



*4th Annual Black Women's Roundtable  
Women's Month Celebration*

**Summary Report:**  
*Power of the Sister Vote in 2008  
Briefing and Luncheon*

*Date: Friday, March 30, 2007*

**Location: National Council of Negro Women**  
*635 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC.*

*Co-Hosted by:*



[www.ncbcp.org](http://www.ncbcp.org)





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On behalf of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP), the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) and the A. Philip Randolph Institute (APRI), we would like to thank the following participants and supporters of the **NCBCP Black Women's Roundtable Fourth Annual National Women's Month Celebration, Power of the Sister Vote Briefing & Luncheon, recently held at the NCNW Headquarters, Friday, March 30, 2007, in Washington, D.C.**



**Melanie L. Campbell**  
*Executive Director & CEO*  
NCBCP



**Dr. Dorothy I. Height**  
*Chair and President Emerita*  
NCNW



**Clayola Brown**  
*President & CEO*  
APRI

Moderator

Dr. Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich

Sr. Professor, National Labor College

Briefing Presenters

**PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN REPRESENTATIVES**

Senator Joe Biden	Luis Navarro, Campaign Manager
Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton	Leecia Eve, Senior Advisor
Senator Christopher Dodd	Mrs. Jackie Clegg Dodd, Wife
Former Senator John Edwards	Heather McGhee, Deputy Policy Director
Congressman Dennis Kucinich	Lydia Bakaki, Assistant to Mrs. Kucinich
Senator John McCain	Rev. Keith Butler, Senior Advisor
Senator Barack Obama	Ertharin Cousins, Senior Advisor

**SCHOLARS, STRATEGISTS AND POLITICAL CONVENTION REPRESENTATIVES**

Dr. Julianne Malveaux, President, Future PAC  
 Rene Redwood, President, Redwood Enterprises, LLC  
 Dr. Gail C. Christopher, D.N., Vice President, Office of Health Women and Families  
 & Director, Health Policy Institute, Joint Center for Political & Economic Studies  
 Cameron Moody, Convention Deputy CEO Operations, Democratic National Convention

## BRIEFING PARTICIPANTS

**WOMEN LEADERS OF NATIONAL & STATE-BASED ORGANIZATIONS**

LaTosha Brown	Alabama Coalition on Black Civic Participation/S.O.S Coalition
Cynthia Brown	North Carolina Coalition on Black and Brown Civic Participation
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Sheila Coates	Black Women United for Action
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Truda Hickman	Caribbean People's International Collective / NCOCA
Roberta Jacobs	National Organization of Black County Officials
ShaRhonda Knott	Chicago Coalition on Black Civic Participation / Black Youth Vote!
Rev. Dr. Judith Moore	Pittsburgh Area Coalition on Black Civic Participation
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Colletta Pichon-Battle	Move Forward GC
Shirley Rivens-Smith	U.S. Africa Sister Cities Foundation, Inc.
Carlottia Scott	South Carolina Black Women's Roundtable, NCBCP Board Member
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Carmen Watkins	Houston Coalition on Black Civic Participation/Houston Area Urban League
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**BLACK WOMEN OPINION LEADERS AND ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES**

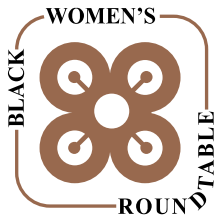
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Marianne Becton	Verizon
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Lillie Coney	National Committee for Voting Integrity
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Carol Hood	Office of Congress Women Barbara Lee
Beni Ivey	Center for Democratic Renewal
Dorothy Jackson	Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc./ NCBCP Board Member
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Dr. Avis Jones-DeWeever	Institute for Women's Policy Research
Kweli Kitwana	Center for Progressive Leadership
Chancee Lundy	
Jessie Norwood	Jubilee Marketing
Rhonda Ritley	The White House Project
LeKedra Robertson	Center for Progressive Leadership
Jena Roscoe	Operation HOPE
Deborah Scott	Georgia Stand-Up
Dr. Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich	National Labor College
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Genora Reed	Office of Congress Women Barbara Lee
Honorable Regena Thomas	Former Secretary of State New Jersey
Fredette West	
Robin Williams	United Food and Commercial Workers
Monica Lee Silbas	International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers
Joanne Williams	Barrington Consultants

**NCBCP BOARD MEMBER**

Mr. Eddie Williams

Eddie Williams &amp; Associates / NCBCP Chair Emeritus

**NCBCP Staff, Professional Support and Volunteers**Latosha Brown  
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Membership & Affiliate Services ManagerKevin Parker  
Deputy Director, Resource & Public Policy DevelopmentRobin Parsell  
Black Women's Roundtable Briefing ConsultantRuby Pulliam  
Event Management SpecialistJordan Thierry,  
BYV Graduate AssistantBrian Young,  
Young Design



### Briefing Overview

The Black Women's Roundtable (BWR) is a signature program of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP). BWR brings together individual and organizational leaders committed to social justice and economic equality for women. Since 1983, the NCBCP Black Women's Roundtable has collaborated at the local, state, national and global levels with a broad constituency and/or organizations of women's groups to increase participation of Black women in all elements of civil society.

The NCBCP continues to educate and inform Black women on the importance of their active participation in public policy by sponsoring its BWR *Healthy, Wealthy & Wise and Power of the Sister Vote* initiatives to encourage civic engagement and voter participation. NCBCP seeks to identify and develop the leadership potential of Black women as public policy makers and change agents; provide public policy forums; engage and motivate young Black women, economically disadvantaged women and women transitioning from welfare to work; and build on the success of the past to model creative opportunities for local, state and national collaboration. ([www.ncbcp.org](http://www.ncbcp.org))

Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> of 2007 marked the NCBCP Black Women's Roundtable 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's History Month Celebration, by hosting the ***Power of the Sister Vote in 2008 Briefing and Luncheon*** in partnership with The National Council of Negro Women and the A. Philip Randolph Institute. The BWR Briefing is the first in a series of ***Power of the Sister Vote in '08*** briefings and listening sessions the NCBCP plans to host in 2007-2008 to help ensure Black women's voices are heard and their issues are addressed by national, state and local candidates in the 2008 Election Cycle.

The NCBCP invited all U. S. presidential candidates who had publicly declared their candidacy for the democratic and republican nominations to participate in the BWR Briefing by sending a senior surrogate to present their platform around two key domestic issues, *healthcare and economic opportunity*. **The NCBCP received enthusiastic confirmations from six democrats and one republican candidate to participate in the BWR Briefing, who shared their strategy to over 40 Black women leaders of national organizations----**as well as via a national conference call---**to women leaders representing AL, FL, GA, IL, LA, MD, MS, SC, NC, NY, OH, TX, VA and D.C.** The campaign surrogates shared how their candidate plans to close the health and economic disparities in the Black community if they were elected president of the United States in 2008.

The BWR Briefing successfully helped to promote healthcare and economic opportunity as two key domestic issues important to Black women to the presidential hopefuls who participated including United States Senators--*Joe Biden, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Christopher Dodd, John Edwards (former), John McCain, Barack Obama* and U. S. Congressman *Dennis Kucinich*.

Further, in order to capture the scope and breadth of where these seven (7) candidates stand on closing the health & wealth disparities gaps, the NCBCP and its partners produced and distributed a follow-up questionnaire for the 2008 Presidential candidates to submit written responses. The written responses from these presidential candidates have been included in this BWR Briefing Summary Report. [See pages 8-27]

The BWR Briefing also included presentations on: 1) Leveraging Our Pocket Book Power in '08; 2) Maximizing Our Issues – Power of the Black Women's Vote in '08; 3) 2008 National Conventions – What It Takes to Be a Delegate & Hosting Events; and 4) Presidential Debates – Update on U. S. Commission on Presidential Debates.

The NCBCP BWR seeks to connect women regardless of organizational or political affiliation in a broader network determined to impact public policy in the interest of the Black community. In 2004, the Black female vote was over 58 percent of the overall Black voter turnout. Therefore, **the BWR Briefings & Listening Sessions will serve as a catalyst for the NCBCP to guide its Unity '08 Black Campaign's Power of the Sister Vote turnout persuasion strategies to increase the Black female vote in the 2008 Election Cycle.**



## OVERVIEW

The National Coalition on Black Civic Participation, Inc. was founded in 1976 on the principle of the yet unfulfilled realization of a full democracy. Building upon its rich history and strong relationships, the National Coalition serves as an effective facilitator and convener at the local, state and national levels. For more than 31 years, the National Coalition---through its 80 member organizations and twelve state affiliates in AL, CA, FL, GA, IL, LA, MS, NC, OH, PA, TX and WI---has proven itself uniquely qualified to address the disenfranchisement of African American voters.

A 501(c) 3, non-profit, nonpartisan, membership organization, the National Coalition is dedicated to increasing African American participation in civil society. **The NCBCP provides civic engagement, voter empowerment, youth leadership development, grassroots advocacy, promotes women’s health and wellness, disaster relief and issue education in Black communities.**

The current programs and initiatives of the organization include *Operation Big Vote!*, *Black Youth Vote!*, ***Black Women’s Roundtable***, *Voices of the Electorate*, *the Information Resource Center* and *the Unity Civic Engagement and Voter Empowerment Campaign*. Through these program initiatives, the National Coalition has trained and engaged Black leaders and community activists in overcoming institutional barriers that have hindered the growth of Black communities politically, socially and economically, with a special emphasis on youth, women and immigrant populations.

## MISSION

The mission of the National Coalition is to create an enlightened community by building institutional capacity that provides and develops leadership. By educating, motivating, organizing, and mobilizing citizens in the African American community, the National Coalition seeks to encourage full participation in a barrier-free democratic process. Through educational programs and leadership training, the coalition works to expand, strengthen, and empower our communities to make voting and civic participation a cultural responsibility and tradition.

## VISION

The National Coalition envisions a nation in which all citizens from children to seniors, have the tools to participate fully in the democratic process at the local, state, national and global levels. By continuing to lead the fight to eliminate remaining barriers to civic participation, the National Coalition will promote greater social and economic justice to enhance the quality of African American life.

For more information visit us at [www.ncbcp.org](http://www.ncbcp.org) or call us at (202)659-4929.

## Leveraging The Power Of The Sister Vote Movement For Our Community Starts With You!!!

Join the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation's ***Black Women's Roundtable*** Today!

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes**, I want to get involved with the National Coalition in my community. Count Me In! Please send me more information on how I can volunteer.

You can also help by donating to the NCBCP/Black Women's Roundtable\*

Your donation will help us to:

- **Lift Black women's voices** in the public policy debate and help ensure our issues are addressed in the 2008 Election cycle in national, state, and local elections in your community
- **Register=Educate=Protect=and=Mobilize** the Black Women's Vote in '08
- **Engage and train young Black women to be civic leaders** in our communities
- **Support Black women survivors of Katrina-Rita through our *Healthy, Wealthy and Wise initiative***

I WILL VOLUNTEER and/or MAKE A CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE NATIONAL COALITION TODAY\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\*Here's my donation of:

\$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1000 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: **NCBCP**

1900 L Street, NW  
Suite #700  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
FED ID#: 52-1253112

Credit card contributions are also accepted. Please check one:

Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Master Card \_\_\_\_\_ American Express \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Black Women's Roundtable (BWR) is a signature program of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP). NCBCP is a 501 © 3, non-partisan, non-profit organization. **Your contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.** For more information on NCBCP and BWR visit our website at [www.ncbcp.org](http://www.ncbcp.org) or call (202) 659-4929.



[Unity: the black campaign]

we've got the **power** – do we have the **will**?



Click & Power Up!

The black voter empowerment campaign

[www.blackcampaign.org](http://www.blackcampaign.org)

JOIN US

For Black Voter Empowerment Sunday—October 14, 2007



Joint Center for Political & Economic Studies, Institute of Caribbean Studies, Caribbean Peoples International Collective, Inc (CPIC)

**“But wilt thou know, O vain man, that Faith without Works is dead.” (James 2:20)**

**BLACK VOTER EMPOWERMENT SUNDAY  
OCTOBER 14, 2007**

Are you sick and tired of being sick and tired?

**The National Coalition Invites You to Do Something About It!**

We are organizing Black churches from coast to coast to set aside a moment in their October 14th services to Celebrate, Recognize and Uplift **OUR POWER** to:

**Organize Register  
Engage Our Community to VOTE in 2007-2008 Election Cycles**

**MAKE YOUR FAITH WORK**

**Fannie Lou Hamer Would Not Have It Any Other Way!**

For more Information, call the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation, 202-659-4929 or [www.blackcampaign.org](http://www.blackcampaign.org)

**SIGN UP AND ORGANIZE YOUR CHURCH FOR UNITY: BLACK VOTER EMPOWERMENT SUNDAY—OCTOBER 14, 2007**

Name.....

Address .....

City..... State..... Zip .....

Phone .....

Email .....

Church.....

Pastor/priest/minister/leader .....

Fax to NCBCP: 202-659-5025

# Joe Biden<sup>1</sup>

**Party:** Democratic

**Occupation:** Lawyer

**Current Job / Position:** Senator from Delaware

**Web site(s):**

[Biden for President](http://www.joebiden.com/) (<http://www.joebiden.com/>)

[Sen. Joe Biden](http://www.biden.senator.gov/) (<http://www.biden.senator.gov/>)

[Sen. Biden Voting Record](http://projects.washingtonpost.com/congress/member/6000444/) (<http://projects.washingtonpost.com/congress/member/6000444/>)



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## Biography

### PERSONAL

**Birthdate:** November 20, 1942 (Scranton, Pa.)

**Hometown:** New Castle, Del.

**Spouse:** Neila Hunter (died in 1972); Jill Tracy Jacobs

**Children:** Joseph R. "Beau" Biden III, Robert Hunter Biden, Amy Biden (died in 1972), Ashley Biden (with Jill Tracy Jacobs)

**Religion:** Catholic

### EDUCATION

- Syracuse University College of Law, J.D., 1968
- University of Delaware, B.A., 1965
- St. Helena's School and Archmere Academy

### EXPERIENCE

#### Businesses Owned, Past Careers, Board Memberships, Etc.:

- Adjunct Professor, Widener University School of Law, 1991-present
- Attorney, Private Practice, 1968-1972

#### Public Service / Elected Offices:

- Senator, United States Senate, 1972-present
- Chair, Committee on Foreign Relations, current, 2001-2003
- Chair, Committee on the Judiciary, 1987-1995

## FIRST QUARTER 2007 SUMMARY

Funds Raised in Q1 - **\$4,013,089<sup>3</sup>**

Average Contribution- N/A

Cash on Hand- **\$2,838,915**

<sup>1</sup> Source: The Washington Post website at <http://projects.washingtonpost.com/2008-presidential-candidates/>

<sup>2</sup> Source: Presidential campaign websites

<sup>3</sup> Source: [www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.asp](http://www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.asp)

## Presidential Candidate Questionnaire Senator Joe Biden's Response

### Economic Disparities

**What is your candidate's policy solution to stimulate the economy that will eliminate economic disparities and close the wealth gap between women and men?**

Senator Biden would make three things a priority to stimulate the economy and eliminate wage disparities: (1) take back the Bush tax cuts from the very wealthy; (2) invest in health care and education; and (3) protect workers rights to organize.

#### (1) Take Back Tax Cuts For the Top 1 Percent

First, Senator Biden would eliminate the Bush tax cut for the top 1 percent and for investors – the tax cuts on capital gains and dividends. The tax cut has put all the burden on wage earners and off of investors. So wage earners are paying a disproportionate share and getting very little benefit. Senator Biden would restore tax rates on dividends and capital gains to the pre-2001 level.

#### (2) Invest in Healthcare and Education

Instead of spending money on those tax cuts Senator Biden would invest in health care and education. Senator Biden believes that every child in this country should have good health care, effective teachers and the ability to go to two or four year college. He would make sure that every child has health insurance by expanding the State Childrens Health Insurance Program.

Senator Biden has four goals for our education system: (1) start earlier; (2) put a well-paid, effective teacher in every classroom; (3) reduce class sizes; and (4) graduate every student from high school and help those that are qualified to go on to two or four years of college.

If there is one thing we know from research and experience, it is that a child who goes to preschool with books, structure, and activities, starts school better prepared. She has a better shot of making it to middle school with grade-level reading and math skills, graduating high school, and going to college.

The lesson here is focus on the bookends of school: start earlier and finish strong. 12 years of education simply isn't adequate in a global economy.

That's why Senator Biden supports moving toward a 16 year public school system where every parent who wants to can send their child to pre-school and where every student goes on to at least two years of higher education.

Senator Biden believes that we can start down that path by doing three things immediately:

- (1) Fully funding Head Start so that we double the number of children it serves and quadruple the number of toddlers in Early Start (\$27 billion over the next five years).

- (2) Expanding help for middle class families paying for college by creating a refundable \$3,000 tax credit – which would cover the average tuition at two-year colleges and cover more than half the average tuition. I'm introducing that today in the Senate.
- (3) Expanding Pell grants to \$5,100 next year (the maximum grant is \$4,310) and to \$6,300 in five years.

Senator Biden would focus our national K-12 education policy on two things: small classes and effective teachers. We can do that by: (1) retaining our teachers and (2) attracting good people to the profession.

Half of all new teachers leave the profession in 5 years. Teacher attrition costs our schools \$2 billion a year. For \$3 billion we could transform the way we prepare and support teachers as well as improving teacher pay by: (1) funding mentoring and induction programs for all new teachers so that we can better attract and retain those new to the profession, (2) creating a service scholarship program that would increase the supply of high quality teachers by providing them with scholarship money to defray the costs of education in exchange for a four-year commitment to teaching in a high need school, and (3) designing incentives to reward high quality and effective professional development like National Board Certification.

#### (3) Protect Workers Rights

Senator Biden believes that protecting workers rights is crucial to eliminating economic disparities and making sure that millions of Americans can count on a secure retirement. Senator Biden often says that there isn't a white collar worker that is treated well by his employer or a piece of social legislation that exists that isn't because of organized labor. We have a strong middle class in this country because of labor. This administration has lined up 10 deep to strip away about 100 years of labor progress. Senator Biden believes that we can slow them down by passing the Employee Free Choice Act and fixing the National Labor Relations Board decision that reclassified many workers as supervisors. But we won't be able to stop them until we have a Democrat in the White House.

#### Record of Fighting For Equal Pay

Senator Biden has specifically fought for equal pay for women and protections against discrimination. He is a cosponsor of the Paycheck Fairness Act (S. 766), a bill that will provide more effective remedies for women who are discriminated against or paid lower wages because of their gender. Senator Biden has long opposed employment discrimination of any kind – including discrimination based on race, religion, gender, disability or sexual orientation. He has consistently supported measures to make it easier for women and minorities to enforce anti-discrimination laws. Finally, Senator Biden is a cosponsor of the Equal Rights Amendment.

**Does your candidate support affirmative action?**

Yes. Senator Biden believes in fairness and is a long-time supporter of affirmative action. He supported the Supreme Court's decision to allow the University of Michigan law school's program to consider race as a factor in admissions in *Grutter v. Bollinger* (2003). Throughout his career, Senator Biden has vigorously opposed attempts to bar the use of funds to administer affirmative action programs and bans on affirmative action in federal contracting.

**Health Disparities****What is your candidate's health care platform to provide affordable health care to all Americans and full funding to address the elimination of health disparities that disproportionately affect black women, such as HIV/AIDS, obesity and other life threatening illnesses?**

Senator Biden believes that we face two health care challenges: (1) cost of care and (2) access to care.

To keep health care affordable Senator Biden will focus on modernizing the system, simplifying it and improving quality. We can modernize health care by using electronic records and providing doctors, nurses and pharmacists with vital histories and information in real time. We can simplify health care by using the same forms for claims – building one system not dozens of different ones. We can improve health care by taking the best practices and applying them to disease management. Senator Biden believes that we

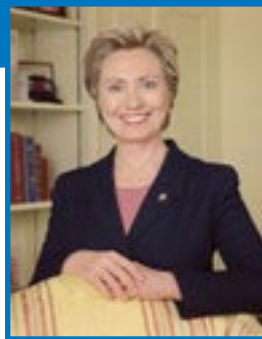
must do a better job making sure that people who suffer from common chronic diseases like heart disease and diabetes have adequate access to care, can afford medication and are able to manage and treat their illness and avoid serious complications.

Senator Biden believes that the path toward universal coverage starts with the most vulnerable in our society. He would make sure that every child has health insurance by expanding the State Childrens Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and he would relieve families and companies of the burden of catastrophic cases.

Beyond that, Senator Biden supports evaluating the best way to provide coverage for the remaining uninsured. He would support states in providing universal coverage (states like Massachusetts and California) to determine how employer mandates and individual mandates work best.

**Future Access to Campaign****What mechanisms does your campaign have in place to provide access to this group to help inform the candidates about the issues we identify as important to the constituencies we represent?**

Please contact:  
Muthoni Wambu  
Deputy Political Director, Biden for President  
(o)302-574-2008



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## Hillary Rodham Clinton<sup>4</sup>

**Party:** Democratic

**Occupation:** Lawyer

**Current Job / Position:** Senator from New York

**Web site(s):**

[Hillary for President](http://www.hillaryclinton.com) (<http://www.hillaryclinton.com>)

[Sen. Hillary Clinton](http://www.clinton.senate.gov/) (<http://www.clinton.senate.gov/>)

## Biography

### PERSONAL

**Birthdate:** October 26, 1947 (Chicago, Ill.)

**Hometown:** Park Ridge, Ill.

**Spouse:** Bill Clinton

**Children:** Chelsea Clinton

**Religion:** United Methodist

### EDUCATION

- Yale Law School, J.D., 1973
- Wellesley College, B.A., 1969
- Maine South High School

### EXPERIENCE

#### Businesses Owned, Past Careers, Board Memberships, Etc.:

- Attorney, Rose Law Firm, 1976-1992
- Faculty, University of Arkansas Law School, 1975
- Board Member, TCBY Yogurt Company, 1985-1992
- Board Member, Wal-Mart, 1985-1992
- Board Member, Arkansas Children's Hospital
- Board Member, Children's Defense Fund
- Co-Founder, Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families

#### Public Service / Elected Offices:

- Senator, United States Senate, 2001-present
- First Lady of the United States, 1993-2001
- First Lady of Arkansas, 1979-1981, 1983-1993
- House Judiciary Committee, 1974

## FIRST QUARTER 2007 SUMMARY

**Funds Raised in Q1 - \$36,054,568<sup>6</sup>**

**Average Contribution- \$370**

**Cash on Hand- \$30,974,779**

4 Source: The Washington Post website at <http://projects.washingtonpost.com/2008-presidential-candidates/>

5 Source: Presidential campaign websites

6 Source: [www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.asp](http://www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.asp)

## Presidential Candidate Questionnaire Senator Hillary Clinton's Response

### Economic Disparities

**What is your candidate's policy solution to stimulate the American economy that will eliminate economic disparities and close the wealth gap between women and men?**

Senator Clinton has a long record of fighting to increase economic opportunities for all Americans, especially low-income families. She has strongly supported raising the minimum wage and has introduced legislation to tie increases in the minimum wage to increases in Congressional pay raises.

She was a leader in the fight to prevent the Bush Administration from undermining overtime protections, a policy that would have resulted in a 25 percent pay cut for many workers who rely on overtime. She also supports the Employee Free Choice Act, which will make it easier for workers to unionize and thereby grow the number of jobs in America that provide a pension, health insurance, and a livable wage. She has also strongly advocated for a larger federal investment in childcare, universal access to preschool, paid sick leave and family leave, policies that make it easier for workers who are also parents and caregivers.

Senator Clinton has led the charge in the Senate to eliminate the pay gap between men and women. Senator Clinton introduced the Paycheck Fairness Act, legislation that offers women meaningful remedies for pay discrimination by toughening the penalties for violating the Equal Pay Act. This bill also makes sure our government enforces equal pay laws in our own federal contracts. Millions of women are employed through federal contracts. We should at least be a model to the private sector about giving women an equal paycheck for equal work.

This bill also prohibits employers from retaliating against employees who share salary information. Right now when women try to find out if they are being treated fairly by asking around about what others get paid, they can get in trouble or even be fired. This bill would make that illegal.

### **Does your candidate support Affirmative Action? Yes.**

In February 2003, Senator Clinton filed an amicus brief with Senators Edward Kennedy, Tom Daschle, and other Democratic colleagues, asking the United States Supreme Court to reaffirm the use of race as one of a number of factors to be considered in the college and university admission process. The previous month, Senator Clinton sent a letter to President Bush, raising serious concerns with his Administration's decision to oppose the University of Michigan's use of affirmative action. In that same letter, Senator Clinton raised concerns about President Bush's proposal to substitute race-neutral "percent plans" for traditional affirmative.

*(The full text of Senator Clinton's letter can be found in the appendix A pages 43-46)*

### Health Disparities

**What is your candidate's health care platform to provide affordable health care to all Americans and full funding to address the elimination of health disparities that disproportionately affect Black women, such as HIV/AIDS, obesity and other life threatening illnesses?**

Senator Clinton has been a long-time champion for quality, affordable, and accessible health care for all Americans. She was ahead of her time in calling for universal health care more than a decade ago and has never stopped fighting to improve our healthcare system.

As First Lady, Hillary helped create the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), which represented the single largest expansion of healthcare for children in our nation's history. She also led efforts to inform parents across the country about the program. As Senator, she saved \$2.7 billion in unused SCHIP funding from being reallocated, a move that prevented 360,000 children from losing health insurance. Last month, Senator Clinton and Congressman John Dingell introduced the Children Health First Act, to make quality, affordable healthcare coverage available to every child in America.

Senator Clinton has also been a strong advocate for modernizing our healthcare system to reduce inefficiency, fragmentation and waste in our health care system. In 2006, the Senate unanimously passed the Wired for Health Care Quality Act, legislation spearheaded by Hillary that creates a secure, interoperable health information technology infrastructure to reduce costs, enhance efficiency and improve overall patient care. Administrative costs of our medical system currently account for about one in four of our healthcare dollars; reducing these costs will allow us to redirect resources and increase health care coverage.

Both of these efforts -- expanding health coverage to all Americans and modernizing our healthcare system -- will reduce health disparities. In addition, Senator Clinton has championed efforts and legislation designed to address health care disparities specifically. She cosponsored the Healthcare Equality and Accountability Act, which would extend healthcare coverage to many low-income adults, remove language and cultural barriers in federal health programs, improve workforce diversity, strengthen health institutions that serve minority populations, create minority health offices at the Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and standardize the collection and reporting of data on race, ethnicity, and primary language. She also championed a budget amendment that established a reserve fund to address minority health disparities.

Senator Clinton has been a leader in the fight against HIV/AIDS. She sponsored the Early Treatment for HIV Act to provide access to Medicaid services for HIV infected

individuals. She has also fought against proposals to require HIV/AIDS funding to be spent on abstinence-only education instead of treatment, prevention and research.

As First Lady, Hillary worked with Congress to expand Medicare coverage to cover annual mammogram screenings for all beneficiaries age 40 and over. As Senator, she has held hearings on the environmental causes of breast cancer, and is a co-sponsor of the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act to explore the links between environmental pollutants and breast cancer.

She cosponsored and helped pass in the Senate the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of genetic information with respect to health insurance and employment.

Senator Clinton has also fought against cuts in Medicaid and was an original cosponsor of an amendment that prevented \$15 billion in cuts to the Medicaid program.

#### **Future Access to Campaign**

**What mechanisms does your campaign have in place to provide access to this group to help inform the candidates about the issues that we identify as important to the constituencies we represent?**

There are a number of mechanisms through which the Black Women's Roundtable can help inform Senator Clinton about issues of common concern. First, you can continue to have the kind of discussions that took place on March 30. This campaign will always appreciate the opportunity to have senior level members from this campaign participate in, and be informed by, those discussions. Second, members of the Roundtable can participate in the many in-person and on-line discussions directly with Senator Clinton on a variety of issues. Such discussions have taken place concerning a variety of issues, including health care and education. Third, a number of senior members of the campaign, including Leecia Eve and Minyon Moore, are available to receive any information the Roundtable would like to share. These are just a few methods the Roundtable can employ but we are also open to any other ideas about how best we can engage in an ongoing discussion about important policy issues.



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## Chris Dodd<sup>7</sup>

**Party:** Democratic

**Occupation:** Lawyer

**Current Job / Position:** Senator from Connecticut

**Web site(s):**

[Chris Dodd for President](http://chrisdodd.com) (<http://chrisdodd.com>)

[Sen. Chris Dodd](http://dodd.senate.gov) (<http://dodd.senate.gov>)

## Biography

### PERSONAL

**Birthdate:** May 27, 1944 (Willimantic, Conn.)

**Hometown:** East Haddam, Conn.

**Spouse:** Jackie Clegg Dodd

**Children:** Grace Dodd, Christina Dodd

**Religion:** Roman Catholic

### EDUCATION

- University of Louisville School of Law, J.D., 1972
- Providence College, B.A., 1966
- Georgetown Preparatory School, 1962

### EXPERIENCE

#### Military Service:

- U.S. Army, 1969-1975
- Peace Corps Volunteer in Dominican Republic, 1966-1968

#### Public Service / Elected Offices:

- Senator, United States Senate, 1981-present
- Chair, Committee on Rules and Administration, 2001-2003
- Representative, United States House of Representatives, 1975-1981

## FIRST QUARTER 2007 SUMMARY

**Funds Raised in Q1 - \$8,795,706<sup>9</sup>**

**Average Contribution- NA**

**Cash on Hand- \$7,482,467**

<sup>7</sup> Source: The Washington Post website at <http://projects.washingtonpost.com/2008-presidential-candidates>

<sup>8</sup> Source: Presidential campaign websites

<sup>9</sup> Source: [www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.asp](http://www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.asp)



## Presidential Candidate Questionnaire Senator Chris Dodd's Response

### Economic Disparities

**What is your candidate's policy solution to stimulate the American economy that will eliminate economic disparities and close the wealth gap between women and men?**

Chris Dodd believes that there is no doubt that in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century it is unacceptable that we are still discussing the issue of equality in the workplace between men and women. This is an area where there should be no discussion necessary – pay equity should be guaranteed. As the father of two young daughters and as an American, Chris Dodd is a proud sponsor of the Paycheck Fairness Act, a bill to eliminate wage disparities in the workplace. As President, he will continue to fight for fair wage practices along gender and racial lines.

Chris Dodd has a plan to create jobs for all Americans. Through his energy plan, a Dodd Administration would create jobs across the economic spectrum, from universities, to farms, to construction, to auto maintenance. Chris Dodd plans to enhance job creation through comprehensive training programs that will help women obtain employment anywhere they choose, and to get paid the same rate as their male counterparts.

### Does your candidate support Affirmative Action?

Yes. A Dodd Administration would enthusiastically support all efforts that ensure that every American deserves a chance to go as far as their ability and effort will take them, regardless of their race, gender, ethnicity, or economic circumstances. He believes that providing equal educational opportunities to every American is critical to our democracy. Further, he agrees with the 2003 Supreme Court decision that upheld the principle that diversity is a compelling state interest with regard to higher education admissions.

### Health Disparities

**What is your candidate's health care platform to provide affordable health care to all Americans and full funding to address the elimination of health disparities that disproportionately affect Black women, such as HIV/AIDS, obesity and other life threatening illnesses?**

The Dodd Health Care Plan calls for universal health insurance for all Americans. Chris Dodd would require all individuals to carry health insurance. If health insurance is not available through an individual's employer, they will be able to purchase insurance through a Health Care General Fund (HCGF). The cost to an individual would be based on his or her fixed percentage above poverty. The Dodd Health Care Plan would extend Medicaid to adults who make 100 percent above the poverty line and to children whose family's income is up to 300 percent of the poverty line.

The Dodd Health Care Plan also puts a premium on disease prevention by encouraging screenings, timely visits to the doctor and early treatments that keep chronic diseases like obesity and diabetes under control.

Senator Dodd has an extensive record of supporting funding for disease prevention and elimination:

Dodd Fought To Bolster Pediatric AIDS Research and to Ensure that Children With HIV/AIDS Receive the Highest Quality Care. In 2005, Chris Dodd introduced bipartisan legislation that would expand pediatric HIV/AIDS research and ensure that children are incorporated into trials for HIV/AIDS vaccines where appropriate. This legislation also sought to improve services and care for children and adolescents with HIV/AIDS by making it easier for children to participate in HIV/AIDS clinical research trials and by recruiting them to seek care.

Dodd Worked to Reduce the Number of Premature Births and to Protect the Health of those Babies Born Prematurely. In 2006, Chris Dodd worked to pass the PREEMIE Act (The Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early Act) which he co-sponsored with Senator Lamar Alexander. This legislation aims to reduce the incidence of pre-term birth by expanding federal research initiatives related to pre-term birth and delivery and by increasing education and support services for pregnant women. It also works to ensure effective care for at-risk women and for infants born pre-term in order to reduce infant mortality and disabilities.

Dodd Has Supported Efforts to Expand Medical Research Utilizing Cord Blood and Stem Cells. Chris Dodd has worked to ensure that medical researchers have all the necessary tools that they need to develop cures for some of the most deadly diseases. He worked across the isle to pass legislation that expands access to cord blood (blood drawn from the placenta and umbilical cord of a newborn) which research has shown can be used as an effective alternative to bone marrow in the treatment of sickle cell anemia and leukemia. He also supports embryonic stem cell research utilizing stem cell lines that meet strict ethical requirements such as: they were donated for the purpose of fertility treatment, they would otherwise be discarded, and that donors have given consent and have not financially benefited.

Dodd Has Supported Efforts to Combat Our Nation's Growing Obesity Epidemic. Chris Dodd crossed the aisle to join Senator Bill Frist in support of efforts to gather information on combating the growing epidemic of childhood obesity. He also worked with Senator Frist and Senator Bingaman to secure over \$250 million in funding for programs that encourage better nutrition and more physical activity to combat childhood obesity,

### Future Access to Campaign

**What mechanisms does your campaign have in place to provide access to this group to help inform the candidates about the issues that we identify as important to the constituencies we represent?**

Antwaun Griffin, (202-737-3633 or agriffin@chrisdodd.com) from our political department will continue to be the point person for communications between the campaign and the NCBCP.

Additionally, you should not hesitate to call on any member of our staff, including the following persons:

Scott Arceneaux  
National Political Director

Sheryl Cohen  
Campaign Manager



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## John Edwards<sup>10</sup>

**Party:** Democratic

**Occupation:** Trial Lawyer

**Current Job / Position:** Trial Lawyer, Director of the Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity

**Web site(s):**

[John Edwards for President](http://www.johnedwards.com) (<http://www.johnedwards.com>)

## Biography

### PERSONAL

**Birthdate:** June 10, 1953 (Seneca, S.C.)

**Hometown:** Robbins, N.C.

**Spouse:** Elizabeth Edwards

**Children:** Wade Edwards (died in 1996), Cate Edwards, Emma Claire Edwards, Jack Edwards

**Religion:** Methodist

### EDUCATION

- University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, J.D., 1977
- North Carolina State University, B.A., 1974
- North Moore High School

### EXPERIENCE

#### Public Service / Elected Offices:

- Senator, United States Senate, 1998-2005
- Democratic presidential candidate, 2004

### FIRST QUARTER 2007 SUMMARY

Funds Raised in Q1 - \$14,031,662<sup>12</sup>

Average Contribution- \$350

Cash on Hand- \$10,733,641

<sup>10</sup> Source: The Washington Post website at <http://projects.washingtonpost.com/2008-presidential-candidates>

<sup>11</sup> Source: Presidential campaign websites

<sup>12</sup> Source: [www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.asp](http://www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.asp)

## Presidential Candidate Questionnaire Former Senator John Edward's Response

### Economic Disparities

**What is your candidate's policy solution to stimulate the American economy that will eliminate economic disparities and close the wealth gap between women and men?**

I believe we need to create a working society where work – not just wealth – is rewarded, and where the middle class is bigger, stronger, and looks like America. As someone who started with nothing and ended up with everything, I am running for president to help give everyone the same opportunities I had.

As president, I will set a national goal to cut poverty by a third by 2015 and end it within 30 years. Last year, I campaigned in six states for a higher minimum wage, supporting the successful effort to give an overdue raise to millions of low-wage workers, who are disproportionately women and people of color. My commitment to addressing these inequalities is also why I have stood with and supported workers organizing unions over 170 times since 2005.

I was the first in my family to go to college. I started a program called College for Everyone in Greene County, North Carolina, to provide a full year of public college tuition and books for students willing to work at least ten hours a week. The program was modeled on one of my past campaign proposals.

We need to enact lending and savings policies to narrow the racial and gender wealth gaps, including work bonds to match the savings of low-income workers and strong predatory lending laws to end the wealth-stripping practices that target women, seniors, and communities of color. I will address the affordable housing crisis by overhauling HUD and providing one million new affordable housing vouchers.

And in the Edwards Administration, the Departments of Labor and Justice will aggressively pursue employment discrimination and worker protection claims to uphold and enforce workers' rights to be free from discrimination and exploitation on the job.

### Does your candidate support Affirmative Action?

I have consistently supported affirmative action because I believe that every man, woman, and child in America deserves an equal opportunity to succeed. I signed a Supreme Court brief supporting the University of Michigan's program. Moreover, as president, I will support the hard work it will take this nation to make affirmative action obsolete.

### Health Disparities

**What is your candidate's health care platform to provide affordable health care to all Americans and full funding to address the elimination of health disparities that disproportionately affect Black women, such as HIV/AIDS, obesity and other life threatening illnesses?**

It is indefensible that people of color in America are more likely to die of a long list of causes, from asthma to HIV/AIDS. The first step to end racial disparities in health is to provide universal coverage because people of color account for more than half of the 45 million uninsured.

I am proud to have a specific, detailed plan to provide universal coverage. It is based on the principle of shared responsibility, asking every part of society to take responsibility. Businesses will be required to either cover their employees or help pay part of the cost. The government will expand Medicaid and SCHIP and offer middle-class families subsidies for insurance premiums. It will also help establish Health Care Markets to give families and businesses a choice of competing plans, including one public option based on Medicare. Finally, once insurance is affordable, everyone will be expected to take responsibility and buy health coverage.

I will also take other steps to close health disparities. I will support medical research into disparities, reduce the pollutions and toxins that disproportionately harm communities of color, and support translation services to address language barriers.

### Future Access to Campaign

**What mechanisms does your campaign have in place to provide access to this group to help inform the candidates about the issues that we identify as important to the constituencies we represent?**

This campaign to change the country depends on the involvement of people who share my campaign's vision of an America that lives up to its highest ideals. I am eager to hear your ideas.

On political and constituency issues, please contact Matt Morrison, Constituency Director. His number is 919-636-3189 and his email is mmorrison@johnedwards.com. On policy issues, please contact Heather McGhee, Deputy Policy Director. Her phone number is 919-636-3189 and her email is hmcghee@johnedwards.com



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## Dennis Kucinich<sup>13</sup>

**Party:** Democratic

**Occupation:** Politician

**Current Job / Position:** Representative from Ohio

**Web site(s):**

Kucinich for President (<http://kucinich.us/>)

Rep. Dennis Kucinich (<http://kucinich.house.gov/>)

## Biography

### PERSONAL

**Birthdate:** October 8, 1946 (Cleveland, Ohio)

**Hometown:** Cleveland, Ohio

**Spouse:** Elizabeth Kucinich

**Children:** Jackie Kucinich

### EDUCATION

- Case Western Reserve University, M.A., 1974
- Case Western Reserve University, B.A.

### EXPERIENCE

#### Public Service / Elected Offices:

- Democratic presidential candidate, 2004
- Representative, United States House of Representatives, 1997-present
- Senator, Ohio State Senate, 1994-1996
- Cleveland Mayor, 1977-1979
- Cleveland City Council, 1970-1975, 1981-1982
- Clerk, Cleveland Municipal Courts, 1976-1977

### FIRST QUARTER 2007 SUMMARY

**Funds Raised in Q1 - \$344,891<sup>14</sup>**

**Average Contribution- N/A**

**Cash on Hand- \$163,887**

<sup>13</sup> Source: The Washington Post website at <http://projects.washingtonpost.com/2008-presidential-candidates>

<sup>14</sup> Source: Presidential campaign website

<sup>15</sup> Source: [www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.asp](http://www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.asp)

## Presidential Candidate Questionnaire Representative Dennis Kucinich's Response

### Economic Disparities

**What is your candidate's policy solution to stimulate the American economy that will eliminate economic disparities and close the wealth gap between women and men?**

#### Executive Summary:

The Kucinich campaign has been unique in its embrace of a host of innovative and aggressive measures to halt and then reverse our un-Democratic slide towards plutocracy, empire and militarism. The war that has been waged against hard-working Americans by the economically privileged and their minions in Congress can be stopped.

The Kucinich programs to save and strengthen America's families include:

- 1) Eliminating the waste from our military budget
- 2) Establishing a public works program similar to that of Franklin Delano Roosevelt with that \$70 to 95 billion of savings from military waste to revitalize America's infrastructure
- 3) Revamping our tax system to reward work – not leisure
- 4) Providing free universal education from pre-school through college
- 5) Adopting the universal health care plan of over 14,000 doctors embodied in Conyers-Kucinich HR 676 and
- 6) Pursuing color and gender blind economic policies. Resolving the gender and manual labor penalties of Social Security would be a start.

Most of all it is necessary for the American labor movement to experience resurgence in order for the American worker to prosper. Repeal of *Taft-Hartley* and adoption of union- friendly labor laws would be a start to this necessary renaissance of labor.

#### Detailed Discussion:

***The details of many of these programs can be obtained by going to Kucinich.us.***

Dennis Kucinich recognizes that "The Color of Wealth" in America is white. It is certainly not black or brown. As United for a Fair Economy points out in their 2006 book by that title: "For every dollar owned by the average white family in the United States, the average family of color has less than one dime." He also recognizes that the economic deprivation that has impacted people of color more than whites is growing for all Americans. Our quickening slide into Depression era economics is best illustrated by a simple income distribution statistic pointed out in David Cay Johnston's "Perfectly Legal." Today in America, the top 13,400 households have more yearly income than the bottom 96 million Americans. Of course, the statistics for wealth are even worse. The bottom 96 million Americans literally have no wealth, just debt. When a CEO earns 400 times what the average worker makes in a plant, he is

demonstrating immense disrespect for that sales person, engineer or secretary. He is shredding the whole sense of common purpose for the company as well as shredding the whole compact of common good adopted when "We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union" organized as a nation of states united – not intentionally turned blue and red for partisan gain.. Our current culture of greed and the control of government by the rich threatens all of us.

Put another way. How does it make sense for one family to have half a plate of food while 7,164 poor Americans share the other half? This greed of the economically privileged for an even greater share of the wealth produced by American workers will destroy capitalism. The rapacious greed that merits hundreds of passages in scripture will doom our economy – and families – unless strong actions are quickly taken.

Since 1981, the share of income of the richest 5% of this country has increased more than 40%, while that of the lowest fifth has decreased more than 20%. An even starker contrast arises. According to Business Week, the average CEO made 42 times the average worker's pay in 1980, 85 times in 1990 and 531 times in 2000. Forbes Magazine points out that the number of billionaires increased from 13 in 1982 to 149 in 1996.

Interestingly – and not surprisingly – our corporate media does little to focus Americans on this disturbing challenge to capitalism. Instead, they focus on nonsensical calls by politicians to cut all discretionary spending in the government – necessary social programs – and to expand our military. We have become a government of, by and for corporations. Profit over people is how one author put it. Interestingly, contrary to what apologists for the current system claim, it is not an unfortunate by product of rewarding success and hard work. In "Pay Without Performance" Professors Bebchuck and Fried reveal that crony capitalism produces less, not more accountability. Their research dispels the myth that pay is linked to performance in American board rooms.

#### ***1) Eliminating the waste from our military budget.***

Just as Kucinich stood courageously again our misadventure in Iraq, he has directly confronted our voracious military budget that threatens not just the world as we embrace empire, but the American family. Each year the average American family of four sees more than \$10,000 spent on Former admirals and generals have explained that at least 15% could be cut from our bloated, inefficient military budget without impairing readiness. Our current military budget is actually near \$800 billion a year when you consider additional war expenditures, money hidden in other agencies like the Department of Energy for nukes and interest payments for past over-spending on the military.

Inexplicable, former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney has promised to veto every expenditure not funded but to, at the same time, expand the military. Yes, the Republicans are doing the unimaginable. They are using 19 people with box cutters (or knives as the 9/11 Commission states) as a pretext to balloon a military budget already larger than the rest of the world combined. Imagine stoking the fires of fear when no country on earth dare face us on a field of battle! Imagine invading a country which did not attack us, which did not threaten to attack us and had no means or weapons to attacks under the guise of ridding the world of weapons of mass destruction.

**2) Establishing a public works program similar to that of Franklin Delano Roosevelt with that \$70 to 95 billion of savings from military waste to revitalize America's infrastructure.**

The Kucinich plan also calls for the creation of a low-cost federal financing mechanism to administer \$50 billion in zero-interest loans every year to localities for infrastructure projects for ten years. Twenty percent of these funds would be targeted for school construction and repair.

State and local governments would continue to issue bonds to finance infrastructure projects. But under the Kucinich plan, the federal government would be authorized to buy those bonds. States would have to repay the principal, but unlike normal municipal borrowing, these bonds would pay zero interest. So, the cost of borrowing for infrastructure improvement would be reduced by half.

The federal government would hold these bonds in the Federal Bank for Infrastructure Modernization (FBIM). The bank, as an extension of the Federal Financing Bank under the Treasury, would administer the loans. The loans would bear a small fee of one-quarter of one percent of the loan principal to cover the administrative costs of the FBIM. In order to provide the money for the loans, the FBIM would hold a portion of the Treasury securities that the Federal Reserve normally holds.

The Fed currently holds about \$300 billion in Treasury securities. Transferring about \$50 billion annually to the FBIM would still allow the Fed to operate as it does now to add liquidity to the system. The Fed, instead of buying securities, would buy the mortgage loans of the states. This way, the FBIM's finances would be integrated by the Federal Open Market Committee so as not to disrupt its ability to promote economic stability.

This amount would be varied, so that the funds could be used as a tool to foster stable economic growth. During times of economic slowdown, the FBIM would make more loans available to spur investment. During times of economic boom, the FBIM would make fewer loans available.

**3) Revamping our tax system to reward work – not leisure.** Warren Buffett, the world's second-richest man, was correct when he explained: "If class warfare is being waged in America, my class is clearly winning." He has pointed to the fact that corporate taxes only amounted to 7.4% of fiscal 2003 U.S. tax receipts. With the exception of 1983, when Reagan was in office, this is the lowest portion of our tax receipts that corporations have paid since 1933. If corporations and the wealthy aren't paying their fair share, who must take up the slack? Yes, working Americans.

Our tax system must once again be progressive with those who owe so much to our economic system and are capable of paying more shouldering more of the burden.

The fact that a billionaire sitting next to a pool pays a lower tax rate than the person who cleans bedpans or finishes concrete should trouble all of us. America should reward those whose labors have made it great. To force the hardest working and most productive of all Americans to pay more of their income than those who merely receive dividend checks from an investment is to diminish their efforts. The Republican effort to keep the taxation rate on dividends

at 15%, or to eliminate it altogether, is truly evidence that the Republican Party and some Democrats simply do not respect hard work. They only respect and admire wealth. Part of that admiration may stem from the fact that those are the people who fund their campaigns.

For example, the campaign to eliminate the estate tax is being largely pushed by 18 super-wealthy American families, who figure to save some \$71.6 billion in taxes if the estate tax is eliminated. Incidentally, if the inheritance tax is eliminated, the average American will have to come up with about \$7,500 more in taxes over a ten-year period. The estate tax is a graduated tax that only about 1% of taxpayers pay and where one in a thousand estates pays most of the tax.

Our greatest concern can no longer be the children of the rich.

The very wealthy owe a great debt to this great country and those who preceded them. Indeed, as President Theodore Roosevelt stated in 1906, "the man of great wealth owes a particular obligation to the State because he derives special advantages from the mere existence of government." In 1909 in his inaugural address William Howard Taft pointed to the "graduated inheritance tax as correct in principle and as certain and easy of collection."

Bill Gates's father also has argued for the continuing existence of the estate tax, despite knowing that the transfer of his son's immense wealth at death will be taxed. "The estate tax should be regarded as just paying back to the country for all the wonderful things it's made possible for the people who have that wealth," said Bill Gates, Sr. "I don't think there's any great societal goal being served by inherited wealth. And certainly there's no sensible argument that I can think of for insisting on being able to pass the last penny of \$100 million on to your three kids."

Clearly, middle class taxpayers pay too much in taxes and are paid too little in the workplace. And the super-rich and corporations pay too little. In fact, the Bush administration has not given tax cuts. They have forced the American people to borrow money for massive tax cuts for those earning, on average, \$1.25 million a year.

The Center for Tax Justice has shown that the top 1% of taxpayers, those earning on average \$1.25 million a year, will individually receive \$476,176 in tax cuts between 2001 and 2010, if the tax cuts become permanent. Most shocking is that the top 1% will receive some \$641 billion over that time period, while the bottom 80% will receive \$636 billion in tax cuts.

The administration statements that the poor and middle class received most of the tax cuts is not an issue of debate. It is a lie, no matter how you try to order the evidence. Much of the most direct evidence, by the way, the administration refuses to release. Perhaps they feel the facts would weaken Republican -- not national -- security.

The Clinton period tax rates for the most affluent should be returned, while the tax cuts for those earning less than \$415,000 a year should be maintained, for now, until we see how the economy fares.

Because the average family of four sees some \$10,000 spent on military-related spending, significant tax savings could be generated by eliminating waste and weapons like Star Wars that simply won't

work and programs that have nothing to do with protecting this country.

Keep in mind that the government borrows all the Social Security surplus each year and doesn't even report the borrowing as part of the yearly deficit. So far, the Bush administration has borrowed about \$6,000 in overpayments from the Social Security Trust Fund from the average taxpayer. This, after promising in the first Presidential campaign to put the money in a "lock box." Especially unsettling is that after borrowing nearly a trillion dollars from the trust fund, the President has declared several times that the Trust Fund simply doesn't exist.

If the government refuses to honor its borrowings from the Social Security Trust, it means that the Bush administration will have financed much of the government on the most regressive of taxes. Even more shocking are the calculations of economist Dean Baker that such a repudiation of the Trust Fund would result in a windfall of \$800,000 for the top 1% of taxpayers and a loss of \$10,000 for the average family.

**4) Providing free universal education from pre-school through college.** Explained in more details at Kucinich.us.

**5) Adopting the universal health care plan of over 14,000 doctors embodied in Conyers-Kucinich HR 676.** Explained in the next answer.

**6) Pursuing color and gender blind economic policies. Resolving the gender and manual labor penalties of Social Security would be a start.**

Our greatest poverty insurance program, Social Security, must be strengthened – not gutted. The entire thrust of the recent "Reform Social Security Movement" was to shred this essential safety net. Those who wished to privatize the system were there to cut holes in the insurance program and to spin off groups with no vested interest in preserving its social compact. With the disappearance of traditional pensions and falling savings rates, it is more important than ever. But Social Security can be made more equitable. The discrimination towards mothers and homemakers must be eliminated. For example, let's examine a husband who has worked under Social Security covered compensation retires, his wife receives an independent benefit approximately 50% the size of the workers. Thus, if a covered employee retires at 62 under Social Security and receives \$1,200 a month, his spouse will receive about \$600. If they divorce, she continues to receive \$600 and he receives \$1,200 despite the fact that all his wages have been earned while she raised the family. The importance of motherhood, the primacy of children and the economic and emotional partnership of marriage is undercut by that chauvinistic partitioning of benefits. That hole must be repaired in Social Security. One suggestion is to increase the cap on wages covered by Social Security dramatically upwards from the current \$97,500 and to also add to each individual's Social Security income history half of the wages of their spouse to reflect the economic partnership they are engaged in.

The current push of full retirement benefits under Social Security to age 67 must be reversed – especially for those engaged in body-draining and straining work. Full retirement benefits must be returned to age 65. It was too easy for Congress people ensconced in opulent offices to vote for making American workers wait longer to

retire under full benefits. So few in Congress have experienced the physical and emotional fatigue of those who really work for a living. Those who clean bedpans all day after a long commute. Those who use up their bodies finishing our concrete or cleaning our streets.

America must a country which rewards – not punishes – hard work and revamping Social Security to reward hard work with reasonable retirement ages must be an element of that system of rewards.

### **Does your candidate support affirmative action?**

Yes. As long as we have such stark differences in wealth, income and opportunity, it is necessary to take affirmative actions to help disadvantaged Americans. "Disadvantaged" refers to the fact that no American's future should be as dependent on the family they are born into as it is currently is. The American Dream must not become an impossible dream. No American who is willing to work hard should be denied a job or a living wage or school opportunities.

Affirmative action does not mean setting artificial numbers for jobs or quotas that might actually discriminate against a qualified applicant. It does not mean that a specific percentage of neurosurgeons must be people of color – even though that would be a goal. Instead, it means that positive steps must be taken such as those at the University of Michigan to remove artificial barriers to good jobs and educational opportunities. It does not mean unqualified people get pushed to the head of the line. What it does mean, for example, is that a vocabulary test should become a more important job qualifier for a fire fighter than one's actual ability and desire to do the job.

Affirmative action means helping to heal the wounds caused by institutional racism. A racism that can be cloaked under misleading or inappropriate "qualifications" for a position. People who can do a job should have equal opportunity to do that job without specious, non-job-related factors creeping in. Employers and schools realize that integrated companies and schools are in America's best interests and should seek to pursue that goal.

Clearly, multiple choice tests should not be necessarily made more important for job or school applicants than their actual determination and talent to do the job.

Note that affirmative action will be more and more difficult to "sell" to the American public at large as their collective financial health suffers in our slide into plutocracy. People will look for others to blame and affirmative action is one of their easiest – and most dishonest – targets. People who do not achieve financial or job success will be more open to blaming others, rather than the economic systems which anoints so few winners and so many "losers."

### **Health Disparities**

**What is your candidate's health care platform to provide affordable health care to all Americans and full funding to address the elimination of health disparities that disproportionately affect Black women, such as HIV/AIDS, obesity and other life threatening illnesses?**

Americans currently pay \$2.2 trillion a year for health care, more than enough for coverage for all Americans. Unfortunately, insurance and drug companies as well as other special interests have

effectively thwarted the stated desire of the American people for universal health care – even saying they would back such a bill if it increased taxes!

Our health care system is broken, and [H.R. 676 \(http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d109:H.R.676/\)](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d109:H.R.676/), the Conyers-Kucinich bill, is the only comprehensive solution to the problem. It is Medicare for All. The plan covers all healthcare needs, including dental care, mental care, vision care, prescription drugs, and long-term care – at NO extra cost!

Over 14,000 doctors who have studied the issue and care about their patients agree with our prescription. The time for half-baked, half solutions is over. As our auto manufacturers bleed jobs across the boarder to Canada and other countries with universal coverage, we have to make a choice to remain competitive in the world market. The \$1,500 health insurance costs for each car is central to our problems of remaining competitive in the global market.

The Conyers-Kucinich bill is based on the experience of the other developed nations that have secured medical coverage for all their citizens. As noted earlier it is also the system endorsed by more than 14,000 physicians from Physicians for a National Health Program. Nearly 47 million Americans have no health care and over 50 million more have only minimal coverage. In 2005 some 41% of moderate and middle income Americans went without health care for part of the year. Even more shocking is that 53% of those earning less than \$20,000 went without insurance for all of 2005. In fact, the National Academy of Science's Institute of Medicine estimates that 18,000 Americans die each year because they have no health insurance.

The failures of our health care system can reach into any home – at any time – and destroy it. Of the millions of bankruptcies half are based on medical bills where nearly four of every five people were covered by insurance at the onset of the disease and some 62% had insurance throughout the entire illness – and it was not enough.

The American health system is quite sick. Pulitzer Prize journalists Donald Barlett and James Steele, in their stunning analysis of the health care industry, **Critical Condition** (2006 Broadway Books), insist that "... U.S. health care is second-rate at the start of the twenty-first century and destined to get a lot worse and much more expensive."

The for-profit, employer-based system must die just as surely as the brontosaurus did - or we will.

"Mainstream" writers like Ph. D. economist and columnist for the New York Times Paul Krugman now agree with those 14,000 doctors and Dennis Kucinich that "covering everyone under Medicare would actually be significantly cheaper than our current system." They all recognize that we already spend enough to provide national health

care to all but lack the political courage to make the tough decisions that doctors, nurses and medical professionals must run our health care system -- not "for profit" insurance companies, who make money by denying health care.

It is time to recognize that all the civilized countries have a solution that we must adapt to this country. American businesses can no longer be competitive shouldering the entire cost of health care. Health care is a right that all Americans deserve.

Not to criticize the framing of this question, but the issue of affordability misses the main point that all those other countries have agreed upon: health care is a right. And rights are not made "affordable," they are granted.

### Future Access to Campaign

**What mechanisms does your campaign have in place to provide access to this group to help inform the candidates about the issues that we identify as important to the constituencies we represent?**

We are not a campaign funded by large corporate interests. We are a campaign of Americans wishing to bring social and economic justice. As the truly Progressive campaign we will always remain open to your Coalition. We would certainly establish a link within our administration as a conduit for your interests which, frankly, we believe are interests that we share.

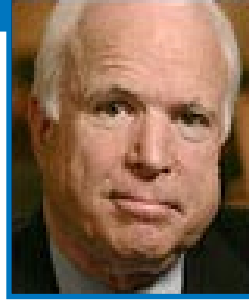
### *Or in the words of Dennis Kucinich:*

"It's time for America to resume its glorious journey; time to reject shrinking jobs and wages, disappearing savings and rights; time to reject the detour towards fear and greed. It's time to look out upon the world for friends, not enemies; time to counter the control of corporations over our politics, our economy, our resources, and mass media.

It's time for those who have much to help those who have little, by maintaining a progressive tax structure. It's time to tell the world that we wish to be their partner in peace, not their leader in war. Most of all, it is time for America to again be the land where dreams come true, because the government is on the side of its people."

A Kucinich administration would be on the side of the people – not the corporations or military-industrial complex.





16

## John McCain<sup>15</sup>

**Party:** Republican

**Occupation:** Military Officer, Politician

**Current Job / Position:** Senator from Arizona

**Web site(s):**

[John McCain 2008](http://exploremccain.com/) (<http://exploremccain.com/>)

## Biography

### PERSONAL

**Birthdate:** August 29, 1936 (Panama Canal Zone)

**Hometown:** Alexandria, Va.

**Spouse:** Cindy Hensley McCain

**Children:** Sydney McCain, Doug Shepp, Andy Shepp, Meghan McCain, John Sidney McCain IV, James McCain, Bridget McCain

**Religion:** Episcopal

### EDUCATION

- National War College, 1973
- United States Naval Academy, 1958
- Episcopal High School

### EXPERIENCE

#### Military Service:

- United States Navy 1958-1981 with service in Vietnam
- Prisoner of war in Vietnam, 1967-1973
- Awards: Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Purple Heart and Distinguished Flying Cross

#### Businesses Owned, Past Careers, Board Memberships, Etc.:

- Member, American Dream Political Action Committee, 1997-present
- Member, Council on Foreign Relations, 1997-present

#### Public Service / Elected Offices:

- Senator, United States Senate, 1987-present
- Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, 1995-2001, 2003-2005
- Chair, Committee on Indian Affairs, 1995-1997, 2005-2007
- Representative, United States House of Representatives, 1983-1987
- Republican presidential candidate, 2000

### FIRST QUARTER 2007 SUMMARY

**Funds Raised in Q1 - \$13,087,559<sup>17</sup>**

**Average Contribution- \$259**

**Cash on Hand- \$5,180,799**

15 Source: The Washington Post website at <http://projects.washingtonpost.com/2008-presidential-candidates>

16 Source: Presidential campaign websites

17 Source: [www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.asp](http://www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.asp)

## Presidential Candidate Questionnaire Senator John McCain's Response

### Economic Disparities

**What is your candidate's policy solution to stimulate the American economy that will eliminate economic disparities and close the wealth gap between women and men?**

John McCain has worked to target aid and assistance to areas mired in poverty by providing incentives for businesses that locate in economically disadvantaged areas and hire and train local residents, and by targeting assistance to clean up crime, improve infrastructure, and encourage investment that is the key to sustainable prosperity.

### Does your candidate support Affirmative Action?

John McCain opposes discrimination of any kind and has a long record of fighting to ensure that every American has an equal voice in the political process. Nowhere is this more evident than in his fight to reform the nation's campaign finance laws. The great legacy of America is the relentless expansion of liberty through equality under the law.

Senator McCain does not support laws and policy that establish preferences for one person over another. He does support affirmative action as a remedy where a Court has determined a specific incident of discrimination, and where the remedy is designed to compensate fairly for such acts.

### Health Disparities

**What is your candidate's health care platform to provide affordable health care to all Americans and full funding to address the elimination of health disparities that disproportionately affect Black women, such as HIV/AIDS, obesity and other life threatening illnesses?**

Healthcare is one of the most important issues facing our nation, the economy, and the quality of life in our country. Forty seven million Americans are uninsured at any one time, nearly 20 percent of who are children. This is unacceptable.

We have all tangled with the enormous bureaucracy involved in our health care system. The answer is not to increase the amount of bureaucracy through a government-controlled healthcare or single-payer system, but rather to increase affordable insurance options for as many Americans as we can, and to help those without insurance to access the healthcare system with the dignity and quality care that all Americans expect and deserve.

### Future Access to Campaign

**What mechanisms does your campaign have in place to provide access to this group to help inform the candidates about the issues that we identify as important to the constituencies we represent?**

Please contact our headquarters at any time at 703-418-2008. Also, for specific policy questions, please contact our Policy Liaison, Niki Fenwick



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## Barack Obama<sup>18</sup>

**Party:** Democratic

**Occupation:** Lawyer

**Current Job / Position:** Senator from Illinois

**Web site(s):**

[Barack Obama Presidential Committee](http://www.barackobama.com) (<http://www.barackobama.com>)

[Sen. Barack Obama](http://obama.senate.gov/) (<http://obama.senate.gov/>)

## Biography

### PERSONAL

**Birthdate:** August 4, 1961 (Honolulu, Hawaii)

**Hometown:** Jakarta, Indonesia; Honolulu, Hawaii

**Spouse:** Michelle Robinson Obama

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

**Religion:** United Church of Christ

### EDUCATION

- Harvard Law School, J.D., 1991
- Occidental College/Columbia University, B.A.
- Punahou School

### EXPERIENCE

#### Businesses Owned, Past Careers, Board Memberships, Etc.:

- Center for Neighborhood and Technology
- Chicago Annebery Challenge
- Cook County Bar
- Cook County Bar Association Community Law Project
- Board Member, Joyce Foundation
- Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law
- Leadership for Quality Education
- Member, Trinity United Church of Christ
- Board Member, Woods Fund of Chicago

#### Public Service / Elected Offices:

- Senator, United States Senate, 2005-present
- Senator, Illinois State Senate, 1997-2004

### FIRST QUARTER 2007 SUMMARY

**Funds Raised in Q1 - \$25,797,721<sup>20</sup>**

**Average Contribution- \$246**

**Cash on Hand- \$19,192,520**

18 Source: The Washington Post website at <http://projects.washingtonpost.com/2008-presidential-candidates>

19 Source: Presidential campaign websites

20 Source: [www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.asp](http://www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.asp)

## Candidate Questionnaire

### Senator Barack Obama's Response

#### **What is your candidate's policy solution to stimulate the American economy that will eliminate economic disparities and close the wealth gap between men and women?**

Despite decades of progress, women still make only 77 cents on every dollar a man earns. African American women with a four-year college degree make only 65 cents for every dollar made by a white male with the same educational attainment. I believe the government needs to take steps to better enforce the Equal Pay Act, fight job discrimination, and improve child care options and family medical leave to give women equal footing in the workplace. And I believe that we must address the historic pattern of undervaluing and underpaying so-called "women's jobs," which is why I am a co-sponsor of the Fair Pay Act of 2007. The Fair Pay Act expands upon the protections of the Equal Pay Act by requiring employers to provide equal pay for not only "equal work," but also for jobs that are comparable in skill, effort, responsibility and working conditions. The bill would also prohibit pay discrimination on the basis of race and national origin, as well as gender.

We must also give women the opportunity to take a personal stake in the economy. Access to venture capital is critically important to the development of women-owned and minority-owned businesses. Women are majority owners of more than 28 percent of U.S. businesses, but head less than 4 percent of venture-capital-backed firms. Black female business owners are more likely than white male business owners to have their loan applications denied. I have a proven record of encouraging investment in women-owned businesses, providing more support to women business owners, and reducing discrimination in lending. As president, I would strengthen Small Business Administration programs that provide capital to minority and women-owned businesses and would support outreach programs that help women business owners apply for loans.

Thirteen years ago, Congress set a goal that women-owned small businesses receive 5 percent of the federal contract dollars that are awarded. Since then, the closest we have come is 2.89 percent. In order to reach this goal, I will increase special outreach programs that support women-owned businesses and set-aside programs.

#### **Does your candidate support Affirmative Action?**

Yes. As a lawyer who's worked on civil rights cases, I can say that when there is strong evidence of prolonged and systemic discrimination by organizations, affirmative action may be the only meaningful remedy available. Affirmative action programs, when properly structured, can open up opportunities otherwise closed to qualified minorities without having an adverse impact on the opportunities for whites. I also believe that minority communities, as well as society at large, must tackle some of the social and cultural problems that underlie the lack of progress in education and in the job market.

#### **What is your candidate's health care platform to provide affordable health care to all Americans?**

The United States is one of the wealthiest nations in the world, yet approximately 45 million Americans have no health insurance. The United States spends more on health care than any other country, nearly \$2 trillion, yet ranks 19th in life expectancy at birth and 28th in infant mortality. As President, I will sign a universal health care bill by the end of my first term. My plan will lower costs for the typical family by \$2,500, cover the uninsured and lower costs to families and businesses. I will allow people who do not have access to group coverage through their employers or public programs (such as Medicaid, SCHIP, and Medicare) to buy into a national pool, which will offer a new public plan similar to the one I have as a member of Congress. My plan will also allow people to buy private plans that offer comprehensive benefits and meet quality standards. Federal subsidies will be made available to those who need it to make coverage more affordable. And employers will have access to reinsurance to protect them from volatile and high increases in the cost of insurance. Finally, my plan will mandate health insurance coverage for every child in America.

I will go after runaway health care costs by investing in information technology, focusing on preventive care, increasing health care quality, reducing medical errors, and stopping price-gouging by drug and insurance companies. Together, these changes would mean a reduction in premiums of up to a thousand dollars a year for the average family.

I have a proven record on expanding access to affordable health care. In the Illinois State Senate, I spearheaded successful legislation to extend health care coverage under KidCare and FamilyCare to 20,000 additional children and 65,000 additional parents.

We are not short on ideas to address the problem, but what we have lacked is consensus and political will. Solving our health care crisis depends on transforming our politics.

#### **What is your candidate's health care platform to address the elimination of health disparities that disproportionately affect Black women, such as HIV/AIDS, obesity and other life-threatening illnesses?**

Black women are much more likely to suffer from HIV/AIDS, obesity, diabetes, asthma and a number of other diseases and health conditions. We can combat these disparities by increasing research into identifying effective ways to address them, expanding access to care, conducting educational and health outreach, increasing the diversity of health care professionals, and improving the delivery of health care. I have fought to maintain funding for the Centers of Excellence in Women's Health at the Department of Health and Human Services. And I have championed the Minority Health Improvement and Health Disparity Elimination Act to understand the root causes of health disparities and to start to address them. The bill puts new emphasis on disparity research by directing the Department of Health and Human Services to collect and report health care data by race and ethnicity, as well as geographic and socioeconomic status and level of health literacy. The legislation outlines mechanisms to conduct educational outreach, increase

diversity among health care professionals, and improve the delivery of health care to minorities and other underserved groups.

I have been a leader in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Black women represented 67 percent of all AIDS diagnoses among women in 2005. I worked to reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act, which is one of the largest sources of federal funds for primary health care and support services for patients with HIV/AIDS. I also worked with Senator Olympia Snowe and others to introduce the Microbicide Development Act, which will accelerate the development of products that empower women in the battle against AIDS.

Finally, how a community is designed—including the layout of its roads, buildings, and parks—has a huge impact on the health of its residents. For instance, nearly one-third of Americans live in neighborhoods without sidewalks and less than half of our country's children have a playground within walking distance of their homes. This lack of safe places to walk and play is a major contributor to the growing numbers of overweight Americans. I introduced the Healthy Places Act to help local governments assess the health impact of

new policies and projects, like highways and shopping centers. Once the health impact is determined, the bill gives grant funding and technical assistance to help address potential health problems.

**What mechanisms does your campaign have in place to provide access to this group to help inform the candidates that we identify as important to the constituencies we represent?**

My campaign has strived to avoid the top-down approach that other campaigns take in the creation of their platforms. As such, we place a high value on the ideas and opinions that come from the voters themselves. Through my website's "My Policy" feature -- <http://origin.barackobama.com/issues/> -- voters can submit their policy ideas, share stories, and provide input on the campaign's policies. And I encourage your group to contact my Senior Advisor Ertharin Cousin, Policy Director Mark Alexander, or Political Director Matt Nugen for any questions that you may have.

## MAXIMIZING OUR ISSUES – POWER OF THE SISTER VOTE IN '08

To: René Redwood and Melanie Campbell

From: Lake Research Partners

Date: March 29, 2007

Re: Publicly available data on recent trends among African American women and African American voters

This memo represents a survey of voting trends and attitudes relating to black voters and black women in America – quickly culled from multiple sources for your upcoming roundtable discussion. The lion's share of data we found came from the Roper Center's 2006 General Election Day Exit Polls, which included a sample of 810 African American women across the country.

### **National Mood going into the 2006 Elections<sup>21</sup>**

- *By a margin of more than eight to one, black women reported that the country is seriously off on the wrong track. Just ten percent said that the country is generally going in the right direction.*
- *A majority expects that life for the next generation of Americans would be worse than life today. Just 24 percent expected that life will be better for the next generation and 23 percent said it would be about the same as life today.*
- *African American women solidly disapproved of the job being done by President Bush (88%), with 71 percent strongly disapproving.*
- *A majority (55 percent) also describes their feelings toward the Bush administration as dissatisfied, but not angry, though 37 percent do report that they are indeed angry.*
- *Over half of African American women said that one of their reasons for coming out to vote was to express opposition to the President.*
- *They were also critical of the job being done by Congress, with just 18 percent approving.*
- *When asked if national issues or local issues mattered more in their vote for Congress, African American women split. While 43 percent were more concerned with local issues, 48 percent were more likely to take national issues into account as they made their voting decision.*
- *The most important issue going into the elections among this group was the war (37 percent), followed by economic issues (18 percent), and social and moral issues (15 percent).<sup>22</sup>*
  - *On Election Day, over three-quarters of black women disapproved of the war. Nearly two-thirds (63 percent) believed that all troops should be withdrawn, and an additional 27 percent said that some troops should be withdrawn. Two-thirds say that the war in Iraq was important to their vote.*
  - *They also had negative feelings toward the economy, with over a quarter reporting that the condition of the nation's economy was poor, and an additional 58 percent saying it was not so good. Fifteen percent believed that the condition was excellent or good.*

### **The 2006 Election**

- *Nearly half (45 percent) of African American women decided who they were going to vote for in their Congressional race over a month before the election. Seventeen percent made their voting decision on Election Day, eight percent in the three days prior to the election, and nine percent in the week before. 21 percent chose their candidate in the month before the election.<sup>23</sup>*

2006 Exit Poll Results			
	Democrat	Republican	Margin
White Men	44%	53%	-9
White Women	49%	50%	-1
Non-white Men	75%	23%	+52
Non-white Women	78%	21%	+57

21

Source: Roper Center's 2006 General Election Day Exit Polls, Co-Sponsored by the National Election Pool (NEP). Conducted by Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International.

22

Battleground 2007. LRP/Tarrance Group. 1017 likely voters, January 2007.

23

Source: Roper Center's 2006 General Election Day Exit Polls, Co-Sponsored by the National Election Pool (NEP). Conducted by Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International.

- In the 2006 elections, according to CNN Exit Polls, “non-white” women supported Democrats more than any other racial group.
- African American women supported Democrats for Congress by huge margins in 2006, with 91 percent voting for the Democratic candidate while just nine percent voted for the Republican.
- There were similar margins in the 2004 presidential election, with 90 percent voting for Kerry and just 10 percent for Bush.
- Turnout among African American women decreased slightly between 2004 and 2006. In the most recent election black women comprised six percent of the total electorate compared to seven percent in 2004. However, turnout increased since the last midterm elections in 2002.

<b>The Black National Electorate by Demographic Group: 2004 vs. 2006</b>						
Share of the Electorate			2004 Presidential Vote		2006 Congressional Vote	
% 2004	% 2006		% Kerry	% Bush	% Democrat	% Republican
12	10	All Black Voters	88	11	89	11
5	5	Men	86	13	87	13
7	6	Women	90	10	91	9
3	2	Ages 18-29	86	13	91	9
4	3	Ages 30-44	89	11	89	11
3	3	Ages 45-59	88	11	88	12
2	2	Ages 60+	90	9	90	10
1	1	Republicans	32	66	n/a	n/a
2	2	Independents	77	20	82	18
9	8	Democrats	96	4	97	3
3	2	East	86	13	89	11
2	2	Midwest	87	11	95	5
6	5	South	90	9	88	12
1	1	West	84	14	83	17

Source: Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies

#### **African American Women and Ballot Initiatives<sup>24</sup>**

- Black women voted overwhelmingly in favor of increasing the minimum wage (93 percent for to 7 percent against).
- Roughly two-thirds voted for same-sex marriage bans in states across the country. Thirty percent voted against these bans.

#### **Political Affiliation and Ideology<sup>25</sup>**

- Eight in ten (82 percent) of black women consider themselves to be Democrats, 12 percent Independent, four percent Republican and three percent something else.
- A majority (55 percent) of black women see themselves as moderate on most political matters. Less than a quarter would describe themselves as either liberal or conservative (23 percent and 22 percent, respectively).

#### **African American Candidates in the 2006 Elections**

- There were 57 African American candidates running for federal office in 2006: 54 Congressional candidates and 3 Senatorial candidates.
- There were more black women among the 48 Democratic nominees than in any previous election, with women representing 35 percent of this field. Forty four percent of the Republican candidates were women.<sup>26</sup>

24      *Ibid.*

25      *Ibid.*

26      Source: Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies

***Current Representation by non-whites in America***

- The 110<sup>th</sup> Congress has 41 black members of the U.S. House of Representatives (all Democrats), one black member of the U.S. Senate (Democratic Senator Barack Obama of Illinois), and two black delegates (Democrats). Of these, 13 are women.
- The Center for Women and American Politics found that of the 87 women serving in the 110th US Congress, 21, or 24.1 percent, are women of color; in addition, an African American woman and a Caribbean American woman serve as Delegates to the House from Washington, DC and the Virgin Islands, respectively.
- Of the 76 women serving in statewide elective executive offices, four, or 5.3 percent, are women of color.
- Of the 1,734 women state legislators serving nationwide, 340 or 19.6 percent are women of color. They include 93 senators and 247 representatives; 318 are Democrats and 22 are Republicans. Women of color constitute 4.6 percent of the total 7,382 state legislators.

***Looking Ahead to 2008<sup>27</sup>***

Of the candidates running for President, African American women are most favorable toward Hillary Clinton (90 percent favorable), followed by Barack Obama (61 percent favorable) and John Edwards (53 percent favorable).



**SAMPLE**

**Black Women's Roundtable**  
**Fourth Annual Women's Month Celebration**  
*Power of the Sister Vote Briefing & Luncheon*  
*Friday, March 30, 2007*

***Co-Hosted by: A. Philip Randolph Institute & National Council of Negro Women***

**Presidential Campaign Candidate Representatives**  
**Questionnaire**

**Economic Disparities**

What is your candidate's policy solution to stimulate the American economy that will eliminate economic disparities and close the wealth gap between women and men?

Does your candidate support Affirmative Action?

**Health Disparities**

What is your candidate's health care platform to provide affordable health care to all Americans and full funding to address the elimination of health disparities that disproportionately affect Black women, such as HIV/AIDS, obesity and other life threatening illnesses?

**Future Access to Campaign**

What mechanisms does your campaign have in place to provide access to this group to help inform the candidates about the issues that we identify as important to the constituencies we represent?

***Please return written responses to NCBCP c/o Robin Parsell via fax at 202-659-5025 or at [bwinfo@ncbcp.org](mailto:bwinfo@ncbcp.org) no later than Wednesday, April 18, 2007.***

***Thank you!***

**SAMPLE**

## 2008 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN – WHERE THE CANDIDATES STAND ON WOMEN’S ISSUES

### Written Responses - Questionnaire Summary Table:

Presidential Campaigns	Issue 1 Economic Disparities & Affirmative Action (AA)	Issue 2 Health Disparities	Issue 3 Campaign Contacts
<b>Chris Dodd</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sponsor of the Paycheck Fairness Act, a bill to eliminate wage disparities in the work place</li> <li>• Proposed energy plan to stimulate economic growth</li> <li>• Supports Affirmative Action (AA)(ex. Supported the 2003 Supreme court ruling on AA)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports a Universal Health Insurance Plan</li> <li>• Supports creation of a Health Care General Fund based on individual income level above poverty.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Antwaun Griffin, South East Political Director (will be the point person for communications between the NCBCP)</li> <li>• Scott Arceneaux, National Political Director</li> </ul>
<b>John McCain</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing incentives for businesses to locate in economically disadvantaged areas to stimulate new job growth</li> <li>• Supports AA as a remedy where a court determines incident of discrimination, and where the AA remedy designed to compensate fairly for such acts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports increases in affordable insurance options and help those without insurance to access the health system with dignity and quality care.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Niki Fenwick, Policy Liaison</li> </ul>
<b>John Edwards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Campaigned for higher minimum wage in eight states</li> <li>• Supported workers organizing unions</li> <li>• He created work-study program at the local level</li> <li>• As President would enact lending and savings policies to include work bonds to match savings of low-income workers</li> <li>• Strengthen predatory lending laws</li> <li>• Provide one million more new affordable housing vouchers</li> <li>• Supporter of AA, by signing on 2003 Supreme Courts amicus brief in support of the Univ. of Michigan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports Universal coverage that will:</li> <li>• Expands Medicaid, SCHIP, and offers middle-class families subsidies for insurance premiums</li> <li>• Increase Health Care Markets</li> <li>• Supports Medical Research into Disparities</li> <li>• Will reduce environmental harms in communities of color</li> <li>• Supports translation services to address language barriers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matt Morrison, Constituency Director</li> <li>• Heather McGhee, Deputy Policy Director</li> </ul>

<p><b>Barack Obama</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-sponsor of the Fair Pay Act of 2007</li> <li>• Supports access to venture capital</li> <li>• A record of encouraging investment in women-owned businesses</li> <li>• As President would strengthen SBA programs to provide capital to minority and women business owners</li> <li>• Yes; to AA with strong evidence of prolonged and systematic discrimination by organizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committed to signing legislation to provide affordable, high-quality health coverage for all Americans , to expand and improve access to care by the end of term</li> <li>• Plans to emphasize prevention and encourage health system reforms to improve health care quality, safety and reduce medical error</li> <li>• Increased research into identifying effective ways to address this issue, a champion of the Minority Health improvement and Health Disparity Elimination Act</li> <li>• Supported the Ryan White CARE Act, for primary and support care service for HIV/AIDS patients and introduced the Microbicide Development Act for development of products to battle AIDS</li> <li>• Introduced the Healthy Place Act, to help local governments assess the health impact of policies and projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Etharin Cousins, Senior Advisor</li> <li>• Mark Alexander, Policy Director</li> <li>• Matt Nugen, Political Director, Advisor</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hillary Clinton</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports the Employee Free Choice Act, which makes it easier for workers to unionize to increase the number of jobs with a living wage, health insurance, and pension</li> <li>• Introduction the Paycheck Fairness Act, to eliminate pay gap between gender</li> <li>• Yes; AA by signing amicus brief to the 2003 Supreme Court to reaffirm the use of race at the Univ. of Michigan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Created the SCHIP program to expand health coverage for children across the nation</li> <li>• Advocate for modernization of health care system, by passing the Wired for Health care Quality Act in 2006</li> <li>• Cosponsored the Healthcare Equality and Accountability Act, which extends healthcare coverage to many low-income adults, removes language and cultural barriers in federal healthcare programs</li> <li>• Sponsored the Early Treatment for HIV Act</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leecia Eve, Senior Advisor</li> <li>• Minyon Moore, Advisor</li> </ul>

<p><b>Joe Biden</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports taking back the Bush tax cuts from the very wealthy</li> <li>• Invest in healthcare and education</li> <li>• Protect workers right to organize</li> <li>• Yes; AA supported the 2003 Supreme Court to reaffirm of the use of race at the Univ. of Michigan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports modernizing the healthcare system to reduce cost of care</li> <li>• Expansion of the SCHIP program to all children and relieve the burden of catastrophic cases</li> <li>• Supports evaluation best way to provide coverage and support states in providing universal health coverage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Muthoni Wambu, Deputy Political Director</li> </ul>
<p><b>Dennis Kucinich</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports the American labor movement to experience resurgence in order for the American worker to prosper</li> <li>• Supports union friendly labor laws</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports H. R. 676, Medicare for all</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact Campaign Headquarters</li> </ul>

## **LEVERAGING OUR POCKETBOOK POWER IN '08**

### **Future PAC**

The Future PAC is dedicated to building a national network of support and funding that progressive Black women need in order to launch effective campaigns and win elections. It is so important that we invest in progressive African American women candidates because the return on our investment will be elected officials on the federal, state and local level who will advocate for our families and communities.

Although we have come a long way since the first half of the 20th Century when there were few African American elected officials, we should be much further along than we are. That is why the work we do at the Future PAC is so important. With your support we will be able to significantly increase the numbers of progressive African American women who hold elected office as well as provide training, information and resources to first time candidates.

To find out more information about Future PAC, visit their website at [www.thefuturepac.com](http://www.thefuturepac.com)

### **Congressional Black Caucus Political Action Committee (CBC PAC)**

The CBC PAC was established by members of the Congressional Black Caucus with the mission of increasing the number of African-Americans in Congress; supporting non-Black congressional candidates who support our interests; and promoting African-American participation in the political process — with a special emphasis on young voters. We achieve this mission by pooling political contributions from people like you and using the money to make our voice heard in key campaigns.

The CBC PAC works to increase the number of African Americans in the U.S. Congress, support non-Black candidates that champion our interests, and promote African American participation in the political process with an emphasis on young voters. There are currently 43 African Americans in Congress comprising the largest Congressional Black Caucus in history. With your financial support we will continue to grow, and expand our voice in key campaigns throughout the country. Please continue to visit our website for the latest updates on our activities around the country.

To find out more information about CBC PAC, visit their website at [www.cbcpac.net](http://www.cbcpac.net)

### **The Black American Political Action Committee (BAMPAC)**

BAMPAC is a registered unaffiliated non-partisan Political Action Committee. Since its incorporation in 1994, BAMPAC has grown as one of America's leading Political Action Committees. Today, it is among the top 25 PACs in the country, with over 137,000 donors. BAMPAC provides much needed financial and strategic assistance to candidates running for political office on all levels of government. BAMPAC candidates are committed to supporting our common sense approach to public policy and politics: promoting Social Security reform, improving public education, expanding economic opportunities to historically disadvantaged sectors in America, vigorously promoting equality for all Americans, protecting the sanctity of human life and restoring moral values and the importance of family in our communities. BAMPAC also impacts the political arena with issue advocacy and community support programs. BAMPAC officials routinely appear on television and radio programs promoting our approach to public policy. BAMPAC sponsored television, radio, and print advertisements appear in high profile news outlets such as MSNBC and Black Enterprise Magazine. Furthermore, BAMPAC is directly involved with the community with the "BAMPAC Scholars" program which seeks to provide scholarships to outstanding students in the Washington, DC area. We invite you to join us Electing Tomorrow's Leaders Today!

To find out more information about BAMPAC, visit their website at [www.bampac.org](http://www.bampac.org)

## **EMILY's List**

The nation's largest grassroots political network, is dedicated to building a progressive America by electing pro-choice Democratic women to federal, state, and local office. We are a network of more than 100,000 Americans -- from all across the country -- committed to recruiting and funding viable women candidates; helping them build and run effective campaign organizations; training the next generation of activists; and mobilizing women voters to help elect progressive candidates across the nation. Emily's List has helped to change the face of power in America. Until EMILY's List was founded in 1985, no Democratic woman had ever been elected to the U.S. Senate in her own right, no woman had ever been elected governor of a large state, and the number of Democratic women in the U.S. House had declined to 12 -- less than three percent of the chamber's 435 members. Since then, our grassroots network has helped elect 67 Democratic pro-choice members of Congress, 13 senators, and eight governors. EMILY's List has also become the largest financial resource for minority women seeking federal office.

To find out more information about Emily's List visit their website at [www.emilyslist.org](http://www.emilyslist.org)

## **NOW Political Action Committee (NOW/ PAC)**

*National NOW's political action committees put individual contributions together to work for the best women's rights candidates. Which PAC you choose to donate to depends on whether or not you're a NOW member and whether you want to support national or state and local campaigns.*

- NOW Political Action Committee (NOW/PAC) supports feminist candidates for federal office (U.S. House and Senate).
- NOW Equality PAC (NEP) supports feminist candidates for state and local office—governor, state legislature and city council, for example. This PAC's work is crucial to protecting women's rights and filling up the political pipeline with feminist supporters.
- Since many NOW chapters sponsor their own local or state PACs, contact your local chapter for detailed information about candidates for state and local office.

To find out more information about NOW/PAC, visit their website at [www.nowpacs.org](http://www.nowpacs.org)

## **Women Under Forty Political Action Committee (WUFPAC)**

WUFPAC is a nonpartisan political action committee that supports women under 40 running for state and federal public office. WUFPAC's mission is to elect women under 40 to public office so that women can achieve an equal voice in shaping public policy. WUFPAC is the only political action committee in the United States devoted to supporting young women of all parties running for elected office.

Young women are virtually absent from Congress. Of the 535 Members of the House and Senate, 26 of them are under the age of 40. Only four of those members are woman. America needs young women in office to represent issues of special concern to women, such as education, work and family, breaking the glass ceiling, pay equity, child care, and reproductive issues, to name a few. No one can speak as effectively about these issues as young women. Having legislators who have faced these issues first hand in their own lives will help focus attention on these important issues. Women need to be in policy-making positions so that their perspectives are heard.

Most young women who run for office are faced with significant fundraising disadvantages compared to men their age and older, more established women. Of the 7 women candidates who were under 40 in the 2002 election cycle, most were substantially outspent in the general election: their opponents raised between 5 times and 92 times as much money as the young women candidates did. The reasons for this are varied. Women still earn less than men in the workforce, and many young women choose to take several years off from their careers to raise children. The result is that many young women do not have the personal wealth to contribute to their own political races. In

addition, many voters and political donors are still not willing to offer the same degree of political support to young female candidates. Young women need our help!

To find out more information about WUFPAC, visit their website at [www.wufpac.org](http://www.wufpac.org)

### **Fannie Lou Hamer Political Action Committee (FLH PAC)**

Founded by Detroit NAACP branch chair Reverend Wendell Anthony, the Fannie Lou Hamer Political Action Committee is a grassroots, independent, community-based organization with a successful record of support for activist-candidates for elected office. The PAC is named after the late civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer in tribute to her work in the Mississippi Delta Region. Dedicated to carrying on the civil rights legacy of its namesake.

For more information about FLH PAC, contact Yvette McElroy at (313) 347-2820

## **PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE SCHEDULE <sup>28</sup>**

### **June 28, 2007**

PBS will be hosting a presidential primary debate featuring Democratic presidential candidates on June 28th. All American Forum hosted by Tavis Smiley for PBS Democratic Forum Thursday, June 28, 2007 at 9pm EST at Howard University

### **August 5 & 19, 2007**

ABC News and ABC5/WOI-TV will be co-sponsoring two presidential primary forums for Republican and Democratic candidates, to be aired across America on This Week with George Stephanopoulos. The Republican forum is scheduled for August 5th. The Democratic forum, co-sponsored by the Democratic Party of Iowa, is scheduled for August 19th.

**Mid August-** The Nevada State Democratic Party will be sponsoring a debate for Democratic candidates that focuses on Western regional issues. The debate will be held in Reno, Nevada. The exact date, potential co-sponsors, and venue are forthcoming.

### **September 6, 2007**

Fox News and the New Hampshire Republican Party will be sponsoring two presidential primary debates for Republicans. The first debate is scheduled for September 6th, although a location has not yet been selected. The second debate's date is still currently uncommitted. Both debates will "air live on Fox News Channel and Fox News Radio."

### **September 27, 2007**

PBS will be hosting a presidential primary debate featuring Democratic presidential candidates on September 27th. All American Forum hosted by Tavis Smiley for PBS Republican Forum Thursday, September 27, 2007 9pm EST at Howard University

### **October 14 & 21, 2007**

ABC, the New Hampshire Union Leader, and WMUR-TV, will be sponsoring four presidential primary debates to be aired on This Week with George Stephanopoulos. The first two debates will be broadcasted on October 14th (for Republicans) and October 21st (for Democrats) on ABC and its affiliated stations. The third and fourth debates are to be scheduled in January, just prior to the New Hampshire primary.

### **November 2, 2007**

CNN, in conjunction with the Nevada Democratic Party, will be hosting a presidential primary debate on November 2nd for Democratic candidates at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in Las Vegas, Nevada.

### **January 2008**

ABC News will be producing two presidential primary forums (mentioned above) slated for January 2008, presumably for both Republican and Democratic Party candidates. The exact "dates, locations, and formats of the January debates will be forthcoming." The debates will, however, be conducted the week prior to the New Hampshire primary.

### **January 15, 2008**

The Caucus of African American Nevadans and Impacto (the political arm of the Latin Chamber of Commerce) will be co-sponsoring a debate with The Nevada State Democratic Party to be held in Las Vegas. Information regarding the venue is forthcoming.



**UPDATE ON U. S. COMMISSION ON PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES<sup>29</sup>**

The list of official 2008 debate host applications was announced on April 02, 2007.

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

Belmont University, Nashville, TN

Centre College, Danville, KY

Economic Development Corporation of Wayne County, Indiana

Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY

Indiana University and the City of Bloomington's Convention and Visitors Bureau

Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission, Portland, OR and Clark College, Vancouver, WA

State of Illinois (Lakeside Center/McCormick Place, Chicago)

University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR

University of Cincinnati and the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, OH

University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL

University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS

Visit Pittsburgh, PA

Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC

Washington State University, Spokane, WA

Washington University in St. Louis, MO

Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT

Women of the Storm in concert with Dillard University, Loyola University, Tulane University and Xavier University,  
New Orleans, LA

## 2008 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

### How To Become A Delegate

How you become a delegate to the Convention depends on which state you live in. Each state will have their own Delegate Selection Plan that will describe how delegates are chosen in that state. These Plans must comply with rules adopted by the National Party that provide guidelines to ensure a fair and open process. State parties will publish their delegate selection rules and clearly explain how to participate in the summer of 2007.

If you want to be a delegate, your first step should be to contact your state party to determine what their process is. For information on running for a delegate position, an individual should call or write his or her respective State Democratic Party Headquarters and request a copy of the Delegate Selection Plan (or summary) and filing forms. These documents provide the information candidates need to know in order to run for delegate positions. All states require delegate candidates to file a "declaration of candidacy" in order to run. The deadline for this declaration varies among the states but is specified in each state's plan. In some cases, the declaration must be accompanied with signatures of registered Democratic voters from that area. All filing requirements must be precisely followed.

Finally, whether successful or not in becoming a delegate to the 2008 National Convention -- stay informed and involved. Be sure to: (1) stay informed about the presidential campaign; (2) follow the 2008 Convention; (3) support the Party's presidential and vice presidential nominees; and (4) Vote on Election Day!

**For more detailed information** visit [www.demconvention.com](http://www.demconvention.com) for more details about:

- [Delegate Selection Rules](#)
- [Call for the 2008 Democratic National Convention](#)
- [Regulations Of The Rules And Bylaws Committee](#)

Also, for information on how delegates translate into votes for presidential candidates, CNN has [an article](#) on the 2004 presidential primary process.

Please visit [www.demconvention.com](http://www.demconvention.com) for more details about how to become a delegate for the DNC 2008 Convention or contact:

Patrice D. Taylor  
Deputy Director, Party Affairs & Delegate Selection  
Democratic National Convention  
(202) 863-8046 (direct)

Cameron Moody  
Convention Deputy CEO Operations,  
Democratic National Convention  
(202)863-8000

### How to Host an Event for the Democratic National Convention

#### Contacts:

Leah Daughtry  
Chief of Staff for the Democratic National Committee  
2008 Convention CEO, Democratic National Convention  
(202)863-8000

**Location:** Denver, Colorado

**Date:** August 25- 28, 2007

For more information, please visit their website at [www.denverdnc2008.com](http://www.denverdnc2008.com)

## 2008 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

### How To Become A Delegate

#### PRESS RELEASE:

Tuesday, March 06, 2007<sup>30</sup>

### RNC Chairman Robert “Mike” Duncan Announces 2008 Republican National Convention Leadership

WASHINGTON – Republican National Committee Chairman Robert “Mike” Duncan today issued the following statement announcing RNC Co-Chairman Jo Ann Davidson as Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements and Maria Cino as the Chief Executive Officer of the COA. The Committee on Arrangements is the RNC body charged with the planning and management of the Convention.

**“I am excited that Jo Ann and Maria will be taking on these leadership roles for the 2008 Republican Convention. Their tremendous experience and dedication will help to shape a dynamic, exciting convention that will showcase our Republican principles, our strong candidates up and down the ballot, and most importantly, the next President of the United States.”**

#### Bio for Jo Ann Davidson

Jo Ann Davidson was re-elected Co-Chairman of the Republican National Committee in Washington D.C. on January 19, 2007. She reaffirmed her commitment to growing the Party and developing a strong grassroots political organization. She was first elected Co-Chairman in 2005.

In addition to her responsibilities as Co-Chairman of the Republican National Committee, Ms. Davidson was appointed by former RNC Chairman Ken Mehlman as Chair of the Site Selection Committee in January 2006. The Site Selection Committee was tasked with investigating potential Convention Sites and presenting their findings to the full RNC Membership. Although four cities submitted bids to host the Convention (Cleveland, OH, Minneapolis-Saint Paul, MN, New York City, NY, and Tampa-St. Petersburg, FL), the Site Selection Committee voted to recommend Minneapolis-Saint Paul based on their state-of-the-art facilities, vibrant communities and clear enthusiasm to host the Convention. Upon the unanimous vote of the full Republican National Committee in January 2007, former RNC Chair Ken Mehlman appointed as Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements.

Prior to her role as Co-Chairman of the RNC, Davidson served as the Bush-Cheney '04 Ohio Valley Regional Campaign Chair; where she helped direct a historic grassroots efforts that enabled President Bush to win Ohio by a decisive margin. The Ohio Bush-Cheney '04 campaign recruited over 87,000 Bush volunteers, held at least 3,946 parties for the President and made more than 4.5 million volunteer door-to-door knocks and phone calls to supporters and undecided voters in Ohio (with 2,373,167 volunteer door-to-door knocks and phone calls made in the final 72-Hours).

Davidson was a member of the Ohio House of Representatives for 20 years and served as Speaker of the House from 1995-2000. She served as Chairman of the Franklin County Republican Party Central Committee for 25 years. As Chairman of the Ohio House Republican Campaign Committee from 1986-2000, she spearheaded the successful effort to return the Republicans to the majority in the Ohio House of Representatives in 1994, for the first time in 22 years.

Davidson resides in Reynoldsburg, Ohio, and has two daughters and four grandchildren.

#### Bio for Maria Cino:

Maria Cino brings to the COA nearly 25 years of experience in managing and leading field-based organizations; developing and adhering to complex budgets; setting short- and long-term strategic goals; building coalitions; and developing, motivating, and mentoring staffs. As CEO of the Committee on Arrangements (COA) she will be working with the RNC body charged with the planning and management of the Convention.

Prior to her role with the COA, Maria Cino was nominated by President George W. Bush as the Deputy Secretary of Transportation on April 6, 2005, and confirmed by the United States Senate a month later. Following the resignation of Norman Mineta, she served as the Acting Secretary of Transportation from July, 7, 2006 until October 4, 2006, when Mary E. Peters was sworn in as the new Secretary of Transportation. Before her role as Deputy Secretary Ms. Cino served as Assistant Secretary and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service at the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Previously Cino served as Deputy Chairman of the Republican National Committee. In this capacity, she was the RNC's top political strategist and chief operating officer, overseeing operations of the Committee during the 2004 election cycle. During the 2000 cycle, Ms. Cino served as the Committee's Deputy Chairman for Political and Congressional Relations, and was the National Political Director for Bush for President in Austin, Texas.

A native of Buffalo, New York, Ms. Cino served as Chief of Staff for U.S. Representative Bill Paxon prior to joining the NRCC. She is a graduate of St. John Fisher College in Rochester, New York.

## **How to Host an Event for the Republican National Convention**

### **Contact:**

Amy Grangeia  
Executive Asst. To the President and CEO  
Republican National Convention  
(202)863-5300

### **Minneapolis, MN Contact:**

Anne Stewart, Hotel and Venue Manger  
Republican National Convention  
(651) 467-2008

**Location:** Minneapolis / St. Paul, MN

**Dates:** September 1- 4, 2008

For more information contact RNC Host Committee for 2008 Convention at (651)556-1813.  
Leave a message. Someone will contact you as soon as possible. They will need to know  
if you want to be an affiliated group and/or coalition with the convention, or a sponsoring group.

## APPENDIX: A

### (Hillary Clinton questionnaire response on Affirmative Action (AA) continued)

January 17, 2003

The Honorable George W. Bush  
President of the United States  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On Wednesday, as your Administration prepared to file its Supreme Court brief opposing the University of Michigan's use of affirmative action to achieve diversity in its student body, you reiterated your commitment to increasing the number of minorities on college campuses. I applaud this commitment, but do not believe that replacing traditional affirmative action with "*race neutral*" percent plans will fully accomplish our shared goal of promoting diversity throughout our institutions of higher education. I am especially concerned that such plans necessarily depend on racial segregation in high schools and, further, that a Court decision banning traditional affirmative action could trigger a domino effect undermining our nation's anti-discrimination laws.

The Michigan cases are among the most important ever to confront the Court since *Brown v. Board of Education*. Over the past several decades, the story of American higher education has been a story of gradually expanding opportunity for historically excluded or marginalized groups. Anti-discrimination laws and financial aid policies have opened the doors of higher education for millions of minority students. But as you said on Wednesday, "*We should not be satisfied with the current numbers of minorities on Americans college campuses. Much progress has been made; much more is needed.*"

At the very top schools in this country, including Michigan, significant racial diversity is largely attributable to affirmative action. By traditional affirmative action, I do not mean quotas, and neither does the University of Michigan. I mean the use of race as one of many factors -along with geography, socioeconomic status, and other life-shaping attributes or experiences - to achieve an educationally diverse student body. Michigan's affirmative action policies work this way, and for 25 years such policies have been constitutional, just as they are today.

If our best colleges, law schools, and medical schools were to end traditional affirmative action today, without adopting any alternative, minority enrollments would drop by two-thirds or more. So a critical question, as you suggested, is whether there are alternatives to traditional affirmative action that might do as good a job - or better - at keeping the doors of selective institutions open to qualified minority students.

You applauded the innovation of states that have adopted "*percent plans*" guaranteeing college admission to top high school graduates. I agree with you that after five years, the Texas "*10 percent plan*," where all students who graduate in the top 10 percent of their high school class are guaranteed admission to a state university of their choosing, has shown some impressive results. After an initial drop in 1997, minority enrollment at UT-Austin, one of the state's flagship schools, has rebounded almost to the levels achieved under traditional affirmative action.

In addition, UT-Austin is now drawing students from a larger number of high schools and from a wider geographic area, a change that benefits white as well as minority students. The entering class of 2000 included students from 135 schools that had not been represented there before 1996. Those schools included predominantly minority, inner-city schools as well as predominantly white, rural schools. And, despite worries that 10-percenters from poor high schools might not be prepared for the academic rigor of UT-Austin, the most recent evidence is that 10-percenters of all races are performing as well as other students who scored 200 or 300 points better on the SAT. Retention is generally higher among 10-percenters than among other students.

Notably, these results have occurred despite the fact that average SAT scores - the often cited measure of merit among opponents of traditional affirmative action - have decreased, not increased, among 10-percenters and among black and Hispanic students at UT-Austin. Like traditional affirmative action, the 10 percent plan admits qualified students with lower test scores over students with higher scores, recognizing that test scores are not the "*be all and end all*" of an applicant's merit, potential, or character.

The early evidence is very encouraging, and I am cautiously optimistic that for some schools, racial diversity can be achieved through alternatives like this

one. Even so, I think it would be a mistake to shut the door on traditional affirmative action and treat percent plans as a panacea for increasing minority enrollments. While they hold promise, they also come with pitfalls.

As I am sure you are aware, Texas's other flagship institution, Texas A&M-College Station, continues to struggle with raising black and Hispanic enrollments, even under the 10 percent plan. California's 4 percent plan and Florida's 20 percent plan, though similar in concept, differ from the Texas plan in one crucial respect: They do not guarantee top graduates admission to a state university of their choosing. As a result, minority enrollment in California has increased at less selective schools like UC-Irvine and UC-Riverside, but not at the most selective schools. Between 1997 and 2001, the number of black freshmen dropped from 252 to 138 at UC-Berkeley and from 204 to 125 at UCLA. Florida's 20 percent plan, after its first year, has kept minority enrollment in the state system steady. But the flagship school, the University of Florida, saw a 40 percent drop in black enrollment and a 7.5 percent drop in Hispanic enrollment.

My primary concern, however, is that the very success of percent plans in enrolling substantial numbers of minority students is entirely dependent on racial segregation at the high school level.

For the past 30 years, the Supreme Court has turned its back on remedying inequality in elementary and secondary schools based on race or income, even going so far as to say that "*at least where wealth is involved, the Equal Protection Clause does not require absolute equality or precisely equal advantages.*" As a result, 50 years after Brown, racial segregation is increasing in our public schools. Seventy percent of black students now attend predominantly minority schools, up from 63 percent in 1980. Forty-six percent of Hispanic students in Texas, 42 percent in California, and 59 percent in New York go to schools that are 90 to 100 percent minority. And racially segregated schools, except predominantly white schools, are almost always schools with high poverty. The average black or Hispanic student goes to school with more than twice as many poor classmates as the average white student.

Any policy of college access that is in tension with efforts to integrate public schools cannot be the best option. Instead of motivating improvement in poor and segregated high schools, percent plans give minority

parents an incentive to keep their children in those schools, instead of transferring them to integrated and more academically competitive schools. And no parent should have to make a trade-off between college access and high school quality.

In fact, the Texas 10 percent plan exposes the depth of inequality that can exist in a single state. Texas has 1,500 high schools. In the year 2000, nearly half the 7,600 freshman at UT-Austin came from 74 high schools, around 50 students per school. The other half came from 718 high schools, roughly 5 students per school. Approximately 700 high schools sent no student to UT-Austin in 2000.

Just as traditional affirmative action should never distract us from the task of strengthening our elementary and secondary schools, neither should percent plans. If we are serious about expanding minority access to higher education, then we should not only take a closer look at traditional affirmative action and its alternatives; we should also fully fund Title I and increase the maximum Pell Grant. The 10 percent plan will never reach students in the poorest schools unless we commit the resources to turn those schools around and make college more affordable. These are commitments we should already be making to help the 90 percent of students not covered by the 10 percent plan.

Moreover, although percent plans have been somewhat successful in sustaining minority enrollments at the undergraduate level, none of them has proven effective at graduate or professional schools. In 1995, for example, before traditional affirmative action was eliminated at the University of Texas Law School, 7.4 percent of first-year students were black and 12.5 percent were Mexican-American. But today, only 4 percent are black and 8 percent are Mexican-American. Similarly, at UC-Berkeley's law school, Boalt Hall, there were 14 blacks and 17 Hispanics in the 2001 entering class, down from 20 blacks and 28 Hispanics in 1996. At UCLA Law School, the 10 blacks and 26 Hispanics in the 2001 entering class were substantially fewer than the 19 blacks and 45 Hispanics in 1996.

Between 1997 and 2001, the number of blacks fell from 10 to 6 at UCLA Medical School and from 12 to 7 at UC-San Francisco Medical School. In the MBA program at UC-Berkeley, there were 3 blacks and 5 Hispanics in the 2001 entering class, down from 11 blacks and 15

Hispanics in 1996. And at UCLA, there were 9 blacks and 13 Hispanics in the 2001 first-year MBA class, compared to 13 blacks and 18 Hispanics in 1996.

The fact is, at the graduate level, there are few options for sustaining minority enrollments besides traditional affirmative action. Percent plans will not achieve graduate student diversity unless the undergraduate institutions they draw from are segregated. And preferences for socioeconomic disadvantage will not help very much. Although minorities are more likely than whites to come from low-income backgrounds, the vast majority of low-income people are still white.

Finally, there is little if any evidence that percent plans provide an effective substitute for traditional affirmative action at our leading private institutions. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, virtually every private institution in the country is subject to the same legal standards regarding traditional affirmative action as public institutions. Any Supreme Court decision finding traditional affirmative action unconstitutional at public universities would likely end affirmative action at private universities as well - with very troubling results.

It is one thing for Florida to guarantee top 20 percenters admission to one of the state's 11 public universities, or for the University of California to guarantee top 4 percenters admission to one of 10 campuses. But what about schools like Harvard or Stanford or Columbia? Given how small and selective these schools are, even a plan guaranteeing admission to the top half of one percent of high school graduates would not work, nor would it necessarily make good sense.

While some may think it odd to worry about racial diversity at private schools, since our public university systems serve far more students, these schools have long been regarded by the American public - indeed, the world - as the very best of what higher education can offer. And those schools generate a disproportionate number of our nation's leaders in government, business, and academia. As Justice Lewis Powell said 25 years ago in the Bakke case, which featured Harvard's affirmative action policy as the gold standard for selective admissions: *"It is not too much to say that the Nation's future depends upon leaders trained through wide exposure to the ideas and mores of students as diverse as this Nation of many peoples."*

The bottom line, then, is that although percent plans

and other approaches may hold promise for some institutions, they are not effective substitutes for traditional affirmative action at all institutions. There is no *"one-size-fits-all"* alternative to traditional affirmative action that works at every school, in every system, in every state. I agree with you, Mr. President, that we need to take a closer look at ways to achieve diversity besides traditional affirmative action. But I do not agree that we should foreclose traditional affirmative action as an option for pursuing diversity where the alternatives do not work.

Finally, let me mention two additional concerns. First, no one doubts that the percent plans in Texas, Florida, and California were designed to achieve exactly what traditional affirmative action was designed to achieve, namely, increased opportunity for qualified minority students. And the barometer of success has been whether these plans are keeping minority enrollments at levels achieved under traditional affirmative action. Where percent plans have been judged successful-at UT-Austin, for example-they have lowered, not raised, average SAT scores among former beneficiaries of traditional affirmative action. The fact is that percent plans, in their motivation, design, and effect, look a lot like traditional affirmative action. If the Court agrees with your Administration that traditional affirmative action is unconstitutional, aren't percent plans simply the next shoe to drop? If we accept the constitutionality, and sometimes the wisdom, of percent plans, then logic and law dictate that we also accept the constitutionality and wisdom of affirmative action

This is especially true for public universities like Michigan that strive to serve a student body representative of the taxpayers who support the system. As you said yesterday, *"America is a diverse country, racially, economically, and ethnically. And our institutions of higher education should reflect our diversity."* I see nothing wrong with a public university doing directly what Texas, California, and Florida have been forced to do indirectly, indeed what we have applauded them for doing.

Second, I am very concerned about the unintended consequences of making a constitutional distinction between percent plans and traditional affirmative action. If admissions policies must be scrubbed clean of race, then shouldn't they also be scrubbed clean of gender? Women have made great strides in higher education, but they continue to lag behind men in areas like

engineering and computer science. In fact, women are awarded 25 percent of doctoral degrees in math and the physical sciences, and only 15 percent of doctorates in engineering. Percent plans cannot solve these problems of gender inequality, just as they cannot solve every problem of racial inequality. But percent plans teach us what supporters of traditional affirmative action have long known: that there are considerations important to the distribution of educational opportunity in America other than a standardized test score.

Traditional affirmative action, whether based on race or gender, stands or falls on similar logic. And if traditional affirmative action falls, I worry it is only a small step to rolling back our most basic antidiscrimination laws, like Title VII and Title IX. Given unconscious stereotypes and structural inequalities that persist in our society,

there is a very fine line between taking deliberate steps to ensure access to higher education for minorities and women, and protecting them from unlawful discrimination.

Mr. President, I urge you to carefully consider the implications of eliminating traditional affirmative action in the absence of alternatives that effectively promote, and do not work against, diversity and integration in all of our public high schools, colleges, and graduate programs. And I urge you to consider the consequences your Administration's position may have for the vigorous enforcement of our nation's anti-discrimination laws.

Sincerely yours,

Hillary Rodham Clinton



## APPENDIX: B

### (McCain Biography continued)

#### Businesses Owned, Past Careers, Board Memberships, Etc.:

- Honorary Board Member, Hispanic Youth Foundation, 1997-present
- Honorary Board Member, The Leonard Cheshire Foundation, 1997-present
- Honorary Member, National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts Advisory Council, 1997-present
- Honorary Vice Chairman, New Majority Council, 1997-present
- Board of Trustees, Gallaudet University, 1995-present
- Founding Member, Pacific Council on International Policy, University of Southern California, 1995-present
- Board of Directors, Board of Directors Chair, International Republican Institute, 1992-present
- Life Member, Navy League, 1987-present
- Member, The Alfalfa Club
- Member, Air Force Sergeants Association
- Honorary Advisor Board, Arizonia Black Chamber of Commerce
- Honorary Co-chairman, Advisory Board of Directors, Arizona Cancer Research Foundation
- Honorary Member, Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Complimentary Member, Association of the United States Army
- Honorary Member, Barry Goldwater Foundation
- Honorary Member, Fifty-Five Years and Up Incorporated
- Honorary Member, Board of Regents, Francis Scott Key Foundation
- Honorary Member, The John Goodwin Tower Center
- Honorary Board Member, Kids Voting Arizona
- Member, The Military Order of World Wars
- Honorary Member, Mo Udall Foundation
- Board of Directors, Nixon Center for Peace and Freedom
- Member, Purple Heart Association
- Member, The Retired Officers Association
- Member, Sons of the Revolution in the State of Virginia
- Member, U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association
- Member of Board of Visitors, US Naval Academy
- Honorary Member, Board of Directors, Council of Notables, U.S.-Spain Council
- Member, Veterans of Foreign Wars
- Member, Vietnam Veterans Association
- Senate Navy Liaison, 1977-1981
- Pilot, Captain, United States Navy, Vietnam, 1958-1981



## APPENDIX: C

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### OFFICERS

##### CHAIR

Ms. A. Shuanise Washington  
Vice President  
Government Affairs, Policy & Outreach  
Altria Corporate Services, Inc.

##### VICE CHAIR

Mr. Foster Stringer  
Director, Human Rights & Community Relations  
Department  
American Federation of Teachers

##### SECRETARY

Ms. Leslie Jackson  
Civil Rights Director  
Communication Workers of America

##### TREASURER

Ms. Dorothy Jackson  
Vice President  
American Gaming Association

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO

Ms. Melanie L. Campbell  
Executive Director & CEO  
National Coalition on Black Civic Participation, Inc.

#### LEGAL COUNSEL

Mr. Derrick A. Humphries, Esq.  
Humphries and Brooks, Attorneys at Law

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS & CO-CHAIRS

##### FINANCE

Ms. Dorothy Jackson, Chair  
Vice President  
American Gaming Association

Mr. Melvin Bazemore, Co-Chair  
Director of External Affairs  
General Motors Corporation

##### RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Chaka Burgess, Chair  
Director, Global Government Affairs  
Amgen

##### PERSONNEL

Ms. Leslie Jackson, Chair  
Civil Rights Director  
Communication Workers of America

Dr. Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich, Co-Chair  
Public Member  
National Labor College

##### PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Gerald Hudson, Chair  
International Executive Vice President  
Service Employees International Union

Ms. Carlottia Scott, Co-Chair  
Public Member  
LaCause, LLC

##### STRATEGIC PLANNING

Mr. Michael Brown, Chair  
Corporate Relations Manager  
State Farm Insurance Company

Ms. Jennifer Henderson, Co-Chair  
President  
Strategic Directions, LLP

##### NOMINATIONS

Dr. Dorothy I. Height, Chair  
President Emerita and Chair  
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

##### BYLAWS

Eddie Williams, Chair  
President  
Eddie Williams & Associates

**NCBCP BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Ms. Dorothy Jackson, Co-Chair  
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American Gaming Association

**MEMBERSHIP**

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Department  
American Federation of Teachers

Mr. Diallo Brooks, Co-Chair  
BYV Representative  
Director of Legislative Relations  
Center for Policy Alternatives

**AFFILIATES**

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President  
A. Philip Randolph Institute

Mr. Samuel Hamilton, Co-Chair  
Grand Polemarch  
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

**CHAIR EMERITUS**

Eddie Williams  
President  
Eddie Williams & Associates

**IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR**

Mr. Richard Womack, Sr.  
Assistant to the President  
AFL-CIO

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Executive Assistant to the Int'l. President  
International Association of Machinists

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Co-Chair  
Republican National Committee

Mr. Albert E. Dotson  
Chairman  
100 Black Men of America, Inc.

Mr. Ralph Everett  
President  
Joint Center for Political & Economic Studies

Mr. Gary Flowers  
Executive Director  
Black Leadership Forum

Mr. Dennis Hayes  
Interim President & CEO  
NAACP

Mr. Garrison Jackson  
President & CEO  
Circulation Experti, LTD

Ms. Sharhonda Knott  
BYV Representative  
Director  
Chicago Coalition on Black Civic Participation

Reverend Joseph E. Lowery  
Public Member  
Joseph E. Lowery Institute for Justice and Human  
Rights

Mr. William Lucy  
International Secretary Treasurer  
AFSCME

Ms. Leslie Watson Malachi  
Public Member

Mr. Marc Morial  
President & CEO  
National Urban League

Dr. Elsie Scott  
President  
Congressional Black Caucus Foundation

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Democratic National Committee

Ms. Stacey Davis Stewart  
President and CEO  
Fannie Mae Foundation

Ms. Cynthia Swann  
Special Assistant to the President  
Director of Governance and Policy  
National Education Association

Dr. Ronald Walters  
Public Member  
African American Leadership Institute  
University of MD – College Park

Mr. Michael Williams  
Special Assistant to the President  
Coalition on Black Trade Unionists

Ms. Robin Williams  
Associate Director  
Human Rights & Community Action Dept.  
United Food and Commercial Workers  
International Union

(Open Seat)  
United Auto Workers

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Mr. Norman Hill  
President Emeritus  
A. Philip Randolph Institute

Ms. Gloria Johnson  
President (Retired)  
Coalition of Labor Union Women

Mr. John Sweeney  
President  
AFL-CIO



## STATE AND LOCAL AFFILIATES

- ⊙ Alabama Coalition on Black Civic Participation  
*Convener, LaTosha Brown*
- ⊙ Bay Area Coalition on Black Civic Participation  
*Convener, Robert Phillips*
- ⊙ Florida Coalition on Black Civic Participation  
*Convener, Salandra Hanna*
- ⊙ Georgia Coalition for the People's Agenda  
*Co-Conveners, Rev. Dr. Joseph Lowery, Helen Butler*
- ⊙ Chicago Coalition on Black Civic Participation  
*Convener, ShaRhonda Knott*
- ⊙ Louisiana Unity Coalition  
*Convener, Vincent Sylvain*
- ⊙ Mississippi Coalition on Black Civic Participation  
*Co-Conveners, Debra Robinson/Derrick Johnson*
- ⊙ North Carolina Coalition on Black & Brown Civic Participation  
*Convener, Cynthia Brown*
- ⊙ Ohio Coalition on Black Civic Participation  
*Convener, Petee Talley*
- ⊙ Philadelphia and Vicinity Coalition on Black Civic Participation  
*Co-Conveners, Donna Frisby-Greenwood/Richard Womack, Jr.*
- ⊙ Pittsburgh Coalition on Black Civic Participation  
*Convener, Rev. Dr. Judith Moore*
- ⊙ Houston Coalition on Black Civic Participation  
*Convener, Carmen Watkins*
- ⊙ Milwaukee Coalition on Black Civic Participation  
*Convener, Paula Dorsey*



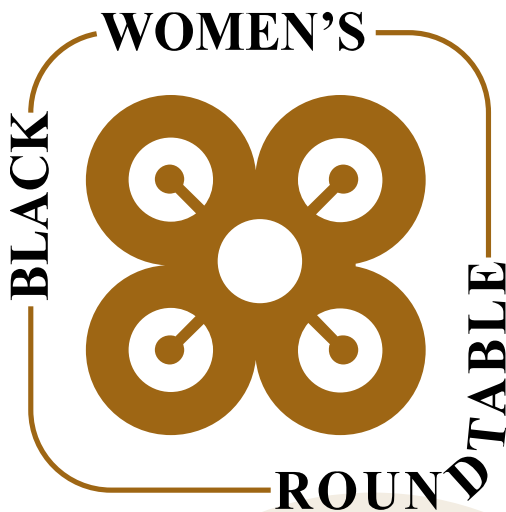
## MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

100 Black Men of America, Inc.  
 A. Philip Randolph Institute  
 Advance America  
 African Methodist Episcopal Church  
 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.  
 Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.  
 Altria Group, Inc.  
 American Federation of Government Employees  
 American Federation of Labor - Congress  
     of Industrial Organizations  
 American Federation of State, County  
     and Municipal Employees  
 American Federation of Teachers  
 American Gaming Association  
 American Postal Workers Union  
 Auxiliary to the National Medical Association  
 Benjamin E. Mays Educational Resource Center  
 Black Leadership Forum, Inc.  
 Blacks in Government  
 Church of God in Christ  
 Circulation Experti, LTD  
 Coalition of Black Trade Unionists  
 Coalition of Labor Union Women  
 Communication Workers of America  
 Congressional Black Caucus Foundation  
 Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
 Democratic National Committee  
 Fannie Mae Foundation  
 Frontiers International, Inc.  
 General Motors Corporation  
 International Association of Black  
     Professional Firefighters  
 Improved Benevolent Protective Order of the Elks  
 International Association of Machinists and  
 Aerospace Workers  
 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers  
 International Union of Operating Engineers  
 Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.  
 Joint Center for Political & Economic Studies  
 Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.  
 Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law  
 Leadership Conference on Civil Rights  
 Listen, Inc.  
 Martin Luther King Center for Nonviolent  
     Social Change  
 National Alliance of Black School Educators  
 National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees  
 National Association for the Advancement  
     of Colored People  
 National Association of Black County Officials  
 National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters  
 National Association of Black Women Attorneys  
 National Association of Investment Companies  
 National Association of Negro Business &  
 Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.  
 National Association of Social Workers  
 National Bankers Association  
 National Baptist Convention of America  
 National Baptist Convention-USA, Inc.  
 National Bar Association  
 National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus  
 National Black Caucus of State Legislators  
 National Black Child Development Institute, Inc.  
 National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame  
 National Black M.B.A. Association  
 National Black United Federation of Charities  
 National Caucus of Black School Board Members  
 National Committee to Preserve Social Security  
     & Medicare  
 National Congress of Black Women  
 National Council of Churches  
 National Council of Negro Women  
 National Education Association  
 National Medical Association  
 National Newspaper Publishers Association  
 National School Boards Association



National Urban League  
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.  
Opportunities Industrialization Centers of  
America, Inc.  
PACE International Union  
People for the American Way Foundation  
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.  
Progressive National Baptist Convention  
Rainbow/PUSH Coalition  
Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice  
Republican National Committee  
Service Employees International Union  
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.  
Sony Music Entertainment, Inc.  
Southern Christian Leadership Conference

State Farm Insurance Companies  
Strategic Interventions, Inc.  
The Black Women's Agenda  
The College Fund  
The Judicial Council of the National Bar Association  
The Links  
TWD, Inc.  
UNITE HERE!  
United Auto Workers of America  
United Food & Commercial Workers  
International Union  
United Steelworkers of America  
Voices, Inc.  
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.



 *Healthy*  
 *Wealthy*  
 *Wise*

## APPENDIX: D

### An Overview

**Black Women's Roundtable (BWR)** is a signature program initiative of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation.

The BWR committee develops a national framework and theme that serves as a rallying call for women at the local level many of whom belong to a wide range of social justice, civic, corporate, labor and women's organizations.

BWR provides a nurturing environment where active women can focus on issues from a woman's perspective.

Black Women's Roundtable is an expanded network of women affiliated with the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation through its programs and activities, the Board of Directors, Staff, and local affiliates in 12 states including: Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin.

BWR seeks to bring together local women representing diverse views and interests within the Black community around the theme of women's advancement with a particular focus on motivating Black women to engage in all levels of civil society.

### BWR seeks to:

**Educate** members and others regarding the needs of Black women and the issues that significantly impact them;

**Inform** the broader Black community, various branches of government and the general public of those needs and issues;

**Inspire** increased participation of Black women in the electoral process in local, state and national elections;

**Mobilize** to advance positive changes in policy, practices and programs that potentially or actually negatively affect Black women;

**Network** with organizations and individuals on behalf of the Black community; and

**Promote** health, economic security and wellness of Black women as key elements for successful, sustainable leadership and civic participation.



# APPENDIX: E

## BWR Event Photo Gallery



# BWR Event Photo Gallery



# BWR Event Photo Gallery

