



OBAMA VS. McCAIN

THE FACTS FOR JEWISH VOTERS

OBAMA

STANDS WITH PROGRESSIVE VALUES ON DOMESTIC ISSUES

- He supports reproductive rights and will uphold *Roe v. Wade*.
- Obama cosponsored the *Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2007*.
- He will provide affordable access to health insurance for every American.
- He has fought for increased investment in renewable fuels.

OBAMA

PERFECT PRO-ISRAEL VOTING RECORD

The pro-Israel community has always used voting records to determine whether a candidate is "pro-Israel."

- He has voted in favor of foreign aid to Israel every time.
- He has signed onto numerous pro-Israel letters and resolutions.
- When in the State Senate, he cosponsored a bill authorizing the state of Illinois to invest in Israel bonds.

OBAMA

BELIEVES ISRAEL'S SECURITY IS PARAMOUNT

- Obama said, "Israel's security is sacrosanct [...] I will also carry with me an unshakable commitment to the security of Israel and the friendship between the United States and Israel." – *New York Sun*, 2/25/2008
- At the NJDC Washington Conference, Obama declared, "When I am President, the United States will stand shoulder to shoulder with Israel in search of this peace and in defense against those who seek its destruction." – *Philadelphia Jewish Voice*, 7/2007

OBAMA

PRO-ISRAEL MIDDLE EAST ADVISERS

- Tony Lake: former Clinton National Security Council adviser
- Eric Lynn: senior aide to former Rep. Peter Deutch (D-FL)
- Denis McDonough: former senior foreign policy adviser for Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD)
- Ambassador Dennis Ross
- Dan Shapiro: former National Security Council official during the Clinton Administration
- Representative Robert Wexler (D-FL)

OBAMA

SAYS "NO" TO IRANIAN NUKES

- He introduced an Iran divestment bill in Congress, the *Iran Sanctions Enabling Act of 2007*.
- Obama stated, "My approach to Iran will be aggressive diplomacy. I will not take any military options off the table." – *New York Sun*, 2/25/2008

OBAMA

REPUDIATES HAMAS AND HEZBOLLAH

- Obama cosponsored the *Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act of 2006*.
- He joined a letter calling on the European Union to add Hezbollah to its list of terrorist groups.
- Obama said, "I am not naïve. There is a hard core of jihadist fundamentalists who we can't negotiate with. We have to hunt them down and knock them out. Incapacitate them." – *New York Sun*, 2/25/2008

- The *New York Times* reported, “He again called Hamas a terrorist group and said that ‘we should not talk to them unless they recognize Israel, renounce violence and are willing to abide by previous accords’ that Israel has negotiated with its neighbors and with the Palestine Liberation Organization.” – 5/16/2008

OBAMA

SUPPORT FROM HIS HOMETOWN’S JEWISH COMMUNITY

- “Obama’s stellar record on Israel gives me great comfort that, as President, he will be the friend to Israel that we all want to see in the White House – stalwart in his defense of Israel’s security, and committed to helping Israel achieve peace with its neighbors.” – Lester Crown, well-known Jewish philanthropist from Chicago, 1/2008

OBAMA

PRAISE FROM HIS CRITICS

- Matt Brooks, Executive Director of the Republican Jewish Coalition: “Obama’s voting record on issues related to Israel has been ‘fine’ during his three years in the Senate, Brooks says.” – *Palm Beach Post*, 4/26/2008
- Senator Joseph Lieberman, in response to whether he trusts Obama’s commitment to be supportive of Israel: “I have no doubt about that.” – *CNN*, 5/9/2008
- Bill Kristol, editor of the conservative *Weekly Standard*: “Obama and McCain don’t actually differ [on the Middle East ...], even on Iran.” – *Huffington Post*, 6/2/2008

McCAIN

IS A CONSERVATIVE

- McCain opposes women’s reproductive rights and favors a repeal of *Roe v. Wade*.
- He has never voted against a Bush nominee to a federal court at any level.
- *CBS News* reported, “McCain, the eventual GOP nominee, promised to appoint judges in the mold of Roberts and Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito.” – 5/6/2008
- McCain believes intelligent design should be taught in public schools.
- He supports continuing the Bush tax cuts, would add business tax cuts, and says he doesn’t know enough about the economy: “The issue of economics is not something I’ve understood as well as I should.” – *New York Times*, 1/14/2008

McCAIN

AMERICA IS A CHRISTIAN NATION

- McCain believes the “Constitution established the United States of America as a Christian nation” and “that is hardly a controversial claim.” – *CNN*, 10/1/2007
- He once stated that a candidate’s Christian faith is “an important part of our qualifications to lead.” – *AP* 9/29/2007

McCAIN

CHARGES GUILT BY ASSOCIATION

Both Obama and McCain have fine records on Israel. However, McCain’s allies attack Obama’s record by using charges of guilt by association. If this is their standard, they should explain the following:

- McCain said he “would send ‘the smartest guy I know’ [to the Middle East...] ‘Brent Scowcroft, or James Baker, though I know that you in Israel don’t like Baker.’” – *Ha’aretz*, 7/28/2006
- He also suggested, “as president he would seek to develop a kind of consensus foreign policy, consulting the ‘best minds I know,’ including President Carter’s national security advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski.” – *Los Angeles Times*, 3/16/2008
- McCain actively sought the endorsements of radical ministers John Hagee and Rod Parsley.

McCAIN

CONFUSES HIS FOREIGN POLICY INFORMATION

- McCain repeatedly confused Sunni insurgents with Shiite extremists.
- McCain’s statement that the U.S. had “drawn down to pre-surge levels” was flat-out wrong. – *Washington Post*, 6/1/2008