

## Political Party Matters

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**1. Political Party** identification matters now more than ever. This is so because in general, Who pays the piper, calls the tune. Even in the age of corporations, who back both parties, with campaign contributions, because they want their hand in the till of whoever gets elected. There are empirical differences between which PACs support each of our two major political parties. Are you willing to guess which party the National Rifle Association (the NRA) supports? How does it affect Republican voting behavior? Anyone willing to speculate which party the Sierra Club supports and why?

Look at each of the major interests group and tell me how they affect the ideology of each party. See Table One. The same goes for the social and ethnic groups that support each party. Around 94% of African-Americans, in the last election, voted Democratic and for Hillary Clinton. The Democratic Party back the Black Lives Matter Protests and they called for Police Reform. By contrast, the Republican Party called for “law and order (aka arrest those protestors).”

**Labor.** 86% of the PAC campaign contributions, from organized labor to go Democrats. After the election, Democrats back Union labor leaders and call for raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour. In comparison, Republicans back right to work (pro-choice the right to opt out of paying union dues).

**GOP Lobbyists.** 60% of Defense contractor’s PAC contributions go to the Republican Party, as do 68% of construction PAC dollars, as do 74% of agribusiness PAC funds, and 80% of the energy industry’s PAC money. Accordingly, the GOP party backs a \$54 billion dollar surge in defense spending, crop subsidies (paying farmers not to grow wheat), and they back the Keystone (which are being made with Russian and Indian steel, not American) and Dakota Access Pipelines. They are also using public easement law for the benefit of private companies [See my memo on misuse of easements]. On the other hand, Democrats decry robbing domestic social spending to enrich Lockheed-Martin, welfare to corporate farms, and they generally stand with local and state governments in opposing those pipelines (and with Native American tribes, farmers and other landowners).

In Washington, money talks, and politicians do not like to bite the hands, who feed them campaign contributions. However, as the six examples indicate, political party behavior is largely dictated, by the differential campaign contributions, which PACs make to each political party. For example, if you favor oil and gas drilling, over environmental protections, such as clean water and air, then vote for Republican Candidates, and vice versa. Party labels matter a great deal, depending on which

side of the fence you sit, on American Interest Group politics.

**2. Money Tree.** Politicians need two things for job security. First they need votes. Second they need money. The more money they raise, the more they can get their messages out to the people.<sup>1</sup> The crass way to put it is that they buy the votes of moderate, indifferent and independent voters, by appearing in the media, to be the better candidate.

Next, Table 1 represents two areas of opportunity. The Oil and Gas industry use their mineral rights to trump family farmers and ranchers' water supplies and their quiet enjoyment of their right to produce food. See my memo on Misuse of Easements and Mineral Rights. If Democrats stand against fracking, which pollutes farmland and ranches, they can cleave this lobby away from the Republican party.

Likewise, agribusiness and construction are dependent on undocumented workers, migrant farm workers, maids, maintenance persons, drywall carriers, carpenters, plumbers, electricians, laborers and for construction cleanup. In fact the Chamber of Commerce, representing diverse interests (such as the Broadmoor Hotel) has come out in favor of comprehensive immigration reform (aka amnesty). Democrats, who favor a path to citizenship for undocumented workers, can separate this support, from their Republican counterparts.

**3. Outliers.** Bernie Sanders was aberrant. He did not accept PAC campaign contributions, thus he was an honest man, whose votes were not bought nor paid for. With limited exceptions, my campaign is designed along very similar lines. I ask for those, who supported Bernie Sanders, to vote for me.

Donald Trump is the other abnormality. With the help of the Vladimir Putin and Russian oligarchs, he largely self-funded his campaign. Considering this fact in

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<sup>1</sup> In contemporary American politics, those candidates who spend more win more. A candidate's odds of winning, researchers have shown, increase in direct proportion to the money the candidate has available to spend. House candidates who campaigned on less than \$100,000 in 1992, for instance, did not win a single race. Those who spent between \$250,000 and \$500,000 won one race in four. Those who spent over \$500,000 won half the time.<sup>35</sup> And those candidates who spend lofty sums against opponents less amply funded win almost all the time. In the 1996 elections, House candidates who spent more than their opponents won 90 percent of their bids for office.<sup>36</sup> Sam Pizzigati, *Greed and Good: Understanding and Overcoming the Inequality That Limits Our Lives* (New York: Apex Press, 2004) 383.

<sup>35</sup> The study was conducted by the Center for Responsive Politics in Washington, D.C. Richard Morin, "Playing the Odds," *Washington Post*, November 6, 1994.

<sup>36</sup> David Donnelly, Janice Fine, and Ellen S. Miller, *Going Public*, Boston Review. Accessed from [www-polisci.mit.edu/bostonreview/br22.2/2onnelly.html](http://www-polisci.mit.edu/bostonreview/br22.2/2onnelly.html).

isolation, would lead you to believe that he would show independence and that he would buck the Republican Party, when he deemed it to be appropriate. However, Trump is dependent upon GOP support, in order to pass legislation, to fund his crazy ideas, and to provide cover from his abundant scandals and misdeeds.

**4. Party Loyalty.** Perhaps as an adjunct, politicians within each political party owe their allegiance to their respective political parties. Party loyalty is a reality in Washington. Democrats largely support moderate and progressive causes, while Republican largely support conservative, right-wing causes, voter suppression, the Tea Party, and the Religious Right. If you elect a Democrat, expect them to back the broad interests of the Democratic Party, and vice versa. See attached Table Two. Each house of Congress has party whips and leaders, who get their members to toe the party line.

Is it any wonder that Democratic party members and voters reject Donald Trump's agenda? Is it any wonder that Republican party members and votes support Donald Trump's agenda? This type of political behavior is quite predictable and it is to be expected.

**5. Subjective tests.** All subjective tests of candidates, ignoring party labels, are inherently unreliable. At best, they are coin flips. At worst, they help elect Television reality stars like Donald Trump, who has good ratings and has a talent for being "authentic."

a) Who would I rather drink a beer with? This test helped elect the personable champaign service (combat dodger) George W. Bush over the wooden Al Gore, who actually believed the scientists about climate change.

b) Other tests. These other tests have historically proven unreliable. Instead one should look to the empirical results above, which tells you how they vote, after they get elected into an office. Why ignore historical results? What makes you think that your subject ability to look into their souls, is any more effective than Franklin Roosevelt's thinking that he could handle Uncle Joe [Joseph Stalin]. No party label matters, even in the Soviet Union.

Does he have an honest face?

Is here somebody I can trust?

Do I believe this individual?

What is his (or her) astrological sign?

**6. Thesis.** The bottom line is that the questions of who pays the piper calls the tune, and party loyalty are excellent and reliable predictors of political behavior. By

contrast, subjective voter impressions of the moral standing, honesty, and authenticity of any particular candidate are inherently unreliable. The independent voter, who believes that they can look into the soul of each candidate, and they can judge and vote for the Republican, who will put the interests of their country first, ahead of political party, are making prognostications, which are empirically untrue. Instead, those voters should understand that they are voting for the Democratic or Republican brands. You largely get what you pay for.

**7. Fierce Urgency of Now.** Now is the time to start campaigning against GOP Steve Pearce, in the Second District of New Mexico. Right now he is doing a high-wire act of trying to hold together the Republican coalition supporting Donald Trump, while trying not to offend New Mexican constituents. Six months from now, or after Donald Trump is impeached, Republicans will jump off that sinking ship, and they do not want to be the last one to do it. They all will speak the forbidden words, “I was the vote, which brought down Donald Trump.”

Now is the time to take advantage of the ground swell of grass roots support, which is mobilizing against Donald Trump. Right now a Democratic candidate can run against Donald Trump. They can win the election, by tying Steve Pearce to Donald Trump. One year from now, you will have to run against Steve Pearce, the independent voice against Donald Trump.

Now is the time to run a Bernie Sanders populist campaign against Steve Pearce. A candidate can get name recognition and free publicity, by running against Donald Trump and his surrogate (rubber stamp) Steve Pearce. One year from now, this grass roots movement might have gone the way of the Occupy Wall Street movements, or even the Bernie Sanders campaign. We can mobilize popular support and take advantage of the ground swell. I am a great choice, because I have already fleshed out winning policy proposals.

**8. Stands on the Issues.**

**a) Public Land Reform.** Congress should pass my bills, and they should be followed up by a Constitutional Amendment. Public land sales and long term leases, should be first approved by 60% of the American people, in special ballot initiative elections, during regular election years. No legislator, bureaucrat or politician should be able to sell public lands, nor lease them for a period of over three years.

**b) Public School Reform.** My proposal to restrict administrator compensation, and to diversity use of administration complexes and fiscal resources provides an excellent opportunity to grant classroom teachers pay raises. By contrast, Steve Pearce says that we must make the binary choice between unleashing Oil and Gas drilling and pipelines and funding our schools. At GOP Steve Pearce’s Town Hall Meeting, on 3/4/2017, at 9:00 am in Ruidoso, he said that the Oil and Gas Industry

funded 40% of New Mexico's public education expenses. He said that we either have fracking or we close down public schools. Show me the beef. Prove to us that the Oil and Gas Industry funds 40% of our educational system.

More importantly this sounds like an opportunity to raise taxes on the Oil and Gas Industry. They are extracting non-renewable sources of energy. Petroleum will soon be as extinct as the dinosaurs, who gave their lives to make it. In addition, fracking in Oklahoma has increased man-made earthquakes from 30 to 630 per year. Oil Wells in Texas are not being reclaimed, because Oil and Gas Companies are going Bankrupt. Why not legislate tax increases on Oil and Gas, so that they pay 75% for of New Mexico's educational system, including colleges like NMSU? Our teachers deserve raises, and cost of living expenses, more than Rex Tillerson does. In addition, Exxon Mobile has \$500 billion dollar deal to mine Russian oil. Might they can spare some loose change to help New Mexico's public education system graduate from 49<sup>th</sup> worst in the United States, maybe up to 45<sup>th</sup> worst? Gosh, can we hope someday to rank as high as Colorado's school districts? Do we have the audacity to hope that much? Steve Pearce does not; I do.

**c) Progressive Tax System.** My urge is to make America Great Again, by returning to the Progressive Tax System, which worked for at least six decades to provide booming economies and tax surpluses. I will make real Bernie's pledge to make wealthy Americans pay their fair share of taxes, and to address the central issue of income inequality.

**d) Deficit Busting.** In addition, my proposal for a Gross Transaction Flat Tax on Corporations, which is based on the proven track record of the sales tax, potentially offers a doubling of tax revenue, which would pay-off the National Debt, in short order.

**e) Immigration Reform.** My support of comprehensive immigration reform, and a legal pathway to citizenship, for those who have not violated any serious laws (felonies, robbery and crimes of violence), have paid and are willing to pay taxes is absolute. By contrast Steve Pearce has been for the Border Wall, deportation force and Muslim Bans, before he was against them.<sup>2</sup> Steve Pearce has supported separating families. And a minority of Republicans support a path to legal status, which means that America creates a third class of citizens, who do not vote (hence they do not count), their diminished rights a freedoms can be taken away at any time, and we publicly demonize them as sub-humans who do not deserve to be

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<sup>2</sup> On 3/4/2017, in Ruidoso, NM, at Steve Pearce's Town Hall Meeting, he bragged that he was one of John Boehner's toughest votes to get. In so many words, he said that GOPs could count on his vote, but he would give them a tough time, in currying his favor. By contrast, if Democrats want to butter me up, I will demand New Mexican pork in return. Fund the Ruidoso water project, repair our bridges, and fund New Mexican public education, in return for my vote.

called true American citizens. They receive the privilege of working and paying taxes, but none of the benefits of citizenship. Is this anything more than Juan (and Hussein) Crow revisited?

**f) Mineral Extraction Restrictions.** My proposal to safeguard farming and ranching water supplies, at the expense of the Oil and Gas industry, pits one of Steve Pearce's bases of support, against the other one.

**g) Land Law Reform.** I have proposed legislation, which allows farmer and ranchers, to block and hold accountable mineral rights extractors, if they pollute their water supplies.

**h) Health Care.** I support the Affordable Care Act. I oppose efforts to repeal it. I say that Republican claims to replace it are merely political lies.

**i) Native American Lands.** I have also proposed that issues of quiet enjoyment of surface rights and water supplies should be litigated in the International Court of Justice, because they were treaties negotiated with sovereign nations.

**j) Abortion.** I am pro choice and in favor of religious toleration.

**k) Gay Rights.** I support LGBT rights, as I do civil rights for all. I believe that bathroom laws are Jim Crow rebooted. The Males only bathrooms are designed to boost the prestige of the Caucasian majority. The Transgendered only bathrooms are designed to denigrate and ostracize the minority [to demonize them as "the other"]. At best, forcing them to go into the Males only bathroom is fraught with peril.

**l) Environment.** Clean water and air are building blocks for American health and for economic growth. You employ more people building renewable energy, than you do drilling for oil and gas, or even coal mining. Climate change is a scientific fact, rising temperatures threaten to flood many states, and working to reduce carbon emissions has a net positive impact on the American economy.

**m) Military.** We need to invest in our soldiers and take care of our veterans, by earmarking funds away from defense contractors. The Military Industrial Complex<sup>3</sup> must be redirected. We should demodernize our weapons systems away from further, higher, faster<sup>4</sup> and more technologically proficient, toward a tip of the spear mentality. Blitzkrieg is led by tank killers and Stealth fighters, but the main mechanized forces should follow up with T-35 tanks, AK-47s, Warthogs, and

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<sup>3</sup> Dwight David "Ike" Eisenhower

<sup>4</sup> Cost overruns and delays on the Gerald R. Ford aircraft carrier is the prime example.

Phantom F4B fighters; our cheaper and more reliable workhorses.

Frederic the Great said that he who defends everywhere, defends nowhere. Our troops, special forces and intelligent community should be focused on striking at the enemy rather than defending safe zones, nation-building, or even guarding dispersed Army Corp of Engineer troops, who are stealing that country's oil. Taking dollars away from domestic social programs and redirecting it toward the Military-Industrial Complex is one of the key ways the rich get richer and the poor get poorer.

**n) Police Reform.** We should adopt martial arts training for law enforcement officers. We should adopt immunity laws, which allow police to shoot armed suspects. Fifty persons in blue are murdered each year. Police should be trained to control their emotions, prejudices and fears, but they should not be afraid to defend themselves. Likewise, when police shoot unarmed and/or fleeing suspects, they should be held accountable, absent clear and convincing evidence. I know that on this issue, I am way out there. I am willing to accept feedback, discussion and comment accordingly.

**o) Other issues.** My website has just started taking stands on these issues. If you email me, I will address your concerns.

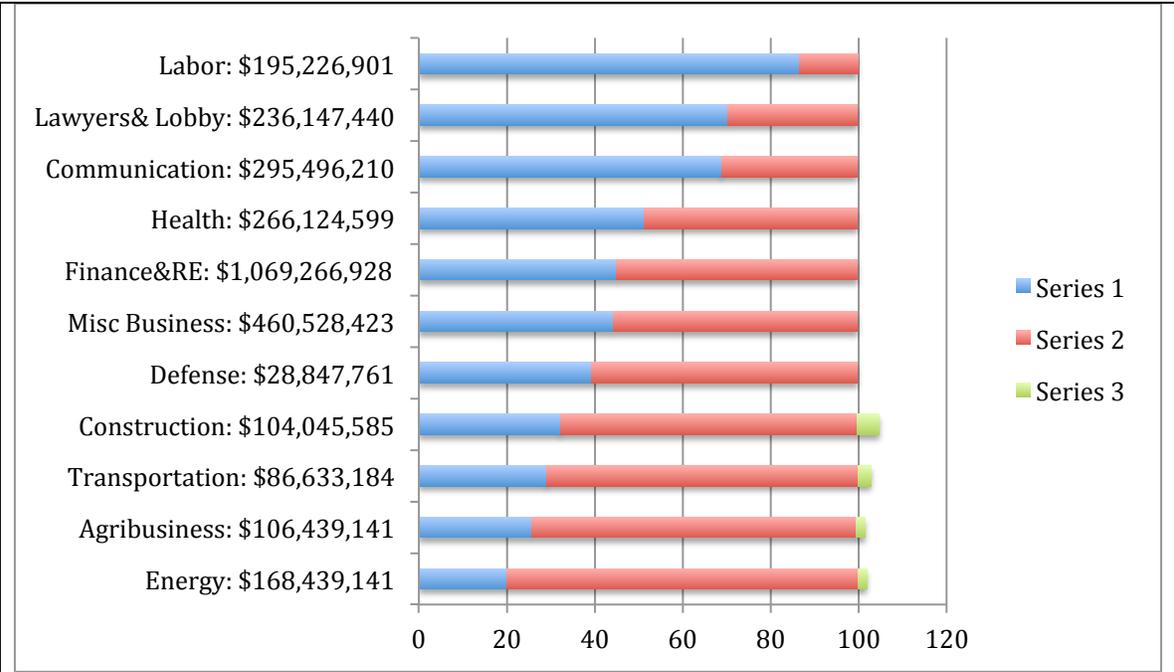


Table 1  
 Political Party Contributions  
 Stacked by Polarization  
 Chart by Mark Saiki

Source: Center for Responsive Politics, OpenSecrets.org, "Interest Groups," [Open Secrets](https://www.opensecrets.org/industries/) website: <https://www.opensecrets.org/industries/>

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Table 2  
 Donald Trump Approval Ratings  
 Chart by Mark Saiki

Approval Ratings for Trump by Demographic: average found from: Fox 2/13/2017), NBC-Survey Monkey, Gallup (2/19/2017), CBS News 2/21/2017), McClatchy-Marist 2/19/2017), Quninnipac University (2/21/2017)

Donald Trump	Approval Rating
All	41.5%
Republican	85.2%
Independent	39.5%
Democrat	7.8%

