

THE 2016 REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL FIELD



COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

2016 REPUBLICAN FIELD TOO SET IN THEIR WAYS, WOULD MOVE AMERICA BACKWARD

The choice the American people will face in next November's election couldn't be more important. As the last Republican administration left office in 2009, the American economy was losing 750,000 jobs a month, and that was on top of countless homes foreclosed and too many families devastated. Thanks to Democratic leadership and the hard work of the American people, so much progress has been made. When our candidates take the stage in Las Vegas, it'll become clear that ours is the Party with the vision to keep America moving forward.

What's at stake is nothing less than 13 million new jobs and the longest uninterrupted stretch of private sector job creation in history, health insurance within reach for millions who previously couldn't afford it, and expanded opportunities for every American. The DNC Democratic Debates are about building on these successes. After watching a Republican field so set in its ways that their entire debates focused on moving America backward, the contrast is going to be stark.

DONALD TRUMP MAY BE GETTING THE MOST ATTENTION, BUT HIS POLICIES ARE NO DIFFERENT THAN THE REST OF THE REPUBLICAN FIELD AND WOULD TAKE AMERICA BACKWARD.

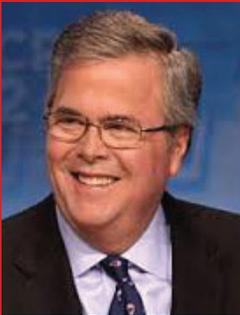


DONALD TRUMP

When Donald Trump speaks, he's talking about the same policies that the majority of the Republican presidential field firmly stands behind. The field of potential 2016 Republican presidential candidates is large but they've got a lot in common, and even if Donald Trump is the loudest, when it comes to his policies, he's just one in the crowd. We've seen the same failed, outdated policies from Trump that would hurt the middle class and take our country backward.

- Republican commentators like to say that Donald Trump is a non-starter in their field of stellar candidates for president, but the reality is that he is leading in the polls and other Republican candidates are echoing the same basic messages, out-of-touch rhetoric and policies that would drag America backward.
- Most importantly, Trump's policies put him and those like him ahead of hardworking American families:
 - Just like rest of the Republican field, Trump opposes raising the federal minimum wage, which could lift millions of American families above the poverty line.
 - Like every member of the current Republican presidential field, Trump has called for the repeal of Obamacare, calling it a "total catastrophe," despite the fact that it has provided more than 16 million Americans with quality, affordable health care.
 - Like Bush and Rubio, Trump's tax plan would give the rich a tax cut, slashing top marginal rates, the corporate tax rate, and eliminating the estate tax. All told, Trump's tax plan will give the wealthiest 1% of Americans 34% of the benefit.
 - Like the other Republicans running, Trump's tax plan will add trillions to the deficit over the next decade.
 - Like the others Trump took his usual misogyny to the next level when he advocated shutting down the government to cut off federal funding for Planned Parenthood, a move that cost our economy \$24 billion in 2013.
 - Trump's plan to deport approximately 11 million undocumented immigrants is reportedly modeled on Dwight Eisenhower's brutal and deadly mass deportation of over one million people in the mid-1950s. Similarly, Jeb Bush said we need to "round these folks up" and send them home regarding visa overstays and Chris Christie wants to track immigrants like Fed-Ex packages.
 - Trump stands with fellow Republican presidential candidates Jeb Bush, Marco Rubio, Ted Cruz, and Rick Santorum opposing Wall Street Reform, which was passed to help protect our economy from another Bush-like recession.
 - Donald Trump stands with the field who oppose passing comprehensive immigration reform, calling it a "suicide mission."
- Looking at Donald Trump's policies serves as a snapshot of those of the entire Republican field. It's no wonder he's doing so well among base voters, and he's not going anywhere anytime soon.

JEB BUSH IS REHASHING THE GEORGE W. BUSH PLAYBOOK, PROMISING THE SAME FAILED POLICIES THAT BENEFITTED THE WEALTHY AND LEFT FAMILIES DEVASTATED ALL ACROSS AMERICA.



JEB BUSH

As president, Jeb Bush would do what he's always done – put himself and people like him over middle class Americans. This is the central issue of his candidacy. And while he will repeat it all he wants, Jeb Bush is not his “own man.” He has his last name and brother to thank for his team of campaign advisors, his personal wealth, and the framework for disastrous, failed policies from the George W. Bush administration.

- Jeb Bush has spent his career doing what would benefit himself and people like him – certainly not looking out for working Americans.
 - Bush spent recent years cashing in on Wall Street with Lehman Brothers as Americans were hit by the financial crisis.
 - Since leaving public office, Bush has been involved in several problematic business deals, creating a multi-million dollar fund that operates like an offshore tax haven, and leveraging his family name to reap profits for himself.
- But we also know what to expect from a Bush presidency because we've lived it before: policies that wreck the economy, that give massive tax breaks to the wealthy and corporations, and that are out of step with the American people, including women, LGBT Americans, Latinos and people of color.
- Jeb Bush has fully embraced his brother's failed economic agenda that was followed by the worst economic collapse since the Great Depression – but his tax plan is even more extreme than his brother's.
 - Jeb Bush wants to cut taxes for the wealthiest Americans, a plan that would have allowed Bush to keep an estimated \$800,000 for himself annually, and would add \$3.4 trillion to the deficit.
 - Jeb Bush's plans would explode the deficit or require harmful cuts to programs and investments in education, infrastructure and health care the middle class relies on.
 - As Governor, Jeb Bush slashed taxes by billions, which largely benefited the wealthy and corporations, and oversaw a tremendous increase in income inequality in Florida.
 - In order to achieve his own economic goals as president, Bush said that Americans need to “work longer hours.”
 - Bush supported his brother's plan to privatize Social Security and said we need to “phase out” Medicare.
- Jeb Bush is completely out of step with the American people.
 - Jeb Bush would bring back his brother's disastrous foreign policy – he even said he would invade Iraq again.
 - He said he is not sure if the country needs “half a billion dollars for women's health issues,” and falsely claimed Planned Parenthood isn't “actually doing women's health issues.”
 - He suggested that African Americans only voted for Democrats because they were offered “free stuff.” When asked what he would do for African Americans in Florida, Bush replied: “Probably nothing.” And today he continues to defend Republican voter ID laws that disproportionately disenfranchise black voters, saying there are “very strong justifications” for them.
 - He has repeatedly used racial slurs to describe U.S. citizen children born to undocumented immigrants.
 - When asked about gun violence prevention the day after the tragic Oregon shootings, Bush's response was “stuff happens.”
 - He has long attacked classroom size reductions and supported a budget that would gut education funding – from early education to Pell Grants for college students.
 - What was Bush's response to what should happen to undocumented immigrants in the United States? “Start deporting people.” Bush also said citizenship for undocumented immigrants was an “undeserving reward,” promised to undo deportation relief that keeps immigrant families together and said of the 40% of illegal immigrants that we need to “round these folks up and tell them your visas expired, it's time to go.”
 - And Bush not only opposes marriage equality, he has even called the fight for gay rights a “modern victim movement,” and defended right to discriminate laws that allow businesses to refuse services to LGBT Americans.

MARCO RUBIO IS PEDDLING A TIRED REPUBLICAN PLAYBOOK FEATURING THE SAME POLICIES WE'VE SEEN FROM REPUBLICANS – INCLUDING BUSH AND ROMNEY – FOR YEARS THAT WOULD HARM AMERICAN FAMILIES.



MARCO RUBIO

Marco Rubio is peddling a tired Republican playbook that features failed trickle-down economic policies, dangerous neo-con foreign policies and outdated social views. Rubio is a career politician who has repeatedly ignored his job in Washington – and his constituents – to promote his personal, political ambition.

- Rubio's record makes clear that he has no new ideas and is simply a self-interested and opportunistic politician.
 - Rubio has used his taxpayer-funded salary to repeatedly ignore his job in Washington to promote his political ambitions – he has missed over 40% of his votes since he announced his run for president and numerous foreign policy hearings this year alone.
 - His tax plan would slash taxes for the super wealthy and corporations and experts say his plan would mean a tax increase for middle class families. It would explode the deficit or force deep cuts in investments like education, health care and the environment.
 - Rubio opposes comprehensive immigration reform and opposes relief from deportations that would keep families together. He said he would “reverse” the President’s actions to do so, and called them “wrong” and “unconstitutional.”
 - Rubio’s piecemeal plan puts borders first and people last. He said that immigrant families will have to wait 10-12 years before we can even have a “debate” on a path to legal status.
 - He helped Ted Cruz and the Republicans shut down the government in an attempt to block affordable access to quality health care, costing our economy \$24 billion. And he supported doing it again in order to defund Planned Parenthood.
 - He wants to repeal the Affordable Care Act and has no plan to guarantee coverage for pre-existing conditions.
- Rubio has consistently championed the failed economic policies of the past that have hurt the middle class:
 - He opposes raising the minimum wage and said that suggesting it would help Americans move up was “silly.”
 - He defends tax loopholes and cuts for the wealthy and corporations, but has supported raising taxes and fees on the middle class.
- Rubio’s views are out-of-touch with everyday Americans and are in line with a Republican ideology that is out of the mainstream.
 - He wants to ban abortion with no exceptions for survivors of rape or incest and said his position wouldn’t change no matter how much the world changes.
 - He opposed legislation that would have allowed young people to refinance their student loans.
 - He opposed the Paycheck Fairness Act, and his paid leave policy would leave working families hanging out to dry.
 - He said Medicare and Social Security have “weakened us as a people.” He supports ending Medicare as we know it by turning it into a voucher system, and wants to raise the Social Security retirement age.
 - Rubio is a climate science denier who won’t even admit that man-made climate change threatens the economic well-being of our nation – not to mention his home state of Florida.
- Marco Rubio has championed the tired, failed neoconservative policies that were prevalent under George W. Bush and are more reminiscent of the Cold War.
 - Rubio has been factchecked over his reckless foreign policy claims and has repeatedly been caught spouting false and uninformed ideas.
 - Rubio strongly opposes normalizing relations with Cuba after 50 years of a failed policy.
 - Rubio opposes, and has said on his first day in office that he would undo, a deal with Iran that would prevent them from getting a nuclear weapon.
 - Rubio has said repeatedly that George W. Bush’s decision to go to war in Iraq was not a mistake.
- Rubio is in it for himself and has consistently refused to do the right thing to help the American people. All Marco Rubio has done is champion the same failed GOP policies that the public has already rejected.

CARLY FIORINA HAD NO PROBLEM CASHING IN AFTER LAYING OFF THOUSANDS OF WORKERS AND SHE OFFERS THE SAME HARMFUL ANTI-MIDDLE CLASS POLICIES THAT DEFINE THE REST OF THE REPUBLICAN FIELD.



CARLY FIORINA

While Carly Fiorina touts herself as a business savvy executive, Fiorina's abysmal corporate record tells a different story. Beyond that, she offers the same harmful anti-middle class policies that define the rest of the Republican field.

- During her short time as the CEO of Hewlett-Packard, Fiorina was known for promoting herself more than her company and oversaw massive layoffs and tumbling stock prices while almost driving the company into the ground:
 - Fiorina fired more than 30,000 people at HP and shipped jobs overseas and then received a \$40 million golden parachute.
 - She defended outsourcing by saying "there is no job that is America's God-given right anymore," and outsourcing is just "growing jobs in a country where your business is growing."
 - During her tenure, HP's stock fell 50% and upon announcement that she had been fired it rebounded as much as 10%.
 - She was named one of the "Worst American CEO's."
- In addition, under her tenure, Hewlett Packard sold millions of dollars worth of technological equipment to Iran in violation of U.S. sanctions.
 - Fiorina likes to tout her foreign policy record, but the only relevant experience seems to be her record of sending American jobs overseas and selling technology in Iran
- Fiorina also holds dangerous views about health and safety:
 - Fiorina called for shutting down the government over defunding Planned Parenthood
 - She has been called out by fact-checkers for her blatant misrepresentation of the discredited videos produced by opponents of Planned Parenthood
 - She said that parents should be able to deny vaccinations to their children, despite a measles outbreak which sickened dozens in the state of California, where she lived.
- Aside from her terrible business record and disturbing views on health and safety, she's also in-step with the rest of the Republican field that is looking out for special interests and corporations while leaving everyday American families behind.
 - She signed Club for Growth's pledge to repeal the Affordable Care Act, recently said she would eliminate Wall Street reform if elected president, would overturn Roe v. Wade taking a woman's health care decisions out of her hands, did not support a path to citizenship for the 11 million individuals living in limbo in this country and backs the harmful right to discriminate laws across the country.
- If she was unable to put the hard working middle class families that were depending on her at Hewlett-Packard first, then what makes anyone think that she'd do any different with the hardworking American people?
- She claims she's ready to be President, but looking at her record and her priorities the American people will know better.

ALL **TED CRUZ** HAS DONE IS OPPOSE AND OBSTRUCT ANY AND ALL ATTEMPTS TO HELP THE MIDDLE CLASS AND LEAD THE SHUTDOWN DEBACLE THAT COST OUR ECONOMY \$24 BILLION.

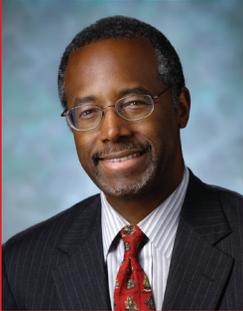


TED CRUZ

Ted Cruz was the de facto leader of the GOP for more than a year until Donald Trump showed up, and we know how that turned out. Cruz is the embodiment of what's wrong with the Republican Party. All he's done is oppose and obstruct any and all attempts to help the middle class, and his sole accomplishment in the Senate has been shutting down the government – costing the economy a staggering \$24 billion

- Under Cruz's leadership, Congressional Republicans shut down the government and voted with Cruz to keep the government shut longer – costing the economy a staggering \$24 billion. And he hasn't learned his lesson. Earlier this year, he led the effort to shut down the Department of Homeland Security over immigration, and in September, he led the effort to shut down the entire federal government over defunding Planned Parenthood.
- Ted Cruz's tenure in the Senate is a perfect indication of what a Cruz Presidency would look like. Here are a few examples of what we can expect:
 - Cruz's policies hurt the middle class. He wants to repeal all corporate income taxes, establish a flat tax and supports a 23% national sales tax which would reduce taxes for those at the top, place a greater burden on working Americans, and make basic goods and services unaffordable for American families. And while he campaigns for president, he refuses to provide details on his flat tax plan.
 - Cruz opposes raising the minimum wage, the Paycheck Fairness Act and other proposals that would help grow the economy and create opportunity for the middle class.
 - He wants to get rid of the Department of Education and voted against legislation that would help people with college loans refinance at a lower rate.
 - Cruz has referred to Social Security as a Ponzi scheme and even suggested that it's cheaper to provide emergency care rather than expand Medicaid coverage. And he refused to say whether the creation of Medicare was a good thing.
 - In November 2013, after he led the push for the government shutdown in an attempt to stop Obamacare, he promised to release his own health care plan – but it never came.
 - Cruz led the effort to threaten a government shutdown over defunding Planned Parenthood.
 - Cruz opposes commonsense immigration reform but won't say what he would do to fix our broken system. Instead, he led the charge to defund the Deferred Action program and deport DREAMers. He promised to “use any and all means necessary” to block presidential action on immigration, and he opposes a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants already here.
 - He authored a federal constitutional amendment that would block marriage equality for LGBT couples, and even claimed that supporters of gay marriage were waging “jihad” against opponents of marriage equality.
- Cruz can't be trusted to lead. He's a divisive politician, who thinks the fight that shut down the government was worth it and enjoys threatening to do it again.
- Ted Cruz embodies what Americans despise about Washington, and has no solutions to make life better for middle class and working families.

BEN CARSON'S RHETORIC SHOWS HE'S RIGIDLY ATTACHED TO THE REST OF THE REPUBLICAN FIELD'S POLICIES, WHICH WOULD MOVE AMERICA BACKWARD ON EVERYTHING FROM MINORITY AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, TO TAKING HEALTH CARE AWAY FROM MILLIONS WHO CAN NOW AFFORD IT.



BEN CARSON

Ben Carson would divide the country with his hateful rhetoric and take our country backwards with the same failed policies of the rest of the Republican presidential field.

- Ben Carson has spent his political career avoiding key details on policy issues, and engaging through his offensive and divisive rhetoric.
 - Carson said that America today is “very much like Nazi Germany,” and that government is “using its tools to intimidate the population.”
 - He said he was “not sure” if violence against women is a widespread issue.
 - Carson tied the unrest in Ferguson, MO to the women’s liberation movement.
 - Ben Carson said that Obamacare is “the worst thing that has happened in this nation since slavery.”
 - Ben Carson said that he does not believe the U.S. should ever elect a Muslim president.
- And when he does get around to talking about what he believes, he supports the same failed, and out-of-touch policies as the rest of the field.
 - Carson supports a catastrophic health care system that could be fiscally impossible for most families and could lead individuals to avoid preventive care.
 - Carson voiced support for threats to shut down the government over defunding Planned Parenthood as well as the Republican Party’s government shutdown in 2013 which cost our economy \$24 billion.
 - He supports restrictive voter ID requirements.
 - Carson has dismissed the notion that raising the minimum wage could address income inequality.
 - He spoke out against President Obama’s plan to provide students who work hard, and earn it, two years of free community college to help them get ahead.
 - On guns, Carson said that expanded background checks would be off the table in any discussions he’d have on guns.
 - Ben Carson thinks Social Security is “basically a Ponzi scheme,” and would end Medicare and Medicaid, instead giving recipients a voucher.
- Ben Carson emphasizes the worst parts of this Republican field: offensive, divisive rhetoric and out-of-touch policies that would harm the middle class.

WE SAW **JOHN KASICH'S** OUTDATED PRIORITIES LEAVE THE MIDDLE CLASS BEHIND AS A CONGRESSMAN, WHILE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND AS GOVERNOR.



JOHN KASICH

John Kasich is a short-tempered and divisive figure in the Republican Party, just as extreme as the rest of the Republican field. His time as a congressman who shut down the government, governor who closed abortion clinics, Fox News host who agitated for the Iraq War, and Wall Street executive at a firm that helped cause the financial crisis tell us all we need to know about what a Kasich presidency would look like.

- As a congressman, Kasich was an architect of the original government shutdown in the mid-1990s that cost taxpayers as much as \$800 million, calling it “one of the greatest moments of my career.”
- From Washington, Kasich went on to be a managing director for one of the investment banks that was integral to the 2008 crash that put nearly 9 million Americans out of work. But it gets worse - when asked recently if he had any regrets from his time profiting on the backs of hardworking Americans he recently said, “Are you kidding? Regrets? I thought it was a fantastic time.”
 - But there’s always more with Kasich. While in the private sector, he profited from a company that outsourced American jobs . . . from his own state.
- Kasich’s record as governor makes it crystal clear that he is not interested in helping the middle class or anyone not like him. As governor he:
 - Gutted funding for local governments, which put stress on small towns resulting in increased local taxes and fees.
 - Signed tax cuts with half of the benefits flowing to the top 5% of earners and has proposed a plan that would on average raise taxes for the bottom 60% of earners.
 - Slashed \$1.8 billion from Ohio’s public schools while funneling hundreds of millions of tax dollars to charter schools that have been criticized as among the worst in the nation.
 - Kasich even went so far as to call for the abolition of teacher’s lounges, which he claims are where teachers “sit together and worry about, oh woe is us.”
 - And Kasich signed some of the most restrictive laws in the country seeking to restrict women’s health rights.
- Kasich’s budget slashed funding for family planning clinics and forced women seeking an abortion to have a medically unnecessary and intrusive ultrasound.
- Kasich’s new restrictions on abortion facilities have resulted in over half of Ohio’s abortion providers closing their doors, leaving fewer than 8 clinics across the state. Cincinnati will become the nation’s largest metropolitan area without an abortion provider if Kasich’s restrictions hold up in court.
- Kasich is against funding for Planned Parenthood and said he would “fight like crazy” to defund it.
- And don’t look to John Kasich as someone who understands real diverse American families. He’s not afraid to say divisive and extreme things:
 - Kasich has said we don’t need workplace protections for women. And on another occasion said that wives of elected officials stay “home doing the laundry” and make “all the minor decisions” for a family.
 - Kasich opposed marriage equality despite the Supreme Court’s ruling, and Kasich was one of the final governors in the country to prevent his state from having marriage equality before the Court’s ruling.
 - Kasich said that African Americans are using racism as “an excuse” for high dropout rates and once told an African American legislator, “I don’t need your people” in my cabinet.
 - Kasich has compared the plight of immigrant families to teenagers waiting in line for a Taylor Swift concert, has come out against a path to citizenship for families who are already here, and has said that in order to support immigrant families one should “leave a little tip” for hotel maids.
- Kasich supported the Bush war in Iraq and wants to invade Syria by sending ground troops. He also opposes the historic Iran nuclear agreement.
- John Kasich is simply out of touch with today’s middle class and working Americans. He brings more of the same divisive rhetoric and policies that are prevalent among his fellow contenders. He has hurt Americans before, has been hurting Ohioans for years, and will hurt the country again if given the opportunity.

CHRIS CHRISTIE HAS DRIVEN NEW JERSEY'S ECONOMY AND FINANCES INTO THE DITCH AND LEFT THE MIDDLE CLASS EVEN FURTHER BEHIND.



CHRIS CHRISTIE

Chris Christie's administration has been synonymous with abuse of power, his failed leadership has driven New Jersey's economy and finances into the ditch and left the middle class even further behind.

- Just take a look at Chris Christie's New Jersey:
 - He has led New Jersey off a fiscal cliff – giving massive tax breaks to corporations and those at the very top while failing to meet his obligations to the middle class, overseeing major budget shortfalls, and notching a record-setting nine state credit downgrades.
 - New Jersey has the highest property taxes in the nation, and they have gone up more than twenty percent for seniors and the middle class on his watch.
 - New Jersey lags behind the nation in job growth and the state's unemployment rate is among the highest in the region.
 - Under Christie, New Jersey's economy grew at one of the slowest rates in the country.
- Christie continuously puts the interests of his allies and himself ahead of what's best for his state and working families.
- Let's not forget that he spent 2014 campaigning across the country as a Republican Party campaign boss and has spent his time since then doing the same to boost his own presidential aspirations, all while his state's economic and fiscal crises escalated. In fact, he's spent more than half the year outside of New Jersey.
- Christie pretends to be a blunt straight-talker, yet he has shown zero leadership when it comes to talking about the issues Americans care about—let alone taking action on the array of crises facing his state. This includes his constant dodge when asked of his positions on foreign policy and voting rights.
- Chris Christie has been pandering to the right wing of the party, calling a pathway to citizenship “extreme” and bragging about his vetoes of Planned Parenthood funding which shut down clinics across the state.
- Chris Christie has created a state government modeled on his leadership style: dysfunctional and ineffective. His administration remains mired in scandal and has failed to perform some of the most basic government functions.
 - For almost two years Christie's office has been mired in a cascade of controversies uncovered in the wake of the Bridgewater scandal. One of his closest confidantes has pleaded guilty, two others have been indicted, his transportation chief has resigned and Christie himself was questioned by federal investigators regarding the lane closures – there are still many unanswered questions and this is far from over.
- Bullying people will not solve these problems in New Jersey and this is certainly not the model the American people want for the nation.

AS WE'VE SEEN FROM EVERY OTHER REPUBLICAN, **RAND PAUL'S** POLICIES ARE NOT ONLY WAY OUTSIDE THE MAINSTREAM, THEY'RE BAD FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS AND WOULD WEAKEN THE UNITED STATES AND OUR ALLIES.



RAND PAUL

Rand Paul likes to tell people that he's a "new type of Republican." But it's clear that he's not a new Republican: it's that every day, he's something new. It doesn't matter how many times he tries to reinvent himself, his policies are way outside the mainstream, his plans are bad for the middle class and he would weaken the United States and our allies.

- Paul has proclaimed himself the GOP's best chance to expand its tent to communities traditionally ignored by Republicans, but his policies would make life harder for working Americans.
 - How can he broaden the GOP's appeal to African Americans when he has voiced opposition to the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act, believes in a business's "right to discriminate," belittles the Black Lives Matter movement and compares Obamacare and taxes to slavery?
 - How can he broaden the GOP's appeal to Millennials when he mocks students, calls for eliminating the Department of Education, would slash Pell grants, opposed student loan refinancing, and opposed net neutrality rules to keep the internet fair to all.
 - How can he broaden the GOP's appeal to LGBT Americans when he says that marriage equality "offends myself and a lot of people," and says that he doesn't believe in LGBT rights because he doesn't believe in "rights based on your behavior?"
 - How can he broaden the GOP's appeal to Hispanic Americans when he's opposed comprehensive immigration reform, the Deferred Action program, and wants to end birthright citizenship?
 - How can he broaden the GOP's appeal to middle class Americans when he wants to implement a tax plan which could increase taxes on the middle class while giving the wealthy a big break, suggests that people without higher education have a "lack of work ethic," and wants to take away quality affordable health care from millions?
 - And how can he broaden the GOP's appeal to women when he wants to take a woman's health care options out of her hands and threatens to shut down the government in order to defund Planned Parenthood?
- Like most other major Republicans, his views are outdated and way outside of mainstream America.
- Rand Paul also constantly works to block legislation that would actually help Americans and the economy, and he was a leader in the government shutdown that cost us \$24 billion.
- And Paul's plans wouldn't just hurt us at home – they would be disastrous for America's place on the global stage.
 - Paul would isolate us from the international community. He wants to eliminate all foreign aid, including to our allies like Israel, and his positions on how or whether to tackle threats in the Middle East like ISIL have been constantly shifting. He would be "happy to dissolve" the United Nations.
- Paul continually takes positions that are inconsistent and far outside of the mainstream. It is clear that he is not a new Republican: it's that every day he is something new. The American people cannot trust Rand Paul to tell the truth.

MIKE HUCKABEE HAS NO PROBLEM MAKING IT CLEAR THAT HE IS LOOKING TO TAKE AMERICA BACKWARD ON EVERYTHING FROM GAY RIGHTS AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO FOREIGN POLICY AND HEALTH CARE.



MIKE HUCKABEE

Taking a look at Mike Huckabee's offensive and out of control rhetoric offers a quick glimpse inside today's Republican Party. The problem goes beyond that, however, as we start to see the dangerous rhetoric he spews turn into actual policies.

- Ahead of this presidential election, Mike Huckabee was best known for the offensive ideas he promotes, like:
 - Mike Huckabee compared being gay to drinking alcohol or using profanity, a lifestyle choice, and said that forcing people of faith to accept same-sex marriage was like forcing a kosher deli to serve bacon-wrapped shrimp.
 - Huckabee asserted that by requiring insurance companies to cover preventive care, women are being lead to believe they are "helpless without Uncle Sugar" giving them birth control "because they cannot control their libido or their reproductive system without the help of the government."
 - Huckabee compared abortion to slavery and ISIS.
 - Huckabee wants to end deportation relief that keeps immigrant families together.
- And since he announced his run for president, his rhetoric and actions have only become more inflammatory to cater to the Republican base:
 - He has continued to stand by personhood claims that could outlaw common forms of birth control and has proposed invoking radical means to halt abortion, including leaving the door open for deploying the FBI.
 - Huckabee wanted to defund Planned Parenthood, but thought we could do something "more bold," suggesting he would tie funding to the debt ceiling.
 - Huckabee said Dred Scott was still the law of the land.
 - Huckabee said he wished he could have pretended to be transgender to shower with girls in high school.
 - Oh, and he compared the historic Iran nuclear agreement to the Holocaust.
- But most importantly, when this extreme language translates to actual policies, he opposes a woman's right to make her own health care decisions, would repeal the Affordable Care Act, would go to extreme measures to end marriage equality, and would end President Obama's deportation relief which protects hard working families from separation.
- If the Republican Party is willing to stand by a man who introduces the most belligerent thoughts and opinions into our political discourse, then there's no saying who they wouldn't let in.
- Mike Huckabee's vision for America is outof-touch and would take our country backwards.

BOBBY JINDAL IS A FAILED GOVERNOR WHO CONSISTENTLY PUT HIS OWN RIGID IDEOLOGY AND POLITICAL AMBITION AHEAD OF WHAT'S GOOD FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS, HIS STATES AND THE NATION.



BOBBY JINDAL

Bobby Jindal is a failed governor who consistently puts his own rigid ideology and political ambition ahead of what's good for the middle class, his state and the nation. If you can't even govern your state, how can you govern the country?

- Jindal says the GOP should stop being the “stupid party,” but he spends a lot of his time promoting the worst of his party.
 - He is a climate-science denier, saying that “climate change is simply a Trojan horse.”
 - He issued an executive order protecting those who discriminate against same-sex couples.
 - He legitimizes offensive groups like the American Family Association that blames tragic events like Hurricane Katrina on the rising approval of marriage equality and legal abortion.
 - He relishes in repeating the debunked claim that there are Muslim “no go zones” in Europe.
- Bobby Jindal also likes to say that he's an ideas guy, but those ideas only serve to hurt middle class families. Over his two terms as governor, Jindal has failed his state time and again.
 - Jindal has mismanaged Louisiana's budget, turning a nearly \$1 billion budget surplus into a \$1.6 billion deficit.
 - Louisiana ranked 49th out of all 50 states in overall quality of life.
 - Louisiana ranked near the bottom in a range of important education metrics, including ranking 49th in Education Week's K-12 achievement index.
 - Jindal gutted higher education funding shifting the cost to middle class families. Under Jindal, tuition at public universities has risen 90 percent.
 - Under his leadership nearly one in five Louisianans lives in poverty.
 - Louisiana gets low marks on health care, ranking nearly last in the country in a number of key metrics.
- In their most recent surveys, both the Commonwealth Fund State Health System Scorecard and United Health Foundation's America's Health Ranking ranked Louisiana 48th in overall health. Another recent study ranked Louisiana third to last in its return on investment for health care.
 - Jindal refused Obamacare's Medicaid expansion meaning that Louisiana will lose \$16 billion in federal funding and more than 240,000 Louisianans will not be given access to health care.
- Jindal clearly has an abysmal record as governor, and now he wants to take that failed approach to governing to the rest of the country. Here are just a few examples:
 - Jindal championed George W. Bush's plan to privatize Social Security that could strip seniors of the retirement security they have earned over a lifetime of hard work. As a member of Congress, he was an original co-sponsor of legislation that would establish private accounts for Social Security.
 - He was one of the architects of the plan to turn Medicare into a voucher system. In his America Next plan released in 2014, not only does Jindal advocate for turning the current Medicare program into a voucher system, he brags that he led the team that first “developed” the idea as a DC insider in the 1990's.
 - Jindal wants to turn back the clock on women's rights by limiting access to health care and opposing equal pay legislation.
- It's clear what a Jindal presidency would look like because we've already seen his ideas fail the people of Louisiana. The American people deserve better.

LINDSEY GRAHAM HAS BEEN A CHAMPION OF THE SAME OLD REPUBLICAN POLICIES THAT HARM THE AMERICAN MIDDLE CLASS



LINDSEY GRAHAM

Lindsey Graham's record in the Senate offers a map to how bad he would be for hardworking middle class American families if elected president. Graham has long been a champion of George W. Bush's failed economic policies, his disastrous foreign policy and his divisive social agenda. We've tried that approach. It failed.

- Graham's top-down economic approach is routed in support for George W. Bush's disastrous initiatives that preceded the deepest recession since the Great Depression:
 - Graham voted to make the Bush tax cuts permanent which would protect big breaks for the wealthy.
 - Graham voted for a budget plan that would end Medicare as we know it and wants to repeal the Affordable Care Act.
 - And he called it "really American" for Mitt Romney to have avoided paying taxes by placing his money in off-shore tax havens. It's clear whose side he's on.
- When it comes to foreign policy, Graham stands by the decisions that George Bush made to take us to war in Iraq and wants to send ground troops back.
 - Graham opposes the historic agreement to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon and even signed a letter to Iran that threatened to undermine the president's negotiating ability to protect our national interests around the world.
- If it was up to Graham, the country would follow an outdated social agenda taking us back decades. He doesn't even pretend that his candidacy would expand his party's small and narrow tent.
 - When it comes to not appealing to women, he voted against the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, voted against re-authorization of the Violence Against Women Act, and wants to limit a woman's control of her health care decisions.
 - When it comes to not appealing to LGBT Americans, Graham voted against the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 2013, supports a constitutional amendment defining marriage as being between one man and one woman, and voted against the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell, which barred gay service members from serving openly in the military.
 - When it comes to not appealing to young Americans, he voted against raising the minimum wage, and voted for deep cuts to Pell Grants which make college more affordable for millions of young Americans.
- So if you want a rerun of the divisive and disastrous Bush years, then Lindsey Graham is the GOP presidential candidate for you.



COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT