PRO-CON’s List of Presidential Candidates Views on Issues (10/12)

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Positions are categorized as **Pro** (Yes), **Con** (No), **Not Clearly Pro or Con** (NC), or **None Found** (?). Candidates who have changed positions are listed as **Now** their most recent position.

Read these questions and candidate viewpoints. Make short notations or mark ones that you find important. Which candidate shares your views on important topics?

**Issue Question Obama Romney Your Notes**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Abortion | [Should abortion remain a legal option in America?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1694) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1694) | [**Now Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1694) |
| 2 | Abortion | [Should parental consent be required for pregnant minors to have abortions?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1695) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1695) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1695) |
| 3 | Alcohol | [Should the minimum legal drinking age be lowered from 21 to a younger age?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1769) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1769) | [?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1769) |
| 4 | China | [Is China an economic or military threat to the US?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1696) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1696) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1696) |
| 5 | Credit Cards | [Are credit cards good for America?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1737) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1737) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1737) |
| 6 | Criminal Justice | [Should felons be allowed to vote?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1754) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1754) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1754) |
| 7 | Criminal Justice | [Should nonviolent drug users be jailed?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1697) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1697) | [?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1697) |
| 8 | Criminal Justice | [Should law enforcement be allowed to use racial profiling?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1773) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1773) | [?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1773) |
| 9 | Cuba | [Should the US continue to support the embargo against Cuba?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1748) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1748) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1748) |
| 10 | Death Penalty | [Should the death penalty remain a legal option in America?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1698) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1698) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1698) |
| 11 | Economy | [Should the US federal government have bailed out US private financial corporations like AIG, Bank of America, Citigroup, etc.?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1738) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1738) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1738) |
| 12 | Economy | [Should the US federal government have bailed out General Motors and Chrysler?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1766) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1766) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1766) |
| 13 | Economy | [Should Congress have increased the debt limit on Aug. 2, 2011 to prevent default?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1699) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1699) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1699) |
| 14 | Economy | [Should the government continue to fund Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1740) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1740) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1740) |
| 15 | Economy | [Should the United States return to the gold standard in which coin and currency are backed by gold?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1772) | [?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1772) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1772) |
| 16 | Economy | [Do most labor unions provide an overall benefit to their workers in the US?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1700) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1700) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1700) |
| 17 | Economy | [Has the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) had an overall benefit for the US?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1701) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1701) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1701) |
| 18 | Economy | [Should the federal government continue to subsidize big oil companies?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1721) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1721) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1721) |
| 19 | Economy | [Is outsourcing jobs to other countries good for America?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1739) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1739) | [Now NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1739) |
| 20 | Education | [Should sex education in our schools be based on abstinence only?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1702) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1702) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1702) |
| 21 | Education | [Has the No Child Left Behind Act been effective at improving public education?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1724) | [Now NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1724) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1724) |
| 22 | Education | [Is the use of federally mandated standardized tests improving education in America?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1723) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1723) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1723) |
| 23 | Education | [Should K-12 teachers get tenure?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1722) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1722) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1722) |
| 24 | Energy | [Should the US authorize the Keystone XL pipeline to import tar sand oil from Canada?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1755) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1755) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1755) |
| 25 | Energy | [Should the United States build additional nuclear plants?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1765) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1765) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1765) |
| 26 | Energy | [Will increased domestic oil drilling lower gas prices?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1764) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1764) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1764) |
| 27 | Environment | [Should drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) be allowed?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1756) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1756) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1756) |
| 28 | Environment | [Are humans substantially responsible for global climate change?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1703) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1703) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1703) |
| 29 | Environment | [Should the Clean Air Act be amended to exclude carbon dioxide (CO2) from regulation?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1767) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1767) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1767) |
| 30 | Euthanasia & Physician-assisted Suicide | [Should euthanasia or physician-assisted suicide be legal?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1770) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1770) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1770) |
| 31 | GMO Food | [Should genetically modified foods have mandatory labeling?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1771) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1771) | [?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1771) |
| 32 | Gun Control | [Should most adults have the right to carry a concealed handgun?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1705) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1705) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1705) |
| 33 | Gun Control | [Are more federal regulations on guns and ammunition needed?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1704) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1704) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1704) |
| 34 | Health Care | [Are the March 2010 federal health care reform laws ("Obamacare") good for America?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1706) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1706) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1706) |
| 35 | Health Care | [Should there be a federal mandate for individuals to have health insurance?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1778) | [**Now Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1778) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1778) |
| 36 | Health Care | [Should all Americans have a right (be entitled) to basic health care?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1749) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1749) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1749) |
| 37 | Immigration | [Should undocumented immigrants have access to social services such as Medicaid, welfare, or public education?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1750) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1750) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1750) |
| 38 | Immigration | [Should E-Verify, the federal government's electronic employment verification system, be mandatory for all employers?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1725) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1725) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1725) |
| 39 | Immigration | [Should state and local law enforcement be empowered to enforce federal immigration laws?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1763) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1763) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1763) |
| 40 | Immigration | [Should the US continue to build a physical barrier, such as a fence, along the US-Mexico border?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1726) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1726) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1726) |
| 41 | Immigration | [Are undocumented immigrants a net gain to the US economy?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1707) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1707) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1707) |
| 42 | Iran | [Should the US use military force if Iran does not dismantle its nuclear program?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1757) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1757) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1757) |
| 43 | Iraq War | [Has the war in Iraq made America safer?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1709) | [**Now Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1709) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1709) |
| 44 | Iraq War | [Should the US have attacked Iraq in 2003?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1708) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1708) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1708) |
| 45 | Israeli-Palestinian Conflict | [Should there be an independent Palestinian state?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1710) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1710) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1710) |
| 46 | Marriage | [Should gay marriage be legal?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1727) | [**Now Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1727) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1727) |
| 47 | Marriage | [Should an affair outside of marriage disqualify a candidate for public office?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1728) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1728) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1728) |
| 48 | Medical Marijuana | [Should the federal government arrest people for using medical marijuana in states where medical marijuana use is legal?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1712) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1712) | [NC](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1712) |
| 49 | Medical Marijuana | [Should marijuana be a medical option?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1711) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1711) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1711) |
| 50 | National Service | [Should the US require mandatory national service in the form of a draft or required civil service?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1751) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1751) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1751) |
| 51 | Occupy Wall Street | [Is the Occupy Wall Street movement good for America?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1729) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1729) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1729) |
| 52 | Religion | [Should creationism and Intelligent Design be taught as science in schools along with evolution?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1758) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1758) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1758) |
| 53 | Social Security | [Should Social Security be privatized?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1713) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1713) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1713) |
| 54 | Stem Cells | [Should the federal government fund embryonic stem cell research?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1752) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1752) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1752) |
| 55 | Taxes | [Do lower taxes incentivize employers to hire more workers?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1715) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1715) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1715) |
| 56 | Taxes | [Should any federal taxes be increased?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1714) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1714) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1714) |
| 57 | Taxes | [Should the wealthiest 1% of Americans be taxed more heavily?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1741) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1741) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1741) |
| 58 | Tea Party | [Is the Tea Party movement good for America?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1730) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1730) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1730) |
| 59 | US Constitution | [Should the US Constitution and Bill of Rights be amended or updated in any way?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1716) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1716) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1716) |
| 60 | War on Terror | [Should interrogation techniques that some consider torture, such as waterboarding, be a legal option?](http://2012election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=1717) | [**Con**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11134#question1717) | [**Pro**](http://2012election.procon.org/view.source.election.php?sourceID=11142#question1717) |

The two candidates differ on 24 items listed in this Pro-Con comparison.