Muslim ban," as employed by Biden and fellow Democrats, refers to the fact that Trump, professing a desire "to keep radical Islamic terrorists out of the United States of America," issued a 2017 executive order calling for a temporary suspension of most travel and refugee admissions to the U.S. from seven nations that were hotbeds of Islamic terrorism and/or civil war: Iran, Iraq, Somalia, Libya, Sudan, Yemen, and Syria. The order also mandated the implementation of an "extreme vetting" process for any and all immigrants and visitors to the U.S.

Trump selected precisely the same seven countries that had been named in the Visa Waiver Program Improvement & Terrorist Travel Prevention Act, which passed easily through Congress and was signed into law by President Obama in December 2015.

### Trump's Success in Improving America's Disastrous Policy on Asylum Applications

In May 2019, Trump implemented the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP), stipulating that certain foreign individuals seeking admission to the U.S. from Mexico without proper documentation, could be returned to Mexico where they would wait for the duration of their immigration proceedings. In short, American border agencies would no longer have to release migrants into the U.S. prior to their asylum hearings.

In May 2019, Trump <u>announced</u> the imposition of stiff tariffs against Mexico if the latter took no measures to stem the flow of illegal migrants to the U.S. In response, the

vows to: "Immediately <u>halt</u> enforcement of and rescind the Trump administration's new public charge regulations, which have racial underpinnings and undermine critical access to public benefits and resources."

### Planning to Greatly Increase Legal Immigration

Joe Biden promised to <u>triple</u> the amount of legal immigration to the U.S. from the current level of roughly 1.2 million legal immigrants who are admitted every year, saying: "We could afford to take in a heartbeat another two million people."

#### **Support for Sanctuary Cities**

In January 2017, Democrats condemned President Trump's executive order that called for the denial of federal grants to sanctuary cities, <u>portraying</u> Trump's order as a "shameful" and "divisive" measure that would "betray our nation's values."

Soon thereafter, 33 congressional Democrats sent a letter to Trump, demanding that he "rescind" his "unconstitutional" order.

53 Democrats <u>co-sponsored</u> the "Safeguarding Sanctuary Cities Act of 2017," which stipulated that federal financial assistance could not be denied to sanctuary cities.

Joe Biden believes that <u>sanctuary</u> cities should get federal funding.

Kamala Harris <u>opposes</u> the <u>No Sanctuary for</u> <u>Criminals Act</u>, which would withhold federal grants to sanctuary cities.

#### **Deport No Illegal Aliens Other Than Felons**

Joe Biden says that immigration agents should "only <u>arrest</u> for the purpose of dealing with a felony that's committed [in the United States], and I don't count drunk driving as a felony."

"We're not going to deport anybody who has

Mexican government <u>implemented</u> a new <u>policy</u> which made it more difficult for migrants from Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador to pass through Mexico on their way to the U.S.

On July 15, 2019, Trump announced a plan that would bar most migrants from applying for asylum after illegally crossing America's southern border, unless they had first been unsuccessful in seeking asylum in one of the "safe" countries that they traversed on their way to the United States. Thus, would-be asylees from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, or Nicaragua would be ineligible for asylum in the U.S. unless they had first applied in Mexico and been rejected. This was in keeping with existing American law. Soon thereafter, the Trump administration signed such asylum agreements with the governments of the countries cited above.

Trump had *single-handedly* figured out a way to circumvent the relentless obstructionism of the Democrats. What Congress had failed for decades to get done, President Trump achieved on the diplomatic front, with no help from Congress whatsoever. It was one of the most extraordinary political accomplishments in modern American history.

### Iran Nuclear Deal (Return to Table of Contents)

For details about the Iran Nuclear Deal, see the column to the right.

On May 8, 2020, President Trump announced that he was withdrawing the U.S. from the Iran Nuclear Deal. Among his <u>remarks</u> were the following:

"[T]he deal allowed Iran to continue enriching uranium and — over time — reach the brink of a nuclear breakout.

"The deal lifted crippling economic sanctions on Iran in exchange for very weak limits on

not — in this country — committed a felony in this country," said Biden on another occasion.

### Iran Nuclear Deal (Return to Table of Contents)

On July 14, 2015, the Obama-Biden administration — along with the leaders of Britain, France, Russia, China, and Germany — finalized a nuclear agreement with Iran. Its official name was the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). The key elements of the deal were the following:

- Iran was permitted to keep and operate more than 5,000 nuclear <u>centrifuges</u>, essential to the production of nuclear weapons.
- Iran received \$150 billion in <u>sanctions</u> relief, even though Obama-Biden

the regime's nuclear activity — and no limits at all on its other malign behavior ... all around the world....

"The agreement was so poorly negotiated that even if Iran fully complies, the regime can still be on the verge of a nuclear breakout in just a short period of time. The deal's sunset provisions are totally unacceptable.

"[T]he the deal does nothing to constrain Iran's destabilizing activities, including its support for terrorism....

"America will not be held hostage to nuclear blackmail. We will not allow American cities to be threatened with destruction. And we will not allow a regime that chants 'Death to America' to gain access to the most deadly weapons on Earth."

- acknowledged that Iran would likely use some of that money to fund its military and terrorist activities.
- Iran was barred from purchasing weapons and missiles from other countries for 5 to 8 years. But there were two significant exceptions: Russia and China could continue to make weapons deals with Iran.
- Iran was given the discretion to <u>block</u> international inspectors from its military installations.
- Only <u>inspectors</u> from countries that had diplomatic relations with Iran would be given access to Iranian nuclear sites. Thus, there would be no American inspectors.
- Sanctions were <u>lifted</u> on critical parts of Iran's military, including a previously existing travel ban against Qasem Suleimani, leader of the terrorist Quds force of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.
- Iran was not <u>required</u> to renounce terrorism against the United States, as Obama-Biden deemed such an expectation "<u>unrealistic</u>."
- Iran was not required to <u>affirm</u> its "clear and unambiguous ... recognition of Israel's right to exist"
   — a <u>requirement</u> that Benjamin Netanyahu had pleaded for.
- The restrictions placed on Iran's nuclear program would expire due to "sunset clauses" at various times over the ensuing 5 to 11 years.

Joe Biden took on the role of being the Obama administration's leading public promoter of the Iran deal. He dismissed the concerns of critics who warned that the sunset clauses would "pave Iran's path to a bomb." Those people, Biden said, simply "don't get it, they're wrong."

Senator Kamala Harris characterized the deal as "the best available option for blocking Iran

from developing nuclear weapons capability."

Nancy Pelosi called the deal "a <u>diplomatic</u> masterpiece."

The 2016 Democratic Party Platform <u>stated</u>: "We support the nuclear agreement with Iran because, as it is vigorously enforced and implemented, it verifiably cuts off all of Iran's pathways to a bomb without resorting to war."

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu described the deal as a "bad <u>mistake</u> of historic proportions" that would enable Iran to "continue to pursue its aggression and terror in the region" and "receive a sure path to nuclear weapons."

### Opposing Trump's Withdrawal from the Iran Nuclear Deal

In response to President Trump's decision to withdraw from the Iran Nuclear Deal in 2018, Joe Biden characterized Trump's move as "a self-inflicted disaster" that would make "military conflict" and "another war in the Middle East" much "more likely."

Biden has <u>called</u> on Trump to rejoin the Iran agreement.

The Democratic Party Platform states: "The Trump Administration's unilateral withdrawal from the JCPOA isolated us from our allies and opened the door for Iran to resume its march toward a nuclear weapons capacity.... That's why returning to mutual compliance with the agreement is so urgent."

#### Israel

(Return to Table of Contents)

### **Trump Has Been Israel's Greatest Friend Ever**

Donald Trump has very demonstrably been a more loyal and stalwart friend to Israel and the Jewish people, than any other president in

#### **Israel**

(Return to Table of Contents)

### Biden's Stance on the Relocation of the U.S. Embassy

Joe Biden <u>voted</u> for the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995, which recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and required the relocation of the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv American history. Consider just a few salient facts:

- Nikki Haley, Trump's American Ambassador to the United Nations, stated at the very start of the Trump administration, that "I am here to underscore the ironclad <u>support</u> of the United States for Israel.... [T]he United States is determined to stand up to the UN's anti-Israel bias."
- In 2017, Trump became the <u>first</u> sitting president to visit the Western Wall.
- The Trump administration has increased American financial aid to help Israel expand and improve its missile-defense program.
- In December 2017, Trump announced that in fulfillment of a campaign promise and also in fulfillment of the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995, which had passed overwhelmingly in Congress 22 years earlier he would move the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, and would officially recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Several previous presidents Clinton, G.W. Bush, and Obama had made that same campaign promise and broken it.
- In May 2018, Trump withdrew the U.S. from the disastrous Iran Nuclear Deal of 2015, which constituted an existential threat to Israel.
- In 2019 Trump signed a proclamation officially recognizing the Golan Heights as part of Israel. Praising Trump for his "historic" and "invaluable" move in support of Israel's national security, Benjamin Netanyahu told Trump: "Israel has never had a better friend than you."
- In November 2019, Trump <u>announced</u> that the U.S. would no longer take the position that Israeli civilian

to Jerusalem. But throughout the Obama-Biden years, neither Biden nor Obama ever even hinted that they might do <u>either</u> of those things.

When Trump announced in December 2017 that he not only <u>recognized</u> Jerusalem as Israel's capital but also planned to move the embassy, Biden remained silent. Nor did Biden issue a statement when the embassy was physically relocated in May 2018.

In a November 2019 interview, Biden was asked if he, as president, would reverse Trump's move. He <u>replied</u>: "Not now. I wouldn't reverse it. I wouldn't have done it in the first place."

### The Obama-Biden Administration's Strained Relationship with Israel

No American presidential administration ever had so <u>strained</u> a <u>relationship</u> with Israel as did Obama-Biden. In October 2012, Israeli lawmaker Danny Danon <u>said</u> that the Obama-Biden policies vis-a-vis Israel had been "catastrophic."

Vice President Biden repeatedly condemned Israel for building housing units in Jerusalem, claiming that such activities "endange[r] regional peace" in the Middle East and "rais[e] serious questions about Israel's ultimate commitment to a peaceful, negotiated settlement with the Palestinians."

In December 2016, the Obama-Biden administration — in a major departure from traditional U.S. policy — abstained from voting on a United Nations Security Council resolution declaring that all of eastern Jerusalem — including Judaism's most sacred site, the Temple Mount — was "Palestinian territory" that was being illegally "occupied" by Israel in "a flagrant violation under international law." The Obama-Biden abstention allowed this resolution to pass, prompting Prime Minister Netanyahu to condemn the administration's "shameful

"settlements" in the West Bank were "inconsistent with international law."

betrayal."

#### Repeated Leaks to the Press About Israel

In an effort to turn public opinion against a possible Israeli military strike targeting Iranian nuclear facilities, and to portray Israel as an aggressive and duplicitous nation, Obama-Biden repeatedly leaked secret information about covert Israeli diplomatic, intelligence, and military matters.

### **Obama-Biden's Secret Negotiations with Iran**

In early November 2013, it was <u>reported</u> that the Obama-Biden administration, without telling Israel, had secretly begun softening U.S. sanctions against Iran soon after the election, five months earlier, of that country's new president, Hassan Rouhani. Benjamin Netanyahu was <u>outraged</u>. Eventually, this 2013 agreement would evolve into the disastrous Iran Nuclear Deal of 2015.

### Biden Demands a Two-State Solution and Condemns the Israeli "Occupation"

Asserting that Israel's "occupation" of Palestinian land "is a real problem, a significant problem," Biden <u>says</u>: "I will insist on Israel ... to stop the occupation of those territories, period." (NOTE: It is not accurate, in any sense of the word, to say that Israel is exercising an "<u>occupation</u>" of Palestinian lands.

### Biden Vows to Restore U.S. Aid to Palestinians

In May 2020, Biden <u>said</u> he would restore the U.S. aid to Palestinians which President Trump had cut. Among those cuts were \$360 million in annual aid to the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), an entity closely aligned with Hamas.

### **Love of Country** (Return to Table of Contents)

On September 17, 2020, President Trump announced the creation of a 1776
Commission to "encourage our educators to teach our children about the miracle of American history." "Our mission is to defend the legacy of America's founding, the virtue of America's heroes, and the nobility of the American character," said Trump. "We must ... teach our children the magnificent truth about our country.... Our youth will be taught to love America with all of their heart and soul."

#### **No Love of Country** (Return to Table of Contents)

Joe Biden and the Democratic Party view America as a nation that is systemically infested with white racism. As the Democratic Party Platform says: "Historic wrongs and abuses perpetrated against Native Americans, two and a half centuries of slavery, a hundred years of Jim Crow segregation, and a history of exclusionary immigration policies have created profound and lasting inequities ... for communities of color."

A very similar Democrat document — the "Biden-Sanders Unity Task Force Recommendations" — laments "the <u>scourge</u> of anti-Black racism" in the United States.

Joe Biden <u>charges</u> that "White America" has been too <u>reluctant</u> to acknowledge that "systemic racism" has "been built into every aspect of our system."

Kamala Harris strikes a similar note: "The reality is that the life of a black person in America has never been treated as fully human... It's no wonder people are taking to the streets [to protest]. And I support them."

Harris <u>says</u> she favors doing away with Columbus Day and replacing it with Indigenous People's Day because: "we are the scene of a crime when it comes to what we did with slavery and Jim Crow and institutionalized racism in this country."

Because Democrats have a low regard for America, they wish to transform it into something else, much as then-presidential candidate Barack Obama famously <u>declared</u> in 2008: "We are five days away from fundamentally transforming the United States of America."

On October 29, 2020, Joe Biden said something very similar: "Five days left [until election day]. Five days. I believe when you

use your power, the power of the vote, we literally are going to <u>change</u> the course of this country for generations to come."

Also during the 2020 campaign, Biden has stated that:

- "we all have an obligation to do nothing less than <u>change</u> the culture in this country" because it is "a white man's culture"
- "we can transform this nation ... so that [my administration] goes down in history ... as one of the most progressive administrations since Roosevelt"
- the coronavirus pandemic is an "incredible opportunity ... to fundamentally <u>transform</u> the country"
- America needs to make "<u>revolutionary</u> institutional changes" that "<u>rip</u> the roots of systemic racism out of this country"

#### National Defense (Return to Table of Contents)

#### **Military & National Security Matters**

In January 2017, President Trump signed a memorandum authorizing the expansion and rebuilding of the U.S. military. This was vital because in the latter years of the Obama administration, the U.S. military had faced a severe shortage of ammunition. As Col. John Venable, a senior research fellow at the Heritage Foundation, said: "By the end of fiscal year 2020, the Trump administration will have acquired more than four times the number of GPS-guided munitions than were acquired during the eight years of the Obama administration."

#### National Defense (Return to Table of Contents)

#### **Biden & Missile Defense**

On July 24, 2001, Senator Joe Biden <u>said</u> "a narrow-minded pursuit of missile defense ... could derail both our programs in Russia, as well as our negotiations with North Korea."

In September 2009, Obama-Biden <u>decided</u> to scrap an agreement in which the Bush administration had pledged to deploy missile-defense systems in Poland and the Czech Republic. The governments of both those nations felt greatly betrayed by the Obama-Biden decision.

Also during his presidency, Trump has:

- mandated a <u>review</u> of military training <u>requirements</u>, eliminating politicalcorrectness exercises that relied on the leftwing Southern Poverty Law Center's perspectives on Islamic extremism
- taken a strong stance on <u>reducing</u> financial waste in the military
- mandated a <u>review</u> of the U.S. defense industry and supply chain, for the purpose of strengthening national security
- called for <u>expanding</u> U.S. nuclear capabilities and developing low-yield nuclear weapons
- <u>re-established</u> the Navy's Second Fleet in response to increased Russian activity in the North Atlantic Ocean
- ordered the implementation of a new comprehensive <u>biodefense</u> strategy
- released the first-ever plan to <u>protect</u> the U.S. from an Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) attack
- enacted <u>restrictions</u> on nuclear technology exports to China
- created a task force to protect the U.S. defense supply chain from having technologies stolen by China, Russia, and other nations
- instituted a new Justice Department program combatting <u>espionage</u> and intellectual-property theft by China
- signed a memorandum officially creating the U.S. <u>Space Force</u> as a sixth branch of the military
- signed an executive order to improve America's <u>cybersecurity</u> workforce
- signed an executive order <u>blocking</u> foreign technology companies from operating in the U.S. if they pose a threat to national security

#### Missile Defense

In July 2017, the Trump administration agreed to sell Patriot missile-defense systems — designed to detect, target, and destroy incoming missiles and aircraft — to Poland. This move countered the Obama-Biden administration's decision to break its pledge to provide Poland with those systems.

In 2018, the U.S. <u>allocated</u> a record \$11.5 billion for the Missile Defense Agency.

In a January 2019 statement, President Trump said: "As President, my first duty is the defense of our country.... I will accept nothing less for our nation than the most effective, cutting-edge missile defense systems.... We are committed to establishing a missile defense program that can shield every city in the United States. And we will never negotiate away our right to do this."

#### Trump & NATO

Throughout 2017 and 2018, President Trump pressured European leaders to <u>finally</u> live up to their pledges to contribute at least 2% of their GDP to NATO's defense capabilities. Trump's pressure campaign proved to be very effective. Of the 27 NATO countries other than the U.S., 26 <u>increased</u> their NATO defense spending between 2017 and 2019.

### Supreme Court (Return to Table of Contents)

President Trump has appointed three Justices to the U.S. Supreme Court: Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh, and Amy Coney Barrett. Trump has pledged to appoint only originalists to the Court — i.e., judges who strive to discern the original intent of the Framers of the Constitution. He has applied this same standard to his appointments of 200+ additional judges to the federal bench.

### Supreme Court (Return to Table of Contents)

#### **Packing the Court**

In October 2018, Democrat Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez said that if Democrats could gain control of the Senate and the White House, they should "pack the Supreme Court of the United States of America."

"Packing" the Court would entail increasing the number of Justices — from 9 to perhaps 13 or 15 — with all the additions being activists who could be counted upon to rule in favor of Democrat agenda items. The issue gained additional traction in October 2020, when Trump nominated Amy Coney Barrett for a seat on the Supreme Court.

Joe Biden has repeatedly <u>refused</u> to give his opinion on Court-packing: "You'll know my opinion on Court-packing when the election is over," he told reporters in early October 2020.

In September 2020, a journalist asked Biden: "Have you ruled out expanding the Supreme Court, as president, under any circumstances whatsoever?" Biden <u>refused</u> to address the question: "[W]hat I'm not going to do is play the Trump game, which is a good game he plays. Take your eye off the issue before us. If I were to say yes or no to that, that becomes a big issue. That's the headline here."

In October 2020, a reporter asked Biden, "don't the voters deserve to know [your position on Court-packing]?" Biden <u>answered</u>: "No, they don't."

During an <u>interview</u> on MSNBC, Kamala Harris said that she backed Biden's position "1,000 percent" in refusing to say whether he supported expanding the Supreme Court. Said Harris: "Joe's been very clear that he is going to pay attention to the fact — and I'm with him on this 1,000 percent — pay attention to the fact that right now ... people are voting. They're voting.... People will be voting up until Election Day, and they have a right, in an election, to elect their next president, who then will make the decision about who will be the nominee."

But in 2019, Harris had <u>said</u> the following about the possibility of packing the Court: "We are on the verge of a crisis of confidence in the Supreme Court. We have to take this challenge head on, and everything is on the table to do that."

### Terrorism / Defeating ISIS (Return to Table of Contents)

#### **Trump Destroys the ISIS Caliphate**

The American assault against ISIS <u>intensified</u> dramatically after Donald Trump became president. Within five months, the number of bombs that were dropped each month by the U.S. military onto ISIS strongholds and assets, more than <u>doubled</u> in comparison to the Obama-Biden levels.

Moreover, as CNN <u>reported</u>: "Trump decided to equip the anti-ISIS Syrian Democratic Forces — a largely Kurdish militia — with mortars, anti-tank weapons, armored cars and machine guns."

Trump also gave military commanders <u>authority</u> to carry out their <u>missions</u> without micromanagement from Washington. As Defense Secretary James Mattis said, Trump "delegated authority to the right level to aggressively and in a timely manner move against enemy vulnerabilities."

The results were spectacular.

On December 26, 2017, Fox News reported: "ISIS has lost 98 percent of the territory it once held — with half of that terror group's so-called 'caliphate' having been recaptured since President Trump took office less than a year ago."

By taking a strong approach in dealing with ISIS, President Trump saved countless thousands of Muslim lives — a reality that thoroughly contradicts the Democrats' false depiction of Trump as "anti-Islamic."

The defeat of ISIS, which could not have happened without President Trump, was one of the great achievements of modern military history.

#### The Killing of Hamza Bin Laden

In August 2019, U.S. forces killed Hamza Bin

#### The Rise of ISIS During Obama-Biden

(Return to Table of Contents)

On June 29, 2014, the genocidal terrorist organization ISIS <u>announced</u> the existence of what it called a new Islamic caliphate, or kingdom. Six months later, an ISIS spokesman <u>announced</u>: "We will conquer Europe one day. It is not a question of [whether] we will conquer Europe, just a matter of when that will happen.... Our expansion will be rapid and perpetual."

As of January 1, 2015, ISIS <u>controlled</u> at least 45 separate cities and towns across northern Iraq and eastern Syria.

The Obama-Biden administration greatly <a href="https://hampered.nih.google-pict.com/hampered">hampered</a> the military <a href="effort">effort</a> against ISIS by imposing highly restrictive rules-of-engagement on U.S. bombers capable of striking terrorist targets from the air.

Obama-Biden's weakness in dealing with ISIS had horrific consequences for millions of people in the Middle East. In January 2016, NBC News <u>reported</u> that "at least 18,802 civilians have been killed in Iraq in ISIS-linked violence in under two years,... with millions of others forced from their homes and thousands more held as slaves."

#### A Weak Stance on Terrorism

The Democratic Party Platform says: "Democrats will <u>sustain</u> the global effort to defeat ISIS, al-Qaeda, and their affiliates."

That assertion rings particularly hollow, in light of the fact that the Obama-Biden administration allowed ISIS to gain enormous power and prominence in the first place.

#### Biden Opposed Killing Osama Bin Laden

When President Obama authorized the May 2011 <u>mission</u> in <u>which</u> a U.S. Navy SEAL team ultimately killed Osama bin Laden, Vice President Biden was the only one of Obama's

Laden, a high-ranking al-Qaeda member and son of the late Osama Bin Laden, in a counter-terrorism operation in the Afghanistan/Pakistan region.

The Killing of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi

In October 2019, Trump <u>authorized</u> a specialforces operation that targeted and killed ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi in Syria.

#### The Killing of Qassim al-Rimi

In January 2020, Trump ordered the CIA to launch a drone strike that killed Qassim al-Rimi, the leader of Al Qaeda's affiliate in Yemen.

#### The Killing of Qasem Soleimani

In January 2020, Trump ordered a drone strike that killed Qasem Soleimani, the notorious general who: (a) headed Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps; (b) headed terrorist operations that trained Iran proxies who were responsible for more than 600 American deaths; and (c) was believed to be in the process of preparing additional attacks on U.S. diplomats in the Middle East.

### **Trump & China** (Return to Table of Contents)

President Trump has <u>imposed</u> various tariffs and sanctions against China in <u>retribution</u> for transgressions such as China's theft of U.S. intellectual property, its purchase of military assets from Russia, and its efforts to <u>help</u> North Korea evade economic sanctions.

The Trump tariffs and sanctions had an enormous <u>impact</u> on the Chinese economy. Reuters reported that by August 2019, "growth in industrial production [in China was] at its weakest in 17-1/2 years."

In October 2020, the *Washington Times* wrote the following about President Trump's highly effective dealings with China:

advisors who opposed the plan.

"Donald Trump is the only president to meaningfully confront China's abusive trade policies.... The groundbreaking U.S.-China Phase One Economic and Trade Agreement he signed in January stops forced technology transfer, protects our intellectual property, promotes U.S. financial services, removes barriers to trade, and creates long-term market access for American exports in manufacturing, agriculture and more. For the first time, these commitments from China are in writing and are fully enforceable.

"Mr. Trump is also maintaining pressure on China through tariffs on \$370 billion in exports to the United States ....

"China is finally taking action to address numerous and long-standing intellectual property concerns....

"Of the 57 regulatory and structural changes that China committed to make in agriculture, China has already completed 50....

"[E]xports of U.S. manufacturing products to China have increased, and China has removed discriminatory barriers to open up its financial services sector to U.S.-owned enterprises...."

### Trump & Russia (Return to Table of Contents)

To counter Russian propaganda, the Trump administration <u>launched</u> a Russian-language TV network run by Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and Voice of America in February 2017.

In an effort to <u>improve</u> relations between the U.S. and Russia, President Trump has met with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

But Trump has also been tough on Russia in many ways. In August 2019, the Trump administration withdrew the U.S. from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty because Russia had been violating its terms for a number of years.

Trump also <u>approved</u> the export of lethal small arms to Ukraine, to aid that nation in its low-grade conflict with Russia-backed separatists.

In response to increased Russian activity in the north Atlantic Ocean, Trump in 2018 resurrected the Second Navy Fleet, which had been disbanded by Obama-Biden in 2011.

Trump has placed sanctions on Russia for human rights violations, transgressions vis-àvis Ukraine and Crimea, cyber-attacks against the United States, and violations of UN restrictions against dealing with North Korea.

Trump's sanctions against Russia have had an enormous effect. As *National Interest* reported in September 2018: "The Russian economy is <u>crumbling</u>."

### Trump's Historic Peace Agreements (Return to Table of Contents)

In August 2020, the Trump administration brokered a landmark peace agreement between Israel and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), a deal that <u>established</u> a "full normalization of relations" between the two countries. UAE became only the third Arab country in the Middle East — after Egypt and Jordan — to recognize Israel since its founding in 1948. Israeli Prime Minister

Benjamin Netanyahu and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE, Mohammed Bin Zayed, released a joint statement saying that the "diplomatic <u>breakthrough</u>" had occurred at "the request of President Trump."

In September 2020, the Trump administration brokered a landmark peace agreement between Israel and the Gulf state of Bahrain, a deal that would fully normalize diplomatic relations between the two states.

In September 2020 as well, Trump <u>oversaw</u> the <u>signing of a peace</u> agreement between Serbia and Kosovo. Kosovo agreed to formally recognize Israel's right to exist, and Serbia agreed to move its embassy to Jerusalem. Prior to this, Kosovo, a mostly Muslim country, had refused to recognize Israel. And Serbia since 2009 had refused to recognize Kosovo as an independent state.

On October 23, 2020, Trump announced that Sudan had also agreed to <u>normalize</u> its diplomatic relations with Israel. "It's peace in the Middle East without bloodshed," said Trump. Benjamin Netanyahu praised Trump for the vital role he was playing in the process: "We are expanding their circle of peace so rapidly with your leadership."

For his role in brokering and leading the aforementioned peace deals, Trump was nominated for three Nobel Peace Prizes.

# Trump's Leadership Through the Coronavirus Crisis (Return to Table of Contents)

Contrary to the claims of Democrat critics, President Trump's response to the coronavirus pandemic stands as one of the most impressive demonstrations of political leadership in living memory. Let us examine the facts.

As early as September of 2019, Chinese medical authorities first <u>noticed</u> a new, unfamiliar type of <u>coronavirus</u> in a number of patients in the city of Wuhan. But those authorities kept this discovery a secret for more than three months, during which time

# Trying to Sabotage Trump's Leadership Through the Coronavirus Crisis (Return to Table of Contents)

According to the Democratic Party Platform of 2020: "President Trump's abject failure to respond forcefully and capably to the COVID-19 pandemic — his failure to lead — makes him responsible for the deaths of tens of thousands of Americans." "If the president had done his job ... from the beginning," says Joe Biden, "all the people would still be alive." In the 2020 vice presidential debate, Kamala Harris characterized Trump's response to coronavirus as "the greatest failure of any presidential administration in the history of our country."

they continued to discover new cases of the virus on a regular basis. A University of Southampton <u>study</u> estimates that the number of coronavirus cases worldwide could have been reduced by <u>95%</u>, had China taken steps to contain the virus, and to alert the rest of the world about it, just three weeks sooner.

On January 21, 2020, the U.S. confirmed its <u>first</u> known case of coronavirus in a young man who had recently traveled to Wuhan.

On January 29, President Trump <u>created</u> a White House Coronavirus Task Force to coordinate the federal government's response to the virus outbreak and to keep the American people informed.

On January 31, President Trump formally declared coronavirus to be a public health emergency and became the <u>first</u> world leader to implement a <u>ban</u> on travel from China to the United States. There had not yet been a single known American death from the virus.

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Dr. Anthony Fauci, a lead member of the Coronavirus Task Force, later noted that "the very timely decision on the part of the president to shut off travel from China" had "absolutely" gone "a long way" toward limiting the number of coronavirus infections in the U.S. "We did it early," said Fauci.

"When the infection burden shifted from China to Europe," added Fauci, "we did the same thing. We shut off travel from Europe, which again was another safeguard to prevent influx from without, in."

Moreover, Fauci <u>stated</u> that the Trump administration's "coordinated response" to the crisis had been "impressive." "I can't imagine that, under any circumstances, anybody could be doing more," said the doctor.

Fauci also made it clear, in March 2020, that

As of late January, congressional Democrats were giving precisely ZERO attention to the coronavirus threat. They had not held even a single hearing — for even a single moment — about the matter. Instead, they had spent the preceding four months entirely obsessed with one agenda item: impeaching President Trump and trying to remove him from office. The Senate impeachment trial was still in high gear. Coronavirus was, quite literally, the last thing on any of their minds.

On February 1 — the day after Trump's announcement of the China travel ban — Joe Biden depicted the president as an anti-Asian racist: "This is no time for Donald Trump's record of hysteria and xenophobia — hysterical xenophobia — and fearmongering," he said.

On February 24, Nancy Pelosi visited San Francisco's crowded Chinatown area and encouraged people to come and patronize its various shops and vendors. "[W]hat we're trying to do here today," said Pelosi, "is to say everything is fine here. Come, because precautions have been taken.... [W]e think it's very safe to be in Chinatown and hope that others will come. It's lovely here. The food is delicious, the shops are prospering, the parade was great. Walking tours continue. Please come and visit and enjoy Chinatown." Within a few weeks. Pelosi would claim that President Trump — and not she — had failed to take the deadliness of the virus seriously enough.

Trump "has <u>never</u> overruled me" vis-à-vis following the science, rather than political concerns, in combating the virus.

In subsequent weeks, President Trump announced further travel restrictions on certain global hot spots where coronavirus was becoming increasingly widespread — Iran (Feb. 26), South Korea (Feb. 29), and eventually, all of Europe (March 11 & 14).

On February 29, a patient near Seattle was believed to be the first person to die of coronavirus in the United States.

Over the next several weeks and months, President Trump and his administration worked around the clock to:

- accelerate the development of coronavirus diagnostic capabilities, treatments, and vaccines
- dramatically <u>cut</u> the bureaucratic red tape that traditionally had stood in the way of swift development of therapeutics and inoculations
- sign legislation securing trillions of dollars for coronavirus response efforts
- meet with industry executives and nonprofit leaders to develop action plans and forge partnerships
- <u>permit</u> Medicare Advantage and Part D health plans to <u>waive</u> co-payments for coronavirus tests and treatment
- instruct the SBA to make available many billions of dollars in lowinterest disaster loans for businesses impacted by the virus
- swiftly create large military hospitals aboard ships and in land-based facilities to help support areas impacted by coronavirus

- temporarily suspend foreclosures and evictions affecting families whose mortgages were insured by the FDA
- dramatically <u>expand</u> access to telehealth services
- recruit auto manufacturers to repurpose their assembly lines for the mass production of <u>ventilators</u>
- meet with distributors such as FedEx and UPS to discuss ways of getting necessary medical supplies to state and local governments
- invoke the Defense Production Act to direct the 3M Company to produce N95 respirator masks
- make the U.S. the world leader, by far, in its capacity to test for coronavirus

On March 21, the FDA announced that it had approved a rapid coronavirus test that would require no training to administer and would yield results in less than an hour.

In early April, the Trump administration launched "Operation Warp Speed," a Manhattan Project-style effort to dramatically reduce — by as much as eight months below the normal time frame — the amount of time needed to develop a coronavirus vaccine. As Bloomberg News noted: "There is no precedent for such rapid development of a vaccine."

On July 27, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced that a Phase 3 clinical trial of a coronavirus vaccine had begun. Other Phase 3 trials followed soon thereafter. Speculation arose that a vaccine could be available by the fall of 2020 or the beginning of 2021. This would represent one of the fastest, most extraordinary achievements in the history of medicine.

#### Voting Rights (Return to Table of Contents)

President Trump supports Voter ID laws that require voters to present some form of identification at polling places, to prove that they are whom they claim to be.

Trump tweeted in 2018: "As Americans, you need identification, sometimes in a very strong and accurate form, for almost everything you do ... except when it comes to the most important thing, VOTING for the people that run your country. Push hard for Voter Identification!"

Trump also supports the practice of updating the voter rolls, whereby ineligible names — e.g., people who have died or moved away, or who are non-citizens — can be removed from the rolls.

### **Voting Rights** (Return to Table of Contents)

The Democratic Party Platform <u>says</u>: "We will make voting easier and more accessible for all Americans by supporting automatic voter registration, same-day voter registration, early voting, and universal vote-from-home and vote-by-mail options."

<u>Analysis</u>: Every one of these Democrat proposals dramatically <u>increases</u> opportunities for voter fraud, particularly in light of the fact that voter rolls nationwide already include at least 24 million ineligible or inaccurate voter registrations."

The 2020 Democratic Party Platform says: "We stand united against the determined Republican campaign to <u>disenfranchise</u> voters through onerous voter ID laws, unconstitutional and excessive purges of the voter rolls."

Analysis: The Democrats use the term "onerous" to describe laws that simply ask voters to provide some form of identification proving that they are whom they say they are. And Democrats have long opposed what they call "unconstitutional and excessive" efforts to keep voter rolls accurate and up-to-date. In some cases, they have sued to prevent states from updating their voter rolls.

In May 2019, Joe Biden <u>condemned</u> efforts to institute voter ID regulations, or to purge voter rolls of ineligible names, as initiatives that were "racist" efforts to "curtail the right to vote." "And guess what?" he said without evidence. "Mostly directed at people of color. You see it. We've got Jim Crow sneaking back in."

### **Democrats Have Voted to Promote Voter Fraud**

In 1998, Congress <u>voted</u> on a bill that sought to: (a) require proof-of-citizenship when registering to vote; (b) ban registration by

mail; (c) permit states to require photo ID or signatures at polling places. In other words, the goal was to reduce the possibility of voter fraud.

- Republicans voted Yes, 163-61
- Democrats voted No, 198-2

#### **Voting Rights for Felons**

The Democratic Party Platform says: "The formerly <u>incarcerated</u> should not be blocked from exercising their voting rights or accessing public services."

#### Lowering the Voting Age to 16

In March 2019, Nancy Pelosi <u>said</u>: "I myself have always been for lowering the voting age to 16. I think it's really important to capture kids when they're in high school, when they're interested in all of this, when they're learning about government, to be able to vote."













