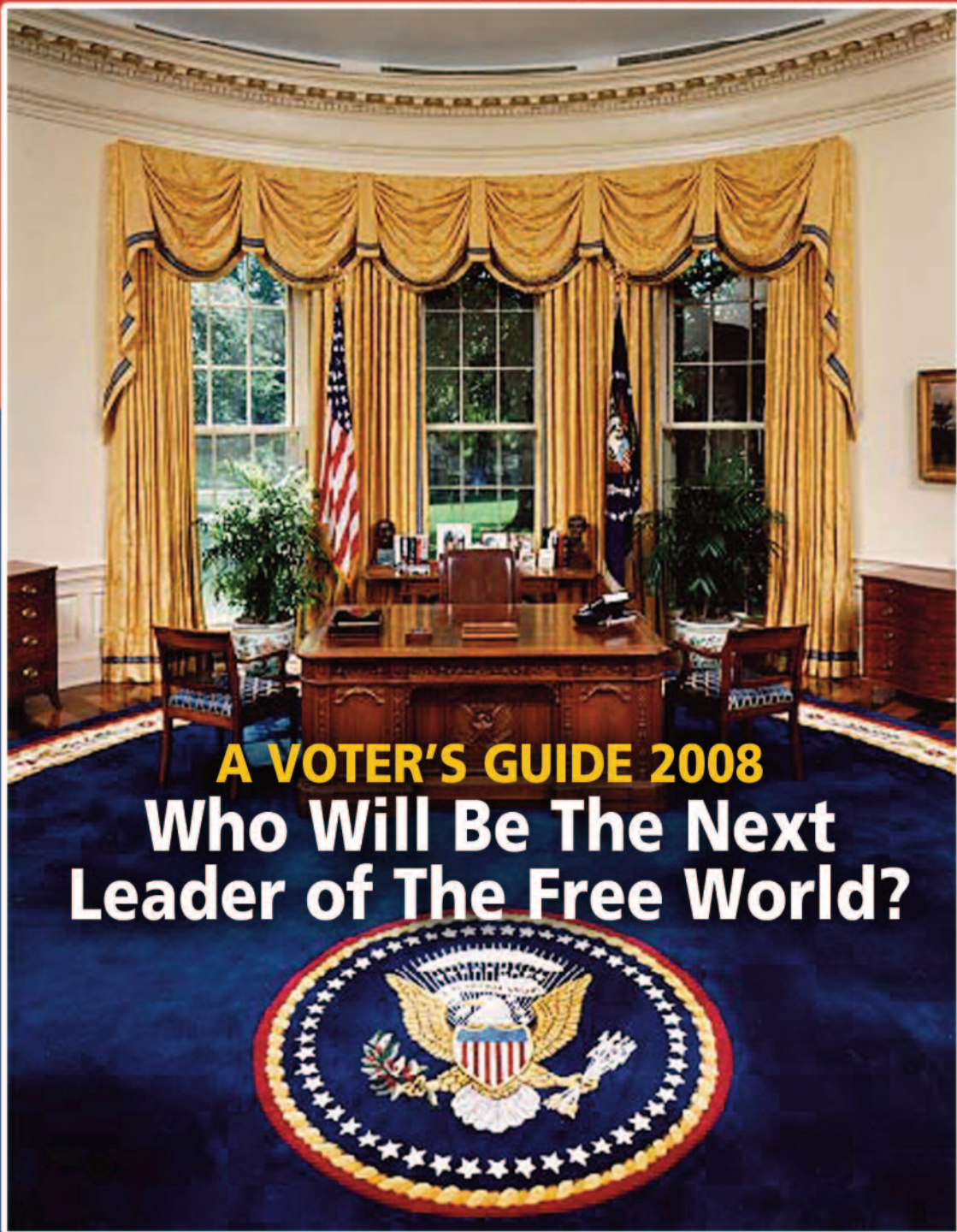


# Freedom's

## JOURNAL MAGAZINE

The Political Voice of Conservative Reform



**A VOTER'S GUIDE 2008**  
**Who Will Be The Next  
Leader of The Free World?**





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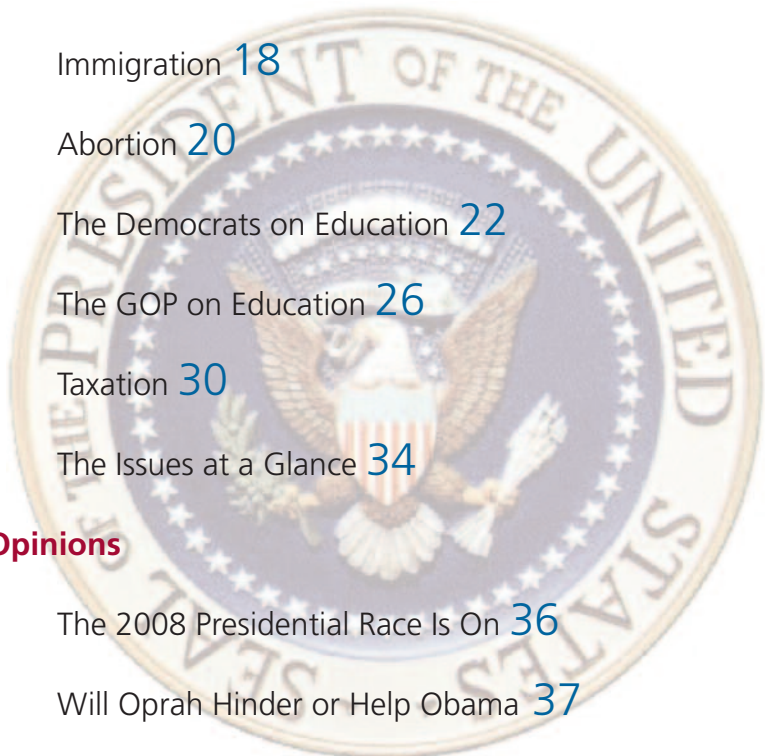
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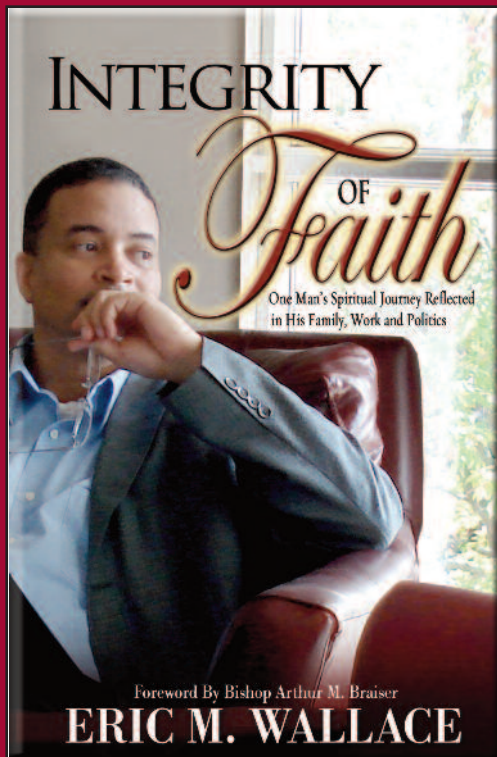
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*“Dr. Wallace’s story is a testimony of integrity and faith experienced by many, but told by only a few. His account is a compelling reminder that those values are enduring despite the negative forces to the contrary.”*

Herman Cain, President and CEO  
THE New Voice, Inc.



**T**hrough the ages, God has chosen men after His own heart to confound the wise and energize the weak. Old Testament heroes like Moses, Abraham, Isaac and King David were imperfect men who God ultimately perfected because of their faith in the midst of hardship and trials.

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## Welcome to Freedom's Journal Magazine's (FJM) 2008 Presidential Voter's Guide.

**F**or far too long the mainstream media (MSM) has misrepresented the African American community, depicting us as poor, uneducated and narcissistic. We have allowed them, along with national black leaders, to tell us for whom we should vote. In the process, we chose to ignore core principles and vote based on others' interests, rather than the dictates of our consciences and beliefs. As a result, persons who do not share the value of a human life, education or the entrepreneurial spirit now serve in powerful positions.

The African American community is the only community where its traditions, founded on biblical principle, are not reflected in our vote. We preach righteousness on Sunday morning but support unrighteousness with our vote.

This simply cannot continue. In 1827, the editors of Freedom's Journal Newspaper wrote these profound words: "We wish to plead our cause. Too long have others spoken for us. Too long has the public been deceived by misrepresentations in things which concern us dearly." We agree wholeheartedly.

Freedom's Journal Magazine is a black conservative political periodical designed to engage the black community on issues from a traditional perspective. Following our literary role model's lead, we have compiled a voters' guide to help our readers understand the cur-

rent crop of presidential candidates' positions and policies. Our intention is to provide our readers with facts and analysis to depend upon for your final decision, rather than feelings and perceptions.

Thus, as Freedom's Journal Magazine's editor and publisher, I urge you to stand for what we say we believe, and actively engage in the political process. This voter's guide is the first step. Upcoming editions of Freedom's Journal Magazine will develop this theme. It is crucial that you join us in this future-affecting discussion and engage now in the conflict of ideas.

Eric

*Eric M. Wallace, Ph.D.*



*Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people. Prov. 14:34*





**Who Will Be The Next  
Leader of the Free World?**

# Meet The Democratic Presidential Candidates





## Joe Biden

**Hometown:** Scranton, Pa.; Claymont, Del.  
**Age:** 65

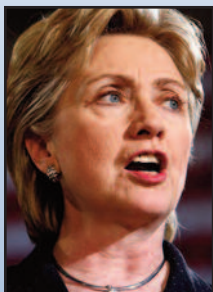
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Education:** Syracuse University College of Law, J.D., 1968  
University of Delaware, B.A., 1965

**Candidate Website:**  
[www.joebiden.com](http://www.joebiden.com)

**Political Experience:**  
U.S. Senator from Delaware, 1972-present  
New Castle (Del.) County Council, 1970-72

**Professional Experience:**  
Adjunct Professor, Widener University School of Law, 1991-present  
Attorney, private practice, 1968-1972

**Family Information**  
**Spouse:** Jill Jacobs Biden  
**Children:** Joseph "Beau" Biden III, Robert Biden, Naomi "Amy" Biden (d. 1972), Ashley Biden



## Hillary Clinton

**Hometown:** Park Ridge, Ill.  
**Age:** 60  
**Religion:** United Methodist

**Education:** Yale Law School, J.D., 1973  
Wellesley College, B.A., 1969  
**Candidate Website:**  
[www.hillaryclinton.com](http://www.hillaryclinton.com)  
**Political Experience:**  
U.S. Senator from New York, 2001-present  
First Lady of the United States, 1993-2001

First Lady of Arkansas, 1979-1981, 1983-1993  
**Professional Experience:**  
Attorney, Rose Law Firm, 1976-1992  
Faculty, University of Arkansas Law School, 1975  
Counsel, House Judiciary Committee, 1974  
Co-Founder, Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families  
**Family Information:**  
**Spouse:** Bill Clinton  
**Children:** Chelsea Clinton



## Christopher Dodd

**Hometown:** East Haddam, Conn.  
**Age:** 63

**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Education:** University of Louisville School of Law, J.D., 1972  
Providence College, B.A., 1966  
**Candidate Website:**  
[www.chrisdodd.com](http://www.chrisdodd.com)  
**Candidacy Status:** Formally declared candidacy Jan. 11, 2007  
**Political Experience:**  
U.S. Senator from Connecticut, 1981-present.  
U.S. Representative from Connecticut, 1975-1981  
**Professional Experience:**  
U.S. Army, 1969-1975  
Attorney, New London, Conn., 1972-1974  
Peace Corps Volunteer, Dominican Republic, 1966-1968  
**Family Information:**  
**Spouse:** Jackie Clegg  
**Children:** Grace Dodd, Christina Dodd



## John Edwards

**Hometown:** Robbins, N.C.  
**Age:** 54  
**Religion:** United Methodist

**Education:**  
University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, J.D., 1977  
North Carolina State University, B.A., 1974

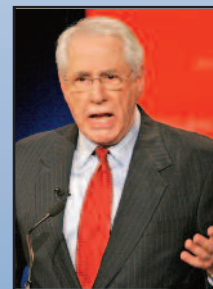
**Candidate Website:**  
[www.johnedwards.com](http://www.johnedwards.com)

**Political Experience:**  
U.S. Senator from North Carolina, 1998-2005

**Professional Experience:**  
Director, Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity, University of North Carolina School of Law, 2004-2006  
Partner, Edwards & Kirby, 1993-1998

Partner, Tharrington Smith & Hargrove, 1984-1992  
Associate, Tharrington Smith & Hargrove, 1981-1983  
Associate, Dearborn & Ewing, 1978-1981  
Law Clerk, Office of Judge Franklin T. Dupree Jr., United States District Court for the Eastern District, 1977-1978

**Family Information:**  
**Spouse:** Elizabeth Edwards  
**Children:** Lucius Wade Edwards (d. 1996), Cate Edwards, Emma Claire Edwards, Jack Edwards



## Mike Gravel

**Hometown:** Springfield, Mass.  
**Age:** 77

**Religion:** Unitarian Universalist

**Education:**

Columbia University, B.S., 1956

**Candidate Website:**

[www.gravel2008.us](http://www.gravel2008.us)

**Candidacy Status:**

Formally announced candidacy on April 17, 2006

**Political Experience:**

U. S. Senator from Alaska, 1969-1981

Speaker of Alaska House of Representatives, 1965-1966

Alaska State Representative, 1963-1966

**Professional Experience:**

Founder, The Democracy Foundation, 2001

Real estate developer in Alaska, 1980s

U.S. Army, 1951-1954

**Family Information**

**Spouse:** Whitney Steward Gravel

**Children:** Martin Gravel and Lynne Gravel Mosier



## Dennis Kucinich

**Hometown:**

Cleveland, Ohio

**Age:** 61

**Religion:** Roman Catholic

**Education:** Case Western Reserve University, M.A., 1974  
Case Western Reserve University, B.A., 1973

**Candidate Website:**

[www.kucinich.us](http://www.kucinich.us)

**Political Experience:**

U.S. Representative from Ohio, 1997-present

Ohio State Senator, 1994-1996  
Mayor of Cleveland, 1977-1979

Cleveland City Council, 1970-1975, 1981-1982

Clerk of Courts, Cleveland Municipal Court, 1976-1977

**Professional Experience:**

Consultant, Publicly Owned Electric Systems, 1979-present

President, Marketing and Communications Firm, 1985-1995

Teacher, Communications and Political Science, Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland State University, 1991-1994

Professor, Political Science, Case Western Reserve University, 1982-1992

Communications Entrepreneur, Software and Public Relations, 1982-1992

**Family Information:**

**Spouse:** Elizabeth Kucinich

**Children:** Jacqueline Kucinich



## Barack Obama

**Hometown:**

Honolulu, Hawaii

**Age:** 46

**Religion:** United Church of Christ

**Education:** Harvard Law School, J.D., 1991

Columbia University, B.A., 1983

**Candidate Website:**

[www.barackobama.com](http://www.barackobama.com)

**Political Experience:**

U.S. Senator from Illinois, 2005-present

Illinois State Senator, 1997-2004

**Professional Experience:**

Lecturer, University of Chicago Law School, 1993-2004

Attorney, Miner Barnhill & Galland, 1993-2004

**Family Information:**

**Spouse:** Michelle Obama

**Children:** Malia Ann Obama, Sasha Obama

## Bill Richardson

**Hometown:**

Pasadena, Calif., and Mexico City, Mexico

**Age:** 60

**Religion:**

Roman Catholic

**Education:**

Tufts University Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, M.A., 1971

Tufts University, B.A., 1970

**Candidate Website:**

[www.richardsonforpresident.com](http://www.richardsonforpresident.com)

**Political Experience:**

Governor of New Mexico, 2003-present

U.S. Secretary of Energy, 1998-2001

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, 1997-1998

U.S. Representative from New Mexico, 1983-1997

Staffer, Senate Foreign Relations Committee, 1976-1978

Legislative Management Officer, Congressional Relations, State Department, 1974-1976

**Professional Experience:**

Richardson Trade Group, 1978-1982

**Family Information:**

**Spouse:** Barbara Richardson



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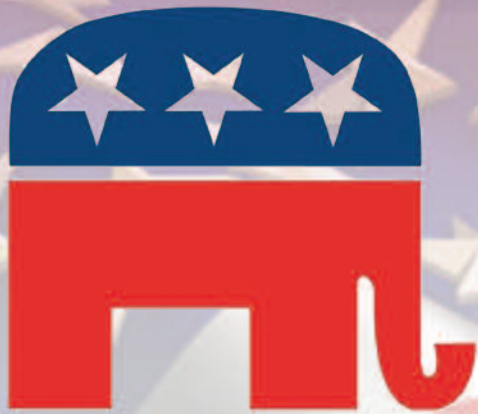


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the Character  
of Christ*



integrity books

[www.integritybooks.net](http://www.integritybooks.net)



**Who Will Be The Next  
Leader of the Free World?**

# Meet The Republican Presidential Candidates





## Rudolph Giuliani

**Hometown:** New York, N.Y.  
**Age:** 63  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic

**Education:** New York University School of Law, J.D., 1968  
Manhattan College, B.A., 1965

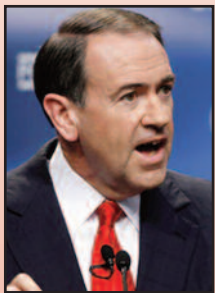
**Candidate Website:**  
[www.joinrudy2008.com](http://www.joinrudy2008.com)

**Candidacy Status:**  
Formed exploratory committee, November 2006. Filed "statement of candidacy" in February 2007.

**Political Experience:**  
Mayor, New York City, 1994-2001  
U.S. Attorney, 1981-1989

**Professional Experience:**  
Partner, Bracewell & Giuliani, LLP, 2005-present  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Giuliani Partners, LLC, 2002-present

**Family Information:**  
**Spouse:** Judith Nathan  
**Children:** Andrew Giuliani, Caroline Giuliani



## Mike Huckabee

**Hometown:** Hope, Ark.  
**Age:** 52  
**Religion:** Baptist  
**Education:**

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, M.A., 1980  
Ouachita Baptist University, B.A., 1975

**Candidate Website:**  
[www.mikehuckabee.com](http://www.mikehuckabee.com)

**Candidacy Status:**  
Formed exploratory committee Jan. 28, 2007

**Political Experience:**  
Governor of Arkansas, 1996-2007  
Chairman, National Governors Association, 2005-2006  
Lieutenant Governor of Arkansas, 1993-1996

**Professional Experience:**  
President, Cambridge Communications, 1992-1996  
President, KBSC-TV, 1987-1992  
President, Beech Street Communications, 1986-1992  
Baptist Minister, 1980-1992  
President, Arkansas Baptist State Convention, 1989-1991  
President, ACTS-TV, 1983-1986  
Advertising Director, Focus, 1976-1980

**Family Information:**  
**Spouse:** Janet Huckabee  
**Children:** John Mark Huckabee, David Huckabee, Sarah Huckabee



## Duncan Hunter

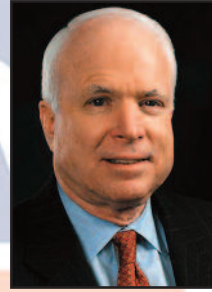
**Hometown:** Alpine, Calif.  
**Age:** 59  
**Religion:** Southern Baptist

**Education:** Western State University, B.S.L. & J.D., 1976

**Candidate Website:**  
[www.gohunter08.com](http://www.gohunter08.com)

**Political Experience:**  
U.S. Representative from California, 1981-present  
Chair, House Armed Services Committee, 2003-2007  
**Professional Experience:**  
Attorney, private practice, 1976-1980

U.S. Army, 1969-1971  
**Family Information:**  
**Spouse:** Lynne Hunter  
**Children:** Duncan Duane Hunter, Sam Hunter



## John McCain

**Hometown:** Alexandria, Va.  
**Age:** 71  
**Religion:** Baptist

**Education:** National War College, attended courses, 1973-1974  
United States Naval Academy, B.S., 1958

**Candidate Website:**  
[www.johnmccain.com](http://www.johnmccain.com)

**Political Experience:**  
U.S. Senator from Arizona, 1987-present  
U.S. Representative from Arizona, 1983-1987

**Professional Experience:**  
Senate Navy Liaison, 1977-1981  
United States Navy 1958-1981

**Family Information:**  
**Spouse:** Cindy Hensley McCain  
**Children:** Sidney McCain, Doug Shepp, Andrew Shepp, Meghan McCain, John Sidney McCain IV, James McCain, Bridget McCain



## Ron Paul

**Hometown:** Green Tree, Pa.  
**Age:** 72  
**Religion:** Baptist

**Education:**

Duke University School of Medicine, M.D., 1961  
Gettysburg College, B.A., 1957

**Candidate Website:**  
[www.ronpaul2008.com](http://www.ronpaul2008.com)

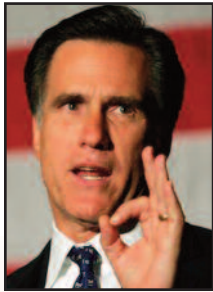
**Political Experience:**  
U.S. Representative from Texas, 1976-1977, 1979-1985, 1997-present

**Professional Experience:**  
Founder and honorary chairman, Foundation for Rational Economics

and Education, 1979-present  
Obstetrician and gynecologist,  
private practice, 1968-1996  
Flight surgeon, U.S. Air National  
Guard, 1965-1968  
Flight surgeon and captain, U.S.  
Air Force, 1963-1965

**Family Information:**

**Spouse:** Carol Wells Paul  
**Children:** Ronald Paul Jr., Lori  
Pyeatt, Randall "Rand" Paul,  
Robert Paul and Joy Paul-LeBlanc



**W. Mitt Romney**

**Hometown:**  
Bloomfield  
Hills, Mich.  
**Age:** 60

**Religion:**

Latter-day Saint (Mormon)  
**Education:** Harvard Business  
School, MBA, 1975  
Harvard Law School, J.D., 1975  
Brigham Young University, B.A.,  
1971

**Candidate Website:**  
[www.mittromney.com](http://www.mittromney.com)

**Political Experience:**  
Governor of Massachusetts,  
2003-2007  
Chairman, Republican Governors  
Association, 2005-2006

**Professional Experience:**  
CEO, Salt Lake Organizing  
Committee (2002 Winter  
Olympics)  
Founder and head of Bain  
Capital (venture capital firm)  
Vice President and Interim CEO,  
Bain & Co. (management  
consulting firm)

**Family Information:**  
**Spouse:** Ann Romney  
**Children:** Tagg Romney, Matt  
Romney, Josh Romney, Ben Rom-  
ney, Craig Romney

**Fred Thompson**



**Hometown:**  
Lawrenceburg,  
Tenn.

**Age:** 65  
**Religion:**  
Church of  
Christ

**Education:**  
Vanderbilt  
University,

J.D., 1967  
Memphis State University (now  
University of Memphis), B.S.,  
1964

**Candidate Website:**  
[www.imwithfred.com](http://www.imwithfred.com)

**Political Experience:**  
U.S. Senator from Tennessee,  
1994-2003  
Member, Tennessee Appellate  
Court Nominating Commission,  
1985-1987

Special Counsel, Senate Select  
Committee on Intelligence, 1982  
Special Counsel, Senate  
Committee on Foreign Relations,  
1980-1981

Special Counsel to Lamar  
Alexander, governor of Tennessee,  
1980

Minority Counsel, Senate Select  
Committee on Presidential  
Campaign Activities ("Watergate  
Committee"), 1973-1974  
Assistant U.S. Attorney, 1969-1972

Professional Experience  
Senior Analyst, ABC News Radio,  
2006-present

Member, Council on Foreign  
Relations, 2003-present  
Visiting Fellow, American  
Enterprise Institute for Public  
Policy Research, 2003-present  
Feature film and television actor,  
1985-present

Lobbyist, Equitas Limited, 2004-  
2007

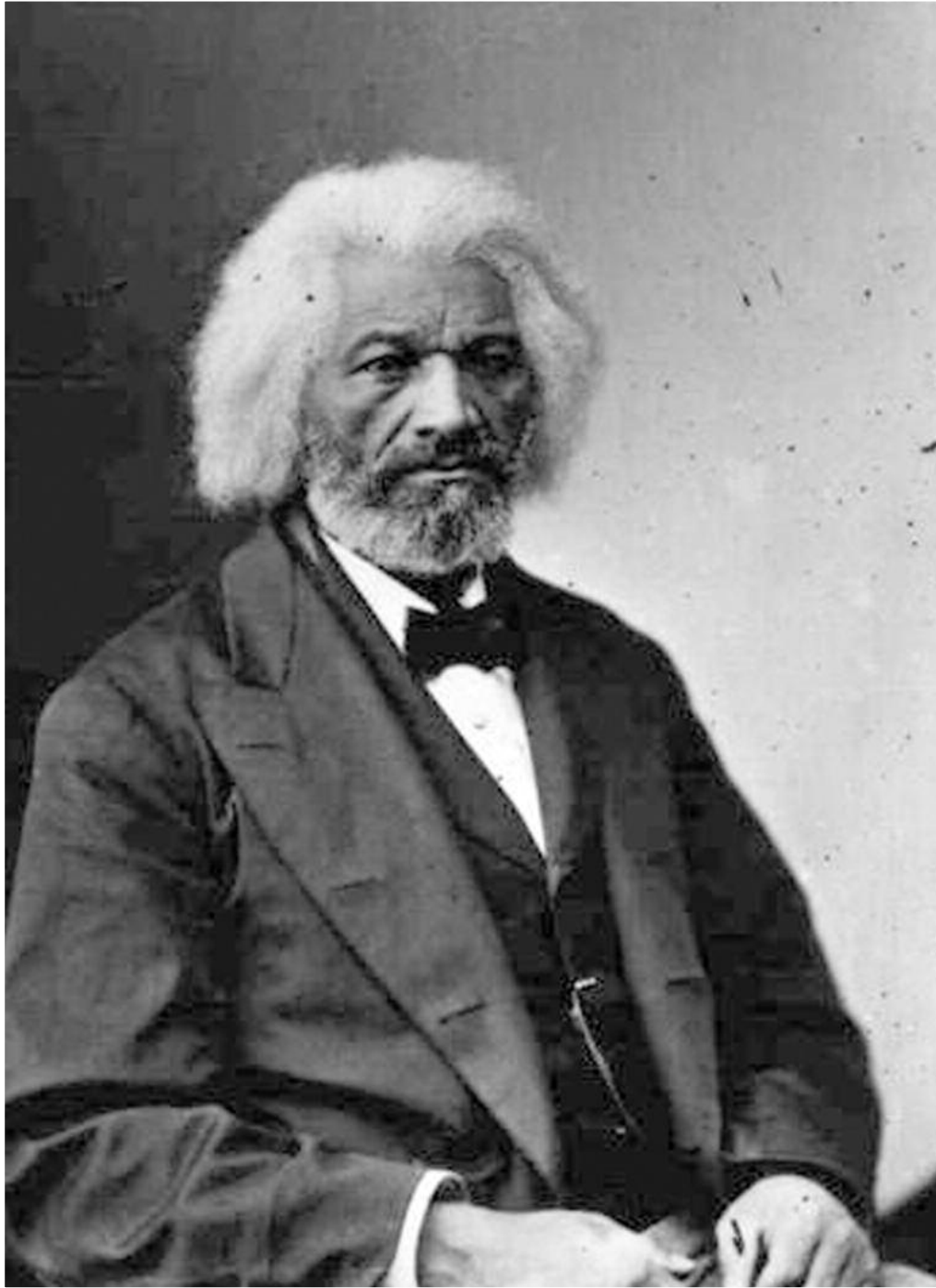
Attorney, Arent Fox Kintner  
Plotkin & Kahn, 1991-1994

**Family Information:**

**Spouse:** Jeri Kehn Thompson  
**Children:** Fred Dalton "Tony"

Thompson Jr., Elizabeth "Betsy"  
Thompson Panici (d. 2002),  
Daniel Thompson, Hayden  
Thompson, Samuel Thompson





I am a Republican, a black, dyed in the wool Republican,  
and I never intend to belong to any other party than the  
party of freedom and progress.

*Frederick Douglass (c. 1817-95)*

The Issues

# Health Care and the Presidential Candidates

By David Brooks







***“Another factor the Negro needs is a new figure in politics, one who will not concern himself so much with what others can do for him as what he can do for himself. He will know sufficient about the system of government not to carry his trouble to the federal functionaries and thus confess himself a failure in the community in which he lives.”***  
***“...The New Negro in politics will not be so unwise as to join the ignorant delegations from conferences and conventions which stage annual pilgrimages to complain to the President because they have socially and economically failed to measure up to the demands of self-preservation.”***

Carter Woodson, “The Mis-Education of the Negro”, 1933

**H**ard to believe these words were penned almost 75 years ago because they are still as relevant today as they were back in 1933. Woodson was advocating that our people have self-reliance, self-preservation, independence and ownership. What does this have to do with health care, you ask? Everything.

Americans annually spend over two trillion dollars on health care. Health insurance premiums are increasing at a faster rate than cost of living and wage

increases. A stunning factoid states that chronic diseases (diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, etc.) account for 75% of that \$2 trillion figure. The Centers for Disease control and Prevention say that 80% of type two diabetes, 80% of heart disease and strokes, and 40% of cancer could be prevented if Americans made better lifestyle choices. Let that sink in a minute. The alphabet networks will not say what's driving the cost of medical care upward. Part of the problem is in our collective mirrors.

All candidates, Democrat and Republican, have stated their desire to see an America where every citizen has access to quality, affordable, portable health care. No difference here between the two parties here. But, how they propose to get this done will make it easy for you to make a decision because these philosophies are as different as night and day. Simply stated, one approach empowers the federal government and the other approach empowers you.

First, let me give a brief primer on the concept of health insurance. People (policy holders) pay a fee (premium) to an insurer. In exchange for this fee, the insurer agrees to cover the medical costs if the policy holder contracts specific illnesses. With a large number of people paying premiums, even a catastrophic medical event can be paid from the money contributed by the other policy holders. However, a downside to this is that policy holders tend to demand more services than they would if they were paying out of pocket or if they were not insured. It's human

*Democrat and Republican, have stated their desire to see an America where every citizen has access to quality, affordable, portable health care.*

nature. If something is more or less free, you will tend to use it more; because of this, our society has arrived at a point where we expect all of our medical costs to be "covered" and in most cases, it is. This is helping to increase the cost of insurance. Health insurance should be for catastrophic events. Your car insurance doesn't "cover" oil changes, tire rotations and tune-ups; nor does it "cover" the costs of replacing a blown engine that was caused by neglect, such as going 50,000 miles or so without an oil change. But, your car insurance does "cover" more serious events such as accidents. So why do we expect our health insurance to "cover" routine physicals, cold and flu related visits, and ache and pain related visits?

The Democrat candidates all want Universal (read "government run, government empowering") health care. The prevailing thought here is that the federal government can look after your health care better than you can. Hillary Clinton's plan requires us to get health insurance. Chris Dodd's plan will cover everybody, even if you are not employed. Barack Obama and John Edwards' plans will require preventative care doctor visits to be covered. What happened to personal responsibility and self-reliance? It's time for some direct talk and tough love, especially when we are talking about something that is preventable given that the majority of healthcare costs are due to bad lifestyle choices. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 80% of heart disease and strokes, 80% of type 2 diabetes, and 40% of cancer could be prevented if Americans would not smoke, exercise more, and eat healthier food. In fairness to the Democratic candidates, many do mention the role that prevention and better lifestyle choices should have on their web sites. However, the volume level and intensity of what they say about prevention pales in comparison to the invective that many of them re-



serve for the insurance and pharmaceutical industries.

Canada's health care system has been one that is often cited as a good model for USA to adopt. People often refer to the lower prescription drug prices as the primary reason why the United States should adopt Canada's universal health care model. Federal government intervention, or universal health care, has been in effect in Canada since 1966. But a November 2007 study conducted by Canada's Fraser Institute, an independent research and educational organization, concluded that "The evidence makes it clear that Canadian prescription drug policies do not produce lower costs or better choice for Canadians." Also another concluding statement said that "When you factor in the positive influence American prescription policies have in terms of stimulating investment and research on new medicines, you can see U.S. policies produce better outcomes for its citizens than is the case in Canada." Don't shoot me, I'm just the messenger. For some reason, the alphabet networks don't think this is important for you to know. Somebody had to do it. On the Republican side, there is agreement that our health care system needs to be fixed, but allowing competition and allowing the free market system to work is more desirable than governmental intervention, something agreed upon by the top four candidates, Guiliani, Huckabee, Romney, and Thompson. When left alone, our open free market system is second to none in the world. Their solutions empower the private sector to find solutions to lower costs. This can be done through opening the market to all providers in all states. Did you know that a family of four in New Jersey will pay \$6,046 for coverage compared to only \$1,965 for the same policy in Iowa? Restrictions should be relaxed so that providers can compete across state lines. The bottom line is that the Republicans think that you should be in control

*“When you factor in the positive influence American prescription policies have in terms of stimulating investment and research on new medicines, you can see U.S. policies produce better outcomes for its citizens...”*

of your health care and your health care dollars by being self-reliant instead of dependent on a government intervention. Speaking of self-reliance, a Republican candidate, Rudy Guiliani, mentioned Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) on his web site. You pay for health care out of an account that you contribute to. If you don't use all of the funds, the money stays in your account earning interest. This tool empowers you to save and make wise, prudent choices for your health care and therefore reduces the overall cost of health care.

The choice is before you. The Democrats believe they can improve your overall health by empowering the federal government. The Republicans believe the way to improve health care is to empower you along with the private sector to creatively find solutions based on our free market system. Seventy five years ago, Carter Woodson encouraged self-reliance. He knew the solution then. In 2008, what will you choose?

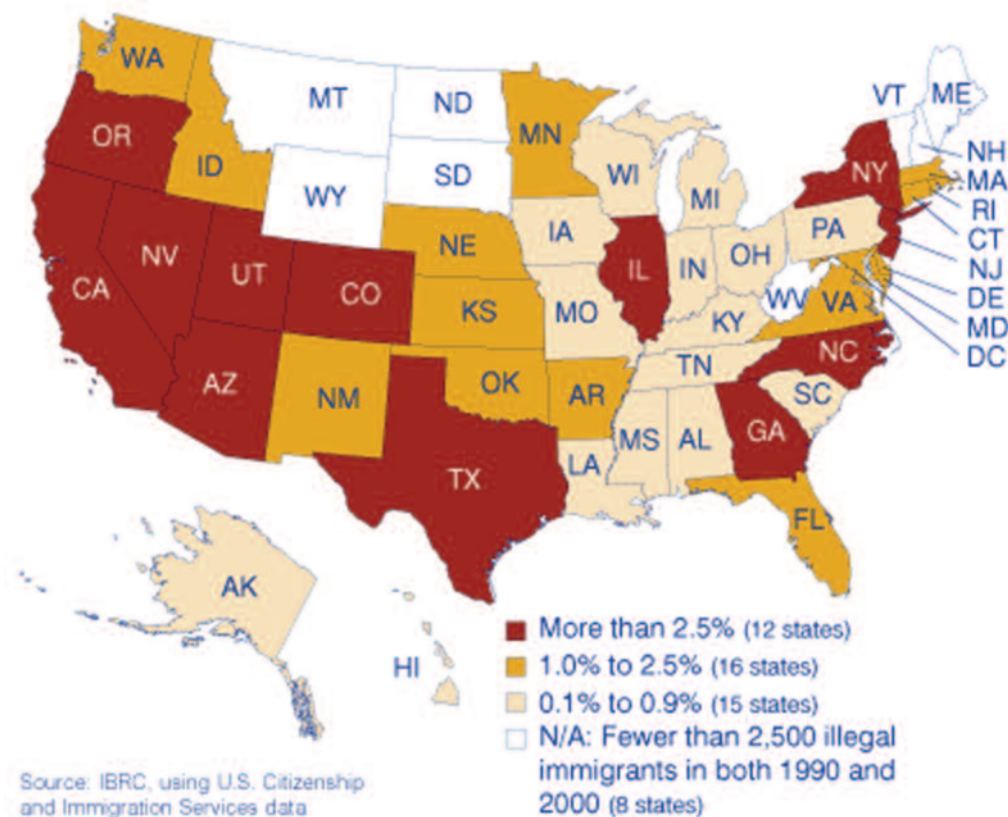
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**David Brooks** is a Senior Pharmaceutical Sales Representative for Eli Lilly and Company. Please e-mail replies and comments to [iamunplugged@mac.com](mailto:iamunplugged@mac.com). The ideas expressed should not be construed or interpreted as being representative of, or endorsed by, Eli Lilly and Company.

# Immigration

## In 2008 A Nation Without Borders?

By Michael Donnella



As the front on Iraq has quieted and shown progress, the American people have shown eagerness to fight another war that many of the politicians are uncomfortable having, which is the war on our borders. Immigration has recently become the hot button issue, and one that could come back to ruin either political party depending on where the parties choose to stand on the issue of enforcing the borders. It is not on the Democratic side where politics have come into play, but on the Republican side. The issue of what to do about 12 million illegal immigrants has the American people stark raving mad. This will play a part in whom peo-

ple vote for the 2008 election. Here is another chance to follow Karl Rove's method. Find an issue where the majority of the American people heavily favor your party's position and then hammer the opposition with it for the general election. Illegal immigration has the potential to be the winning issue for the GOP the same way gay marriage was in 2004. When we look at the positions of the Democrats, it is easy to see how immigration could be the issue that the GOP could reverse what had initially looked like a dismal year for Republicans.

The fact that the Democrats have 90 percent of the African-American vote at this point in time means that they need to look elsewhere for votes.



The basic fact is the Democrats need a new base of voters to exploit. Enter the fastest growing group in the United States—the Hispanic population. But here’s the problem with that population—many of them are entering this country illegally, with fake drivers licenses, fake Social Security numbers, and fake identification to apply for jobs, education and health care. So what is the solution of the Democratic Party? Give illegal immigrants these things for free of course—who cares that the majority of the American citizens don’t have health care—give it to illegals because they are here to do the work that “not even the Blacks will do.” Oh yes, we all remember the infamous words of El Presidente de Mexico, Vincente Fox, insinuating that illegals deserved to be in America because they work harder than African-Americans. The Democrats of course, would not stand up for their most loyal block of citizens. They were too busy figuring out how they could get the illegal vote in 2008. So now they plan on giving illegal aliens drivers licenses, something that over 70 percent of Americans oppose. Even liberal states like California and New York could not pass such a bill. Why do they support this? In many states, all you need to vote is a state identification card—without any proof of citizenship. They also want to use taxpayer money to fund education for illegal immigrants children in the “DREAM act” (I love how everyone jumps on the back of Blacks for anything that could be remotely exploited as a civil rights issue). It is no wonder that the Republicans have been given a golden goose for 2008—if they pick the right candidate.

The problem with the Republican Party is that they are very much like Southerners in the sense that they are very wary of anything that might get them tagged as “racist.” Unfortunately, I would say that they are being overly cautious. They saw what happened in 1964 when Goldwater’s call for federalism against the 1964 Civil Rights act lost the majority of the African American vote permanently to the party of slavery and the KKK. There are Republicans like, McCain, Guiliani, and Huckabee who appear soft on immigration. Rudy Guiliani most fa-

mously told illegals while he was mayor of New York City, “if you come here and you work hard and you happen to be in an undocumented status, you’re one of the people who we want in this city. You’re somebody that we want to protect, and we want you to get out from under what is often a life of being like a fugitive, which is really unfair.” Guiliani ran a sanctuary city while he was mayor, meaning no matter what crime an illegal alien committed, they would not be reported as illegal. McCain and Huckabee both have supported the DREAM act, as well as supported health care and amnesty for the illegals that are already here, a sign of consistently thumbing their noses at what the base wants. And then there are two men who have a solution that want change in the way this country’s immigration policy is enforced. Fred Thompson, endorsed by Iowa immigration hawk Steve King, has laid out a comprehensive plan to enforce the border and punish companies who hire illegal immigrants. Then there is of course Mitt Romney, who has been endorsed by immigration hawk Tom Tancredo, who ran for President on the immigration issue alone. Romney is a businessman who understands that illegal immigration is bad for the economy and bad for the American worker. He, therefore, plans to enforce the border, punish the companies that hire illegal immigrants, and make sure that no one who is here illegally has access to the privileges of American citizenship.

At the end of the day, the Republicans must ask themselves, which do they fear more, another label of racism, which they have shown is untrue in the past, or a lost election because they thought it was more important to be “politically correct” than listen to the American people. We will see when we introduce the nominee in our next issue, but it seems by and large the GOP has been handed its 2008 issue. Now let’s see what they do.

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## The Right to Life:

# Abortion and the Presidential Candidates

By Matthew Edward



[Click Here For Video](#)

Founding father Ben Franklin once said, “The Constitution provides every citizen the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, but you have to catch it for yourself.” This bit of humor assumes American law protects the rights of life and liberty, but happiness is left to the pursuer. One must determine for one’s self the path that will bring happiness into his or her life. Franklin most likely never dreamed a generation of future Americans would be denied the pursuit of happiness because they were first denied the right to life.

One of the principle elements in our free society is the right to life, since without it all other rights are meaningless. The right to life ensures that a person has the right to liberty or at least to fight for that liberty. The right to life ensures that a person at least has the opportunity to seek happiness and to pursue it with all their strength heart and soul. But to deny life is to deny what only God Himself can give.

Choosing death over life is morally allowed in only extreme circumstances. Committing the act of premeditated murder is punishable by death, according to Genesis 9:6. With this in mind, there are only two reasons why one would even consider terminating a pregnancy: when it endangers the life of the mother or is the result of a violent act, such as rape. And for many, even those two exceptions are not acceptable.

God is the Author of Life. He alone ordains people for unique tasks before they are born. There are many instances in Scripture where we are



told God sanctifies the prophets while they are still in the womb (Jer. 1:5; Isa 44:24, 49:5).

The Psalmist speaks of trusting in God while still in the womb (Ps. 22:10; 71:6; 139:13). And lastly, the presence of Jesus in His mother Mary's womb causes her cousin Elizabeth to be filled with the Spirit and the baby she's carrying to leap inside her (Luke 1:41).

Yet today's society's disregard for life is disturbing. None of the Democratic presidential primary candidates defend the unborn. All eight candidates support the Supreme Court's 1973 *Roe v Wade* decision legalizing abortion.

They have all stated that they oppose the Partial-birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003. It describes the gruesome procedure as follows:

- (A) the person performing the abortion deliberately and intentionally vaginally delivers a living fetus until, in the case of a head-first presentation, the entire fetal head is outside the body of the mother, or, in the case of breech presentation, any part of the fetal trunk past the navel is outside the body of the mother for the purpose of performing an overt act that the person knows will kill the partially delivered living fetus; and
- (B) performs the overt act, other than completion of delivery, that kills the partially delivered living fetus . . .

Every Democratic candidate opposes banning partial birth abortion, and upholds a woman's right to choose death for her child over life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, despite the fact our Constitution allows no protection or provision for one person to determine the end of another innocent individual's life.

On the other hand, all but one Republican candidate repudiates both *Roe v Wade* and partial-birth abortions. Former New York Mayor Rudy Guiliani is the only Republican who does not stand to protect the unborn.

Candidates Thompson, Romney, Paul, and McCain agree the Supreme Court's *Roe v Wade* decision legalizing abortion should be overturned and states should be allowed to legislate this issue. Thus far, Huckabee's opinion on states' abortion rights is unclear, but he did sign a partial birth

abortion ban while serving as governor of Arkansas.

Duncan Hunter is the lone Republican who seems to favor the so-called Human Life Amendment, which would include protecting the rights of Americans prior to birth.

But whether the matter be dealt with in the form of a federal constitutional amendment or state-by-state legislation, abortion is mass murder cloaked as a birth control method.

The black community has grievously suffered abortions' genocidal results. According to Blackgenocide.org website, "Although black women constitute only six percent of the population, they comprise 36 percent of the abortion industry's clientele. The leading abortion providers have chosen to exploit blacks by locating 94% of their abortuaries in urban neighborhoods with high black populations."

According to the Alan Guttmacher Institute, black women are more than three times as likely to have an abortion as white women are. On the average, 1,452 black babies are aborted every day in the United States.

It has been calculated that since the 1973 *Roe vs Wade* decision, over 10 million black babies have been aborted, a number almost equal to the entire population of Illinois, a state home to 13 million residents.

The black community is perpetuating Margaret Sanger's eugenicist dreams by electing pro-abortion Democrats such as Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, John Edwards, Chris Dodd or Joe Biden.

Prophet Jeremiah's words should be closely heeded on Election Day:

"This is what the LORD says: Do what is just and right. Rescue from the hand of his oppressor the one who has been robbed. Do no wrong or violence to the alien, the fatherless or the widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place. " (Jer 22:3).

It is time for us to stand for what we believe and elect people who share our principles and values. Elect candidates who will protect our right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." The first step is protecting life.

# Democrats Guide to Education 2008

By Johnathan Eaglin

**A**s the frenzied course of the 2008 Presidential election draws closer to a major cross-road of decision for many Americans, Freedom's Journal takes a much needed pause to slow the pace of the candidates' public opinion swaying rhetoric to focus on an issue in crisis, but being highly overlooked: education. Voters, especially, African-American voters play a major role in framing the ideal picture of the American educational landscape and the future of our nation. So, it is essential that each voter is presented with an in depth "education" on the presidential candidates' comprehensive plan for education.

Not since the history making Brown vs. Board of Education ruling over 50 years ago has the state of education come to such a crucial apex in time. As the landmark case dismantled the legal basis for racial segregation in schools, African Americans are again faced with demanding revolutionary change that will eradicate current class and economic segregation that runs rampant throughout our nation's educational system. An estimated

\$489 billion is proposed to be spent on educating over 50 million students with forty two percent of those being minority students. How much money truly trickles down to the underserved and ignored schools that have the most need? This is the beginning of many tough questions that will need to be answered by the 16 candidates in the 2008 presidential election.

Who will steer the course of education reform and revitalization throughout the nation? Who will fight for equal rights for students regardless of race, class, social status, and income level? Who will place all schools in an equal playing field so all students can compete nationally and internationally? Who has the vision to see how the deficiency in our present educational system will continue to cripple our nation if no one brings significant change? Who will speak to the needs of the widening academic gap between African American schools? Who can Americans and African American's trust to keep their promise of education reform when taking office? Who can we trust that will even be bold enough to make a deliverable promise backed up with a formidable plan? And besides yourself, who will give your child the best chance to succeed? Is education even a "real" issue essential to victory much like hot button issues like healthcare, the Iraq War, and climate change?

The rapidly modernizing world is no longer intimidated by the shadow of "American power". China and India have become not only the academic and economic centers, but also symbols of hope and inspiration for other nations ready to compete in the global this global economy.

### Democratic Candidates

**Christopher J. Dodd-U.S. Senator from Connecticut**

**Educational Outlook:** Dodd, a senior member of The HELP (Health, Education, Labor,



and Pensions) Committee that oversees national health care, education, employment and retirement, has been very outspoken and active on early childhood initiatives. Dodd has proposed a major boost in Head Start funding. In June, Dodd along with Senator Edward Kennedy passed legislation for the Head Start for School Readiness Act, designed to enhance the federal Head Start program. According to his website, he plans to totally reform No Child Left behind and greatly increase funding for the Head Start program.

**Mike Gravel-Former U.S. Senator from Alaska**

**Educational Outlook:** Gravel supports re-ordering national budget priorities in order to improve the American education system as well as government funding of education from pre-kindergarten to higher education. Gravel, also seeks to add more diversity to the current national education platform. Gravel supports a more enhanced curriculum emphasizing art and music. Gravel may find considerable favor with students due to the fact that he wants to take focus off of test taking. Simultaneously, students may oppose his support of longer school days and summer learning, much to the approval of parents. Gravel's support of school choice furthers his non-traditional educational views. However, views, opinion, and research without action fall into the category of theory and since Gravel's legislative track record in terms of education reform is relatively low compared to his fellow candidates.

**Barack Obama-U.S. Senator from Illinois**

**Educational Outlook:** Barack Obama, seen as the glimmer of hope for the African American community sharply contrast Gravel's art and literature curricula for more emphasis on increasing student aptitude in reading, mathematics, and science. Obama may not win over the recording industry, but his viewpoint

speaks to the present need for a higher level of cognitive skills such as logic, and problem solving. Obama's focus on increasing incentives for teachers in hard to staff school and districts speak to the bulk of black America, with many urban centers experiencing shortcoming and pressure in teacher retention. According to his website, "Obama will start treating teachers like the professional they are." Obama ultimately supports the No Child Left Behind Act, however plans to fund and steer the law in a new direction to address its failings.

**Hillary Clinton U.S. Senator from New York**

**Educational Outlook:** Hillary Clinton is no stranger to taking action on the issue of education. As the first lady during the Clinton Administration both in the White House and in Arkansas, Clinton was a task force leader to improve education and transform schools. A member of the Senate HELP Committee, Clinton voted for No Child Left Behind, but sees the need to reform the law due to a narrow curricula and lack of funding. Clinton has developed a bold plan to cut minority dropout rates in half by investing \$1 billion in programs that support at risk youth, provide early intervention, and fund small schools, and recruit and train teachers in neglected areas. The timeframe for this lofty goal is under a decade. Out of all the Democratic candidates, Clinton's plan seems to focus more on issues greatly affecting minorities and African Americans.

**John Edwards-former U.S. Senator from North Carolina**

**Educational Outlook:** North Carolina Senator, John Edwards, probably has the most extensive educational plan of all the current candidates. This should come as no surprise since Edwards was the Democratic vice presidential nominee in 2004. Edward's vision for

educational reform is based upon three principles: Quality education for all students, quality teachers for every classroom, and quality schools. Edwards Great Promise and Smart Start initiatives will assist No Child Left Behind legislation in attempts to change to face of primary education with the establishment of universal pre-school. His educational plans will begin in needy, low income neighborhoods with struggling schools. Edwards plans to put big money into his plans. He wants to raise teacher pay up to \$15K in high poverty schools, allocating \$5000 for teachers in fiscally poor, but academically rich schools, \$5000 for teachers with national certification for excellence in high poverty schools, and another \$5000 for veteran teachers who serve as mentors. Edwards also plans to reduce class size and is focused on the improvement of poor rural and poverty stricken urban centers of learning.

#### **Joseph Biden, Jr.-U.S. Senator from Delaware**

**Educational Outlook:** Delaware Senator, Joe Biden, Jr., has taken a step in his outlined educational plan to restructure the traditional 12-year school system and move to a 16-year system that would initiate education. Why does he want to do this? Why is it important? Biden feels that the earlier a child begins to learn, the better he or she will be prepared for all levels of education and eventually successful careers. Biden not only favors early school education, but plans to execute plans to begin the college financial aid process early in a student's eighth grade year in attempts to help parents gain wider access to more resources as well as greatly increase the federal Pell Grant. Biden's active role in education reform

*Who has the vision to see how the deficiency in our present educational system will continue to cripple our nation if no one brings significant change?*

includes providing funding for school resource officers to work in public schools to keep gangs, drugs, and alcohol out of schools, funding to build, repair, and modernize schools. Class reduction is such an important issue to Biden, he plans to put up to \$2 billion in grants to reduce class sizes.

#### **Dennis Kucinich- U.S. Representative from Ohio**

**Educational Outlook:** Kucinich is another candidate in favor of early childhood education. Introducing universal pre-kindergarten twice to the U. S. Congress, Kucinich plans to pay for the plan by cutting defense spending by fifteen percent. Kucinich is a proponent of public, free education and has voted against school choice and school vouchers. He believes this processes will drain public funding from schools. Kucinich is in favor of home child care to count as an allowable work activity giving women on welfare available time and money for school.

#### **Bill Richardson-Governor of New Mexico**

**Educational Outlook:** Bill Richardson has no ambition to reform, restructure, or fund No Child Left Behind. He is the only candidate who wants to totally eliminate the federal program. Richardson is in favor giving states the funding and flexibility to institute "a more supportive systems of measuring progress." He has yet to devise a comprehensive plan, though. Richardson wants to create 250 math, science, and innovation academies at the same time pumping \$500 into music and arts programs.

Now is a time when we must question the competency level of the candidates. Why not? Their views and future policy will shape the competency level of your children and ultimately how they will compete with the rest of the world.

**Sources:** National Center for Education Statistics, Education Week Magazine, and various candidate websites

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**Johnathan Eaglin** authors an inspirational weekly email called "Bite Sized Word." He has also written articles for Rolling Out Magazine. He can be reached at [johneaglin@yahoo.com](mailto:johneaglin@yahoo.com)





"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically... Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education."

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

# The GOP Candidates & Education

By Dr. Eric Wallace

One of the most compelling issues that affects our generation and the generations to follow is that of education. Who should control and bear responsibility for our children's education? How do we get better results for the money we spend? The debate is rooted in ideological and philosophical differences between a competitive, free-market structure and a state-controlled system.

Democrats, generally speaking, have held to the idea that schools should be government-run, use a standard curricula and implement mandatory placement. As a result, they place tremendous importance on equity, commonality, and government control. They push for more current program funding, encouraging few creative initiatives. Their common mantra is "the more money you spend, the better schools."

Republicans, on the other hand, are exploring the free market model to cure the nation's education ills. Since the 1980's, school choice and vouchers have become a principal part of America's school reform policy debate. At stake are the prospects of greatly improving American education, along with cultivating parental rights and encouraging involvement in their children's education.

When schools compete for students they have more of an incentive to improve

their curriculum and instruction, school choice advocates say. Thus, availability of educational options makes all schools better and more accountable to parents and the community they serve. "One size fits all" does not work in education, they say, so schools should be allowed to abandon the average public school's cookie cutter approach.

In terms of funding, school choice advocates say that the money should follow the child to the institution they attend, providing more incentive to produce a quality education.

## Republican Candidates

**Duncan Hunter—U.S. Representative from California**

**Educational Outlook:** Hunter is a supporter of placing power and responsibility in the hands of the state, local community, and the family. He lists his support of school choice and home schooling under the rubric "Parental Rights." Hunter advocates that Congress should pass laws to protect parent's rights especially when it comes to education.

**John McCain—U.S. Senator from Arizona**

**Educational Outlook:** Although the maverick U.S. senator from Arizona once voted for the federal "No Child Left Behind" education act in 2001, now he -- like other candidates -- is calling for major changes to the program, especially its testing requirements for students with disabilities and those who don't speak English. As of press time, education is not mentioned on McCain's campaign website.

**Rudy Giuliani—former mayor of New York City**

**Educational Outlook:** Rudy Giuliani led the nation's largest public school system reform while mayor of New York. He has been a consistent, outspoken voice for expanding school choice and giving the choice to parents. He supported a privately-funded scholarship program for public school students to enroll in a private school of their choosing.





Giuliani views education as today's top civil rights issue and believes school choice will empower parents to acquire quality education which is presently denied most.

**Mike Huckabee- former governor of Arkansas**

**Educational Outlook:** Huckabee, yet another music-loving, instrument-playing, former Arkansas governor heating up the polls and gaining nationwide support. Mike Huckabee's educational strategy is said to include

initiatives that he spearheaded as governor of Arkansas, such as passing legislation to provide music and art instruction by certified teachers in grades one through six for forty minutes a week. He served as Chairman of the Education and Arts Commission of the States and created a two-year plan called "The Arts: A Lifetime of Learning", which promotes the benefits of art education nationwide. Huckabee, though in favor of federal financial support of government schools, sets at a high priority for states to develop

*“When schools compete for students they have more of an incentive to improve their curriculum and instruction, school choice advocates say.*

their own learning goals. As governor he supported parents’ rights to home school their children and advocated public school choice.

**Mitt Romney- former governor of Massachusetts**

**Educational Outlook:** Romney believes parents should have the discretion to send their children to the school of their choice. He believes school choice will promote competition in the public school sector and will lead to better resources and opportunities for students to succeed. While governor of Massachusetts, Romney vetoed a bill placing a moratorium on new charter schools. Under his leadership, Massachusetts was the first state to have fourth and eighth grade student simultaneously score the nation’s highest on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Reading and Math exams. Romney believes in state and local government control of schools, without federal interference. As President, he proposes more flexibility with NCLB.

**Fred Thompson-Former U.S. Senator from Tennessee**

**Educational Outlook:** Thompson’s plan is not extensive, but it is concise and speaks to a problem familiar to teachers, especially in the inner city: the mismanagement of federal dollars. Billions of dollars are spent on education every year, but the students struggle to

learn. Thompson plans to “snatch the reins of power from the federal government” in favor of local control.

*“The federal role in education is too intrusive and too bureaucratic, and has become part of the problem,” he says. “State and local governments are closest to the parents, the kids, and the schools, and best situated to implement changes and innovations that best educate children.” He thus proposes “reviewing federal programs for cost-effectiveness, reducing federal mandates, returning education money to the states, and empowering parents by promoting voucher programs, charter schools, and other innovations that enhance education excellence through competition and choice.”*

**Ron Paul-U.S. Representative from Texas**

**Educational Outlook:** The U.S. Representative from Texas stands firmly against major federal involvement in education and pushes for state and local level control. Paul advocates doing away with the entire U.S. Department of Education, says it is unconstitutional and wasteful.

Recently Paul introduced H.R. 1056, the Family Education Freedom Act, which will allow parents a tax credit up to \$5000 per student per year for school attendance in all schools: public, private and home.

**Conclusion**

The education debate is one that will have a rippling effect on our society as a whole. The capacity of our future work force, the amount of money we spend in taxes and the earning ability of the next generation all depends on the ability of our school system to educate our kids.



# Freedom's JOURNAL MAGAZINE

## Celebrates Black History Month



There is no negro problem. The problem is whether the American people have loyalty enough, honor enough, patriotism enough, to live up to their own constitution...

—Frederick Douglass

# Taxation and the Presidential Candidates

By Eddie Huff



There are fundamental ideologies held by the Democratic and Republican Parties that each candidate in both political parties believes in and upholds. The difference in the individual view of each candidate within their Party is only a matter of degree and nuance. The underlying ideological belief that governs a Democrat's and a Republican's view on taxes is that party's view on the role and scope of government.

While it was not the original vision for the Democratic Party, over the last 100 years they have gravitated further and further toward socialism. The Democratic Party fundamentally believes that most individ-

uals cannot be trusted or allowed to determine their lives. In their eyes, there are two types of individuals: the wealthy, selfish and inconsiderate, who do not care about the less fortunate and will only continue to build their own wealth and power at the expense of the poor, and the less fortunate and poor who are too ignorant, too weak, or both, who are incapable of taking care of themselves, especially in protecting themselves from the evil devices of the wealthy. In the Democrat's view these two types of individuals need to be governed by those who are smarter and more caring. Since it is money in which lies the power, the Democratic Party wishes to have centralized control over that money.

If you do not remember one other thing from this essay, please remember this one thing. **He who controls your money controls you.** The only “legal” way for a government to get your money is through taxes. Therefore, the greater the tax burden, the greater the control.

The Republican Party while also not originating with economics in mind has gravitated more and more to a position as defenders of capitalism. The GOP was formed for one purpose only, to eradicate slavery in the United States. However, eradicating slavery was not as simple as issuing a proclamation. True freedom involves empowerment or individual power, and brings us back to money. One of the main obstacles to abolition earlier on was the question of economics. How do you integrate 10 million people who have nothing, own nothing, into a society that thrives on ownership? Once the proclamation was issued, there still remained the problem of developing a free mind and an ownership society. As Booker T. Washington stated regarding this matter,

*“Our greatest danger is that in the great leap from slavery to freedom we may overlook the fact that the masses of us are to live by the productions of our hands, and fail to keep in mind that we shall prosper in proportion as we learn to dignify and glorify common labour, and put brains and skill into the common occupations of life; shall prosper in proportion as we learn to draw the line between the superficial and the substantial, the ornamental gewgaws of life and the useful.”*

Dr. Washington delivered a prophetic warning that ex-slaves needed to understand where the power of freedom lies. He understood that the power lay in ownership and wealth of the individual.

This brings us back to the issue of taxes and taxation. Those who believe that government should determine how wealth is distributed and used, will want and need to

increase taxes more and more in order to wrest power from the hands of those with wealth. Meanwhile those who believe that the individual should determine how to acquire and use their wealth will want to push for less and less taxes levied on the individual in order to wrest power from government. Now with these ideas in mind let’s now look at the individual candidates and their positions on taxation.

### **Democrats:**

**All Democratic candidates wish to repeal some or all of President Bushes 2001 tax cuts.**

**Hillary Clinton-** Senator Clinton is interesting in that in 2006 she voted to keep the reduced (Bush) tax cuts. However this year she voted against extending them. I guess she feels strongly both ways. But we must assume that her real intention is to repeal the Bush tax cuts or to let them expire in 2010.

In 2004 Sen. Clinton made an interesting statement regarding the Bush 2001 & 2003 tax cuts which reveal her and most Democrats true view saying: ***“We’re saying that for America to get back on track, we’re probably going to cut that short not give it to you,” she said. “We’re going to take things away from you on behalf of the common good.”*** Sounds pretty socialistic to me.

**John Edwards-** Of all of the candidates the one most clearly spouting the socialist rhetoric is John Edwards. Every speech and almost every topic is laced with class warfare rhetoric such as “wealthy Americans” and “working class families.” This is very interesting in that he is one of the wealthiest individuals in the state of North Carolina. In 2004, the year that he and Sen. John Kerry ran against President Bush, John Edwards paid only 12% in taxes while President Bush and VP Cheney



paid over 30% in personal income tax. While he was accusing them of trying to profit on the backs of the poor, he was only paying just over 1/3 of what they were in taxes.

**Barack Obama-** Sen. Obama, like his fellow Democrats wishes to see a return to the pre 2001 tax rates and the pre 2003 dividend & capital gains rates. He avoids the clear or overt socialistic language and substitutes for this with new ideas. He proposes tax credits for seniors and those making less than \$50,000 per year. He has many of the same plans as his colleagues but additionally others such as mortgage interest deductions for those not filing an itemized tax return. In the end, however, he remains true to the general Democratic Party line. Tax the rich and give to the poor.

### **Republicans:**

**All Republican candidates support the current Bush tax rates and want to see them extended and made permanent, lowered, or eliminated all together.**

While several candidates have had a mixed record in their past on taxation, I am a believer that you must take them at their word today. Therefore, in my opinion, it is not as important what they said or did while in a local or state office, as it is what they say they will do. Rudy Giuliani, Mitt Romney and Mike Huckabee have mixed records on taxation in their state or city. I will give them the benefit of the doubt on that and allow them to have grown. I will therefore use the Bush 2001 & 2003 tax plan as a starting point.

**Rudy Giuliani-** Supports the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts. He wants the estate tax ended and a further reduction in personal taxes. He is for a simpler tax code.

**Fred Thompson-** Supports the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts. He wants the estate tax ended or the threshold raised with a further reduction in taxes. He supports a flat tax.

**Mike Huckabee-** Supports the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts. He wants to end the estate tax. He supports the "Fair Tax" or what is also called the "consumption tax." This is a national sales tax which taxes what you purchase not what you earn. It replaces all federal income taxes (including Alternative Minimum Tax), payroll taxes (including Social Security and Medicare taxes), corporate taxes, capital gains taxes, gift taxes, and estate taxes with a national retail sales tax, to be levied once at the point of purchase on all new goods and services. It would also abolish the IRS.

**Mitt Romney-** Supports the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts. He wants to end the estate tax and supports an end to all taxes on savings and investment for those making under \$200,000 per year. He wants a simplified tax code and lower rates.

**John McCain-** Supports the 2001 & 2003 tax cuts in principle, although his seems to be the weakest support. He did vote against the estate tax reform provision and is opposed to eliminating the estate tax altogether. He does favor reduced income taxes.

It seems after analyzing the candidates within each Party, they are fairly much aligned with their party's platform. The real difference is in the political party's view of government's role and taxes within that scope. Democrats want more taxpayer-funded programs to do what the individual should do, while Republicans want the individual to do what the individual should do. It is all about where the power lies. Is the power of the individual, or power of the government over the individual supreme? Each of us must answer that question for ourselves as we vote in the primary and next November.

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“People who don't vote have no line of credit with people who are elected and thus pose no threat to those who act against our interests.”

*Edelman, Marian Wright Children's Defense Fund Official (1939-)*

# The Issues At A Glance

CANDIDATES	RIGHT TO LIFE	CIVIL UNION/GAY MARRIAGE	TAXES
Joe Biden	No	Yes/No	Raise Taxes
Hillary Clinton	No	Yes/ No	Raise Taxes
Christopher Dodd	NO	Yes/ No	Raise Taxes
John Edwards	NO	Yes/ No	Raise Taxes
Mike Gravel	NO	Yes/ No	Tax Reform-Fair Tax
Dennis Kucinich	NO	Yes/No	Raise Taxes
Barack Obama	NO	Yes/ No	Raise Taxes
Bill Richard	NO	Yes/ No	Raise Taxes
Rudy Giuliani	No/ States decide	Yes/No	Cut Taxes
Mike Huckabee	Yes	No/No	Tax Reform-Fair Tax
Ducan Hunter	Yes	No/No	Cut Taxes
John McCain	Yes	No/No	Cut Taxes
Ron Paul	Yes	No/No	Cut Taxes-abolish IRS
Mitt Romney	Yes/ Let states decide	No/ No	Cut Taxes
Tom Tancredo	Yes	No/ No	Cut Taxes
Fred Thompson	Yes / let states decide	Let states decide/No	Cut Taxes/Flat tax system



# The Issues At A Glance

IMMIGRATION	HEALTH CARE (HC)	EDUCATION	IRAQ
Earned citizenship for those here	States should determine HC	Increase Teacher's Pay in Poorer schools/\$2 bil to reduce classe size	Opposed Surge/Pullout 2008
Legal path to citizenship	Goverment run Universal HC	Wants to reform NCLB/Increase Funding/no vouchers	Phased pullout/leave some troops
Earned path to citizenship	Universal HC/Increase Medicare	flexibility in NCLB/ More money for Head Start/No School choice	Pullout by March 2008
Pathway to citizenship Secure Borders	Universal HC/use vouchers	New assessment for NCLB/more pay for teachers/Universal presch.	Withdrawl in 12-18 months
Overhaul NAFTA	Universal HC/Increase Medicaid	He supports school choice for low income. Supports teacher merit pay	Withdrawl in 120 days
citizenship Everyone learn spanish	Universal Health Care	NCLB under funded, He wants free education pre-k thru college	Pullout now
Earned citizenship	Universal HC/Public & Private	Extra pay for teahers in hard to staff schools/innovation districts	Pullout April 2008/leave reminant
Earned citizenship Secure Borders	Government Run HC	Scap NCLB/increase no. of teachers/ nat'l salary at \$40,000	Pullout now
Regularize immgrants Secure Borders	Expand thru free market	School choice/Promote competition	Stabilize the country
no amnesty Secure Borders	Preventative Care	Supports Public school choice/ allows states to set standards	Let surge work
Secure the Border	Free Market choices	School Choice/ States set standards/ Home schler access to Aide	Stabilize Iraq/Son is a Marine
Pathway/Secure Borders	Affordable drugs/Cap Malpractice	Supported NCLB/ Does not address education on web site	Pullout a mistake/Support Surge
no amnesty/enforce laws	Free market/cost deductible	No federal money for school/tax credit for home schoolers	Pullout Now
no amnesty/border fence/ID	Subsidize low-income private HC	Block grants for states/supports parent choice	Supports Bush Policy
He proposed security fence	Small business Co-ops/States	Says NCLB not working/Support school choice	No dealines for Withdrawl
Secure Border first Enforce immigration laws	Supports reforms to reduce costs Free market solutions	School Choice	No pullout until stabilized

# The 2008 Presidential Race Is On!

By Armstrong Williams

One of the intriguing things about presidential elections is that you never know what will happen. Despite the millions of dollars that are invested in polls, regardless of the preponderance of evidence, and although political pundits spew out opinions 24 hours a day, nobody really knows who the American people will elect until the ballots are counted. And no matter how much time, effort, and money candidates, political parties, lobbyists, canvassers, volunteers, and special interest groups put in to try to earn votes, they never can be fully sure how people will vote until after Election Day. The American presidential race – despite its flaws (and there are many) – is one of the best examples of democracy in the world. Iowan caucus and the New Hampshire primary started the 2008 election off with a bang.

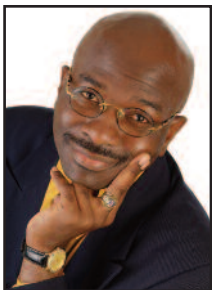
Of the dramatic events that characterized the first few weeks of the Democrat's race, one wonders what makes the bigger story. Is it the fact that Hillary Clinton, with a huge war chest and pristine establishment credentials failed to even come close to winning Iowa? Or the fact that Barack Obama, a man who happens to be black, won over an overwhelmingly white electorate? John Edwards must be congratulated on running a spirited campaign in the final moments, but

his come from behind tactics may make him appear to be too much of an attack dog to maintain a Presidential demeanor. We'll know for sure about his electability after South Carolina, his home state.

One thing is for sure: Obama's message of positive change has resonated with Democrats. After Iowa, I figured he was home free if he continued to be the "positive change" candidate. After all, I figured if he can carry a somewhat conservative state like Iowa, there is no telling what he'd be able to do in more liberal territory. However, after New Hampshire – which is becoming bluer each year – and the Clinton comeback, I have to admit that this is still a race. My research and gut feeling tell me that Obama will get the nod in the end, but Clinton will not back down now that she has New Hampshire on her resume. The interesting thing about this race is how an Al Gore appearance could shake things up. Don't forget about him and how his entering the race could knock off just about everyone. Most democrats would love the idea of a Gore/Clinton or Gore/Obama ticket, but obviously it's a long shot.

The Republican situation is a bit more tenuous. Mike Huckabee's win in Iowa and John McCain's win in New Hampshire were not runaways, so the other candidates are still in the race. Mitt Romney, a close finisher in each of those races, and the winner in the Wyoming caucus still has a shot, although the idea of American electing a flip-

*The American presidential race – despite its flaws (and there are many) – is one of the best examples of democracy in the world.*



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flopping Mormon is doubtful. His seemingly plastic veneer, elite status, and personal wealth seem to eliminate him as a true people's pick. Until Romney realizes that money and politics will not win the election alone and he lets his hair down, shows his true self, and connects to the people, he will continue to suffer defeats.

A year ago I never would have thought I'd say this, but I think Rudy Giuliani is finished. His campaign was mismanaged from the beginning and his decision to start the race off slow was a bad one. This is a huge benefit to all the other candidates who figured that Giuliani, with his strong background and popularity amongst independents, figured to be a frontrunner.

Huckabee's evangelical surge worked in Iowa, but the 'awe shucks preacher boy gambit will be much harder to sell in other parts of the country, and we witnessed that immediately in New Hampshire where the stronger, more credentialed McCain took the gold. Huckabee might be a victim of his own spin, in that he will cause a backlash against his campaign if evangelicals see him as bending to other segments of the Republican constituency who do not wear their religious affiliation on their sleeves.

Whatever happens in the Republican race (and don't count out a run from billionaire Mike Bloomberg just yet), I expect a hotly contested race until the very end. None of the Republican candidates are superb, and considering the state of the country and the dislike of the sitting President, they have to realize that winning the nomination is only the easy part.

The upsets and comebacks in both parties clearly reveal one thing. At this stage in history, America wants a leader, not a politician or a CEO. Whoever can convey their leadership ability most convincingly will ultimately get the job of President of the United States of America.

# Will Oprah Help or Hinder Obama?

by Armstrong Willaims

**T**he talk out on the presidential campaign trail a few weeks ago was all about one thing: the "O-Factor." Everybody is trying to figure out just how much Oprah Winfrey's support for Barack Obama will help the man become president.

Some pundits believe that Oprah's rallies in Iowa, South Carolina, and New Hampshire will turn not only the 65,000 plus attendees into Obama voters, but perhaps persuade another 65,000 more to push the Barack button.

Other political experts are saying that the good will Obama gets from the Oprah tour will help him raise a few bucks, but little more than that. Still others point to Bruce Springsteen's public campaign for John Kerry in 2004 and say that celebrity endorsements, like Oprah's, are not only worthless, they may actually cause more harm than good for the candidate.

One can turn to the polling data and try to crunch the numbers to figure out the value of the O Factor, but even that is inconclusive.

A new CBS/New York Times national poll was released in early December saying that only 1 percent of people were more likely to vote for Barack Obama because of his supporter, Oprah Winfrey. A full 80 percent of those polled in the survey said the Oprah factor made no difference for Obama's chances, and 14 percent even said she made them less likely to vote for him.

Furthermore, a survey done by the Pew Research Center in September showed that celebrity endorsements in general had little impact on voters. Three-fourths of the respondents said the endorsements of Tiger Woods, Jay Leno, Toby Keith, Angelina Jolie, Jon Stewart, Donald Trump, and others would make "no difference" in influencing their vote, the poll found.

But here's the strange thing: Obama's numbers in South Carolina rose after Oprah's visit, at least according to InsiderAdvantage/Majority Opinion poll taken early December. InsiderAdvantage's Matt Towery said it's obvious that Obama's numbers rose because of Winfrey's visit.

"Obama's support among African-Americans rose a bit over the weekend, while Clinton's dropped. This follows our poll of late last week in which there was a major shift in black voters towards Obama," Towery said in a statement. "However, Obama's white vote has not moved. Clearly the Oprah Winfrey visit to the state

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## When Picking A President, Remember: Leadership is W.A.R.

By Herman Cain

Our nation is at war against Islamic fascists who want to destroy us. Our military is fighting this war in Iraq and Afghanistan. Our intelligence agencies are fighting this war throughout the world. The Democratic and Republican parties are at war over political power and control in Congress. The public has to fight to be heard by its government. Our free market economy is fighting to stay free.

No matter how you slice it, there is war all around us. This makes the 2008 presidential election that much more critical. We need to elect a real leader as president of the United States.

Following a keynote speech I had given recently, a young man asked me a simple but compelling question that forced me to reflect on what it means to be a real leader. He did not ask who should be the Republican presidential nominee, or the Democratic nominee, or even who I thought would ultimately win the presidency in 2008.

This young man's question was simply, "Who should be president?"

Instead of first thinking about political party, current presidential contenders, political and personal baggage, poll results or even who has the most money in their campaign war chest, this question caused me to think about the three critical leadership abilities a real leader must possess,

which I had described in a speech earlier that day. Namely, Leadership is W.A.R.

Real leaders "Work on the right problems, Ask the right questions, and Remove barriers to self-motivation." Although I had practiced, spoken and written on these principles of leadership for the past 40 years, I had been reminded that most people do not share a common understanding of what to look for in a great leader for the greatest country in the world.

As a result, people vote for a candidate based on a single issue, party affiliation or the person who sounds, looks and acts most presidential. We usually elect the candidate who can best manage the politics of politics, the politics of the primary process and the politics of media perception. If we get a real leader it's a bonus.

The professional campaign staffers know this, which is why they advise their candidate bosses to stay away from the big problems and bold solutions unless pushed into a corner. And even then, they are advised to be as non-committal as possible so as not to be held accountable later. For instance, saying that we need to "reform the tax code" is a long way from committing to lead the effort to "replace the tax code" with a simpler system.

The public is starved for leaders who will inspire us with real solutions instead of boring us with more political commentary. Non-commitment, avoiding the big problems, offering no bold solutions, and the usual political rhetoric are all barriers to a self-motivated and supportive public.

Maybe the person who should be president is already a declared candidate, but they have not chosen to come out of their protective campaign shell. Maybe the person who should be president is not even in the race yet. And worse, maybe the person who should be our next president is not even on the political radar screen.

***The next president should know that Leadership is W.A.R.***

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## Values Agenda Progresses Among Black Voters

By Stae Parker

*Growing numbers of blacks are buying into the personal responsibility message, appreciate the destructiveness of promiscuity and the importance of education.*

A major survey of black American attitudes just released by the Pew Research Center gives reasons for both sobriety and encouragement.

The survey offers an economic snapshot showing that, overall, blacks have moved forward since 1980. In 2006, one in three black households had a median income of more than \$50,000, whereas in 1980 less than one in five was in this bracket.

At the other end of the spectrum, two of every five black households had a median income of less than \$25,000 in 2006 compared to half in 1980.

However, over this same period, there has been little change in the overall gap in income between blacks and whites, with median black income remaining around 60 percent that of whites.

But, in what I believe to be positive news, this extensive survey of attitudes produces a picture showing blacks feeling increasingly personally responsible for their situation and a diminishing tendency for blacks to see their community as monolithic.

When asked to explain why blacks “can’t get ahead,” 53 percent responded that “blacks are mostly responsible for their own condition” compared to 30 percent who attributed the problem to “racial discrimination.”

Younger blacks are less likely than their older counterparts to attribute barriers to progress to discrimination.

Forty percent of respondents between ages 50 and 64 say that blacks can’t get ahead due to discrimination and 43 percent say it’s their own fault. In contrast, only 25 percent of blacks under 50 attribute the problem to discrimination and 60 percent say it’s their own fault.

This doesn’t mean that blacks do not feel that racial discrimination is still not widely present in the country.

Sixty seven percent say they perceive it when they apply for a job, 65 percent sense it when they seek housing, 43 percent feel it in applying to college, and 50 percent when they go to a restaurant or shop.

So, despite a pervasive sense among blacks that racial awareness and discrimination remains widely present, blacks today, particularly younger blacks, minimize this as a factor in explaining their condition and their ability to progress.

There also seems to be an increasing awareness among blacks about the problems that are indeed impeding their progress.

When those surveyed were asked to identify what they perceive to be major problems in their communities, 58 percent responded a “lack of good jobs.” However, 50 percent also identified the problem of unwed mothers, 49 percent said crime, 46 percent school drop-out rates, and 32 percent the quality of schools.

Given that the study reports that 29 percent of black households are headed by a married couple compared to 53 percent of white households, and that 66 percent of black births are to unmarried women, compared to 24 percent of white births, there

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Star Parker is president of the Coalition on Urban Renewal & Education and author of the new book *White Ghetto: How Middle Class America Reflects Inner City Decay*.

# Should Christians Be Involved In Politics?

By Rev. Wayne Perryman

*Boys Scout Policies, Intelligent Design, Prayer In Schools, Eminent Domain, Homosexuality, Abortions, Changing Religious Holidays to Secular, Revisionist History, Denying Pastor's Free Speech*



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If we study God's Word, we will find that since the beginning of government systems God's people have always been targeted by kings, political figures and legislators because of unjustified fear and false allegations by members of society. In most instances (particularly during the modern era), it was not a case where Christians or God's people were attempting to take over the government or force the government to accept their way of life or doctrine. To the contrary, history will reveal that Christians or God's people were merely minding their own business and the next thing they knew, there was legislation passed to either to destroy them, their be-

lief system or to interfere with their way of worship. The government's influence on today's Christian Church, is one of the many subjects covered in my latest book: *Unveiling the Whole Truth: What the Media Failed to Tell the American Voter*.

Today many pastors are being criticized and ridiculed by elders and members of their congregations claiming that their pastors are "too involved in politics and that churches should not be involved in politics." But they never ask: Are these pastors starting the fight or are they just defending their faith and/or trying to preserve righteous communities (societies) for future generations? Do these pastors take the positions that they do because they too believe like Solomon that, "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin a reproach to any people"? Do these pastors take the positions that they do to protect the true essence of Christianity because they sincerely believe that "Loving God and your neighbor as yourself" is the only way to build peaceful communities?

If Christians said nothing or did nothing, would attacks against our faith stop? Not according to Scripture. Take a look at a few scriptures in both the Old and New Testaments that suggest minding your own business will not stop the government or its representatives from interfering with your faith and/or your way of worshipping.

## **Legislative Action against the Jews Exodus 1:15-16**

And the king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives of which the name of the one was Shiphrah and the name of the other Puah. (16) And he said, [government mandate] When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.



**QUESTION: Did this legislative mandate happen because the Jews were involved in politics or were they minding their own business, the business of making bricks?**

**Esther 3:8-11**

And Haman said unto the King Ahasuerus, There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of thy kingdom; and their laws are diverse from all people: neither keep they the king's laws: therefore it is not for the king's profit to suffer them. (9) If it please the king [government]. Let it be written [passed a law] that they may be destroyed.... (11) And the king said unto Haman, The silver is given to thee and the people also, to do with them as it seemeth good to thee.

**QUESTION: Did this happen to the Jews because they were involved in the Persian government?**

**Daniel 3:8 & 11**

Wherefore at that time certain Chaldeans came near and accused the Jews. (9) They spake and said to the King Nebuchadnezzar, O king, live for ever. (10) Thou, O king, hast made a decree [a new law], that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of music, shall fall down and worship the golden image: (11) And whoso falleth not down and worshipeth, that he should be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

**QUESTION: Was this law passed to stop Jews from being involved in government?**

**Daniel 6: 7-8**

All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counselors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statue [new law against God's people] that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man

for thirty days, save thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions. (8) Now, O king, establish the decree [law] and sign the writing that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians which altereth not. (9) Wherefore King Darius signed the writing and the decree.

**QUESTION: Was God's people impacting politics (government) or was politics impacting them?**

**Matthew 2: 3 & 16**

When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled and all of Jerusalem with him. (16) Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all of the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coast thereof, from two years old and under....

**QUESTION: Did the government of Herod do this because the children or the children's parents were involved in politics?**

My dear pastors, your congregations must understand that if Christians do not impact public policy, public policy will impact them. They must also understand that it is the pastor's job to be the spokesman on these issues according to

**Malachi 2:7**

**"For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the Lord."**

During the 2008 Presidential and Congressional races, pastors cannot afford to merely sit on the sidelines as spectators waiting to see the outcome of the competition. They must be cognizant of this fact: The treatment of God's people will always be determined by who is in charge of the government.

*If Christians said nothing or did nothing, would attacks against our faith stop?*

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moved African-American voters.”

Whether these weekend polls and national surveys have any reliable data is difficult to say. But one can argue the value of the O Factor forever. The fact is that she is out there. Oprah Winfrey is taking time off from her regular life to campaign for a presidential candidate. And people are listening.

They are soaking up her words, attending her rallies, and reading her quotes. People trust Oprah more than Springsteen or some other liberal celebrity trying to spark their career or get some good PR. Oprah has it all — from money and fame, to likeability and trust. Her endorsement might just do something, but we'll never really know even if Obama does become the next president of the United States.

More importantly than the value of the O Factor, and something that is rarely talked about, is the issue of endorsements overall.

Why do Americans trust the words of a third party who they don't know personally?

Why do we allow people like Oprah to waive a magic wand and make (or even try to make) someone president?

While we can embrace Oprah's encouraging us to buy books, get in shape, and empower women to their full potential, it seems strange that her endorsement would count for such an important decision as to who we will elect as president.

Contrast Oprah's influence over Obama's candidacy with the credibility that former President Bill Clinton brings to his wife's campaign. As a popular two-term president, Clinton's endorsement of his wife says a lot about her qualifica-

tion to occupy the presidency.

If one were to reverse the situation, let's say, and have former President Clinton going around stumping for the next day time talk show host, people would laugh him out of the room. Not only has his personal life been the subject of ridicule, both while elected and afterwards, but hosting talk shows has never been his area of expertise.

The Bill Clinton example brings to light another factor in celebrity endorsements, namely proximity.

Hillary enjoys the presumption that in living in the White House and sharing pillow talk with the president, she gained invaluable experience in how to run the executive branch. Whether this is true or not remains to be seen, but the perception nonetheless persists.

Oprah, on the other hand, appears to be merely a recent acquaintance of Sen. Obama, and many voters may wonder what she knows about the senator that anyone else doesn't know.

While Oprah's likeability is likely to rub off on Obama, who is already a likeable character, likeability and electability are two different things entirely, as the examples of Howard Dean and Al Gore have shown. Though both achieved almost rock-star status early in their campaigns, they were not seen as having the gravitas befitting the office of president.

Maybe Oprah does believe that Obama is the person to lead this country in the future, but she can only base this on what she values and believes in as the direction our nation should go. But more fundamentally, the O Factor may be symptomatic of a deeper issue: that we have become so compla-

cent, lazy, and downright disinterested in choosing a presidential candidate that we would rather have it done for us by a media maven. But there is too much at stake to leave it to others.

There is absolutely no substitute for doing our own homework in making the best decision as to whom we will elect as the next president.

It is critical that Americans become more serious about all elections that will take place in 08 and thereafter, and choose the kind of leadership that can guide us through the turbulent times we all know are ahead.

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seems to be an important realism and awareness today among blacks as to where the real problems are in their lives and communities.

Similar themes emerge when looking at the type of leadership and figures in the news that blacks view most positively.

Only 18 percent of those surveyed see black political leaders as “very effective.” However, 36 percent of black ministers and clergy are viewed as “very effective.”

Eighty five percent say that Bill Cosby, who has been actively speaking and writing about the importance of black personal responsibility, is a “good influence.” However, only 17 percent see rapper 50 Cent as a “good influence” and 42 percent see him as a bad influence.

The survey devoted quite a bit of attention to attitudes about Barack Obama, which, among blacks, are overwhelmingly positive. Eighty nine percent view him positively, and 89 percent respond that he shares their interests somewhat or “a lot.”

However, 39 percent of blacks, compared to 26 percent of whites, feel that his race diminishes his elections prospects.

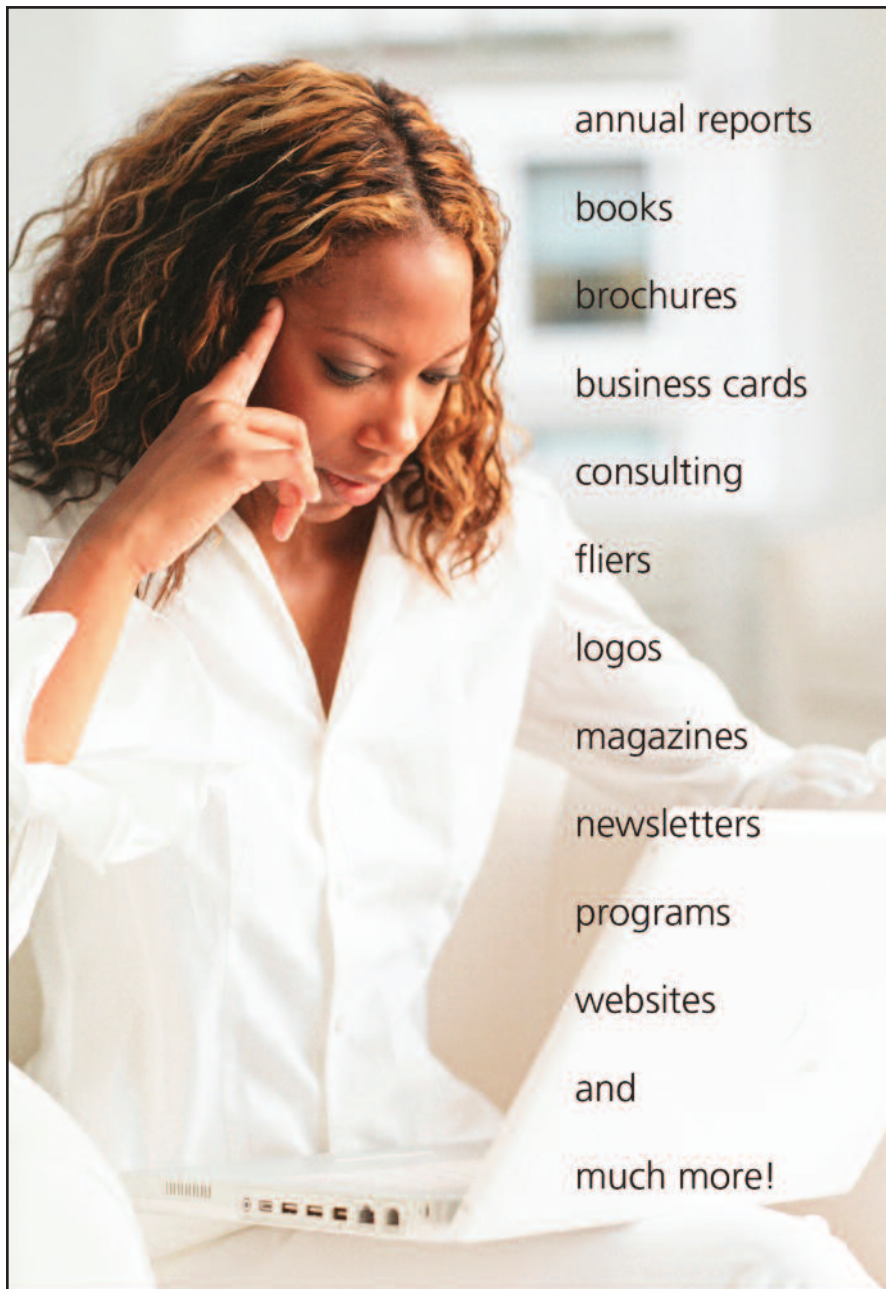
What might politicians who are courting the black vote conclude from all this?

For one thing, blacks are increasingly buying into the “values” agenda. Growing numbers of blacks are buying into the personal responsibility message, appreciate the destructiveness of promiscuity and the importance of education. Hence, blacks are seeing their future well being more in terms of personal life management than in terms of political action.

However, blacks retain a pervasive sense of vulnerability. They see racism continuing to loom and have a low level of confidence that they can depend on our courts and police to protect them.

So, despite progress on the part of conservatives to woo the black vote based on the values agenda, big government Democrats continue to hold on to most black voters.

The potential positive news for conservatives is that the movement in black attitudes is in their direction. With proper care, attention, and education, more black voters can be reached by the conservative appeal.



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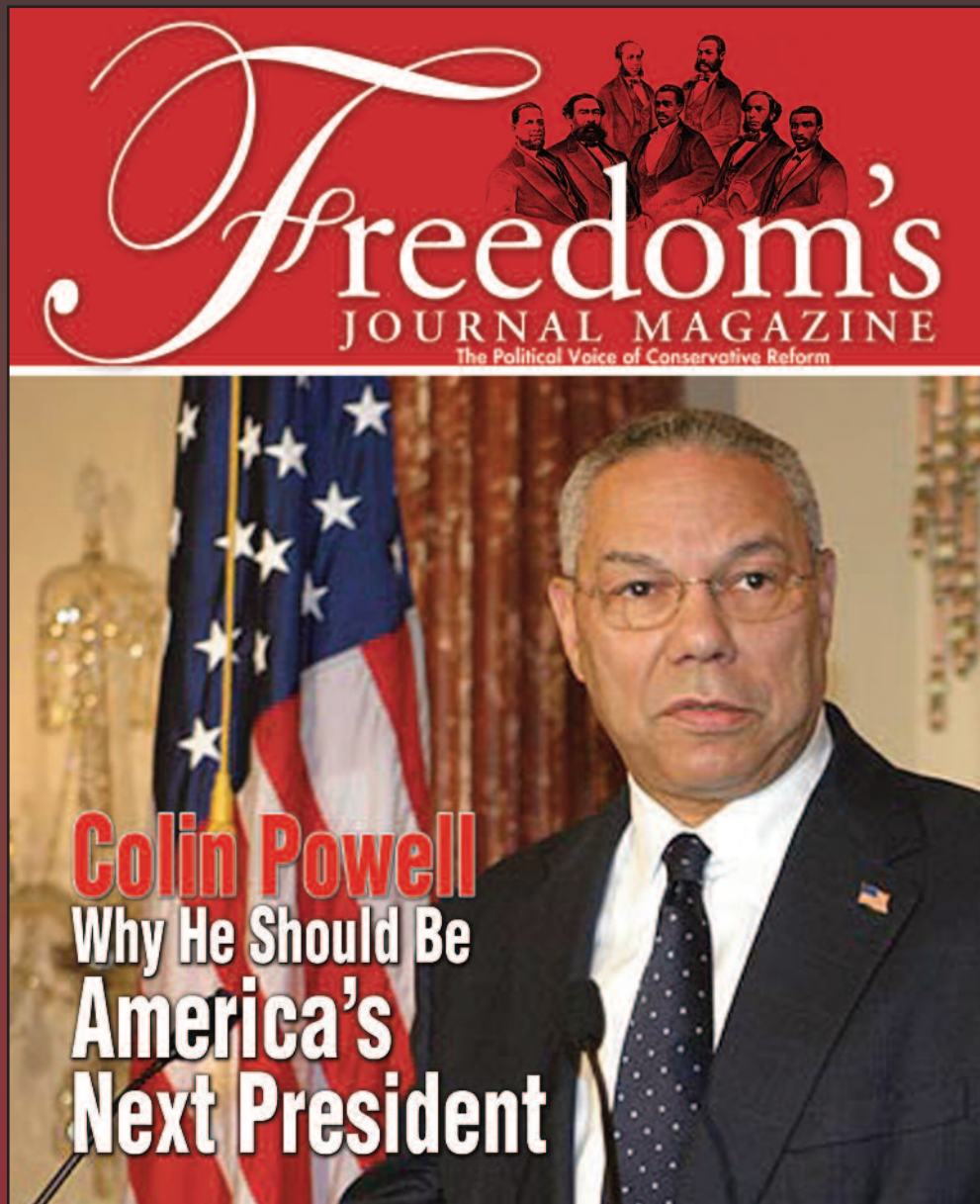
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