

# Randall Terry For President

## Randall Terry addresses 30 issues facing our nation.

Mr. Terry has assigned a number value for each question/issue; sometimes he assigns two differing values, depending on the interpretation of the question at hand. In addition, for each position, he provides an explanation.

### Plank #1—Immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq and Afghanistan

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 4. In situations like this, we need wars of retribution, not “nation building.” These two nations have an Islamic (Sharia law) history and philosophy. For the U.S. to try to impose a form of government on them with which they have no history is foolishness on our part, and doomed to failure. I think we will look back and see we wasted an enormous amount of blood and treasure. When we are attacked in this way, we should go in, kill as many leaders as possible, and then get out. If we need to go back – for more retribution – we can. Others will see, and fear.

### Plank #2— Amnesty for undocumented immigrants

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 4. The question needs to be answered based on the origin of the illegal immigrant. Concerning those who are from the south, I would favor amnesty. There is no way that we are going to deport millions of “illegal immigrants.” The time and resources for such an endeavor would be prohibitive, and the harm to our own economy would be devastating. Given the fact that they are going to remain, and that they are usually integrated into our society, I would favor amnesty at some point, with some type of community service (or military service) being part of the equation.

The greater part of the burden regarding illegal immigrants is their strain on our welfare state. They often do not pay income tax, so they do not pay their “fair share” of taxes, and when they apply for and receive government benefits at any number of levels, they put an enormous strain on local, state, and ultimately the federal budget.

Hence, the economic strain caused by illegal immigrants would be greatly reduced by the elimination of entitlements, and by the implementation of the “fair tax” (a federal sales tax). Then, even if they are an illegal immigrant, they would pay federal taxes.

Concerning illegal immigrants from Islamic nations, I would be more prone to deport them. There are far fewer of them, and the risk that they may be involved in a terrorist plot is far greater.

### **Plank #3—U.S. support of the United Nations**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 4. The United Nations plays an important (though small to date) role in defining human rights. The treaty against genocide is a critical piece of international law. The definitions of human rights (religious, free speech, the freedom from torture) are likewise critical elements in international law, and provide the ethical framework for intervention (up to and including military intervention) in the internal affairs of a sovereign nation, when that nation is complicit in the violation of those rights, or when a “failed state” or a weak state lacks the will or resources to stop the slaughter of the citizens within its borders.

In short, I have an Augustinian theory of foreign policy. I.e., our foreign policy should be based on justice and God-given human rights, not “American interests” (read “oil” and cheap trinkets from slave labor in China).

### **Plank #4—Government-mandated universal health care**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 1. The government is not our Savior, nor our Provider, nor our Healer. The premise for such a proposal requires the forcible transfer of wealth. I.e., why should I be compelled to labor for the benefit of another against my will? That is the essence of slavery. The motive (health care for all) is good, but the means is immoral.

The solution for the health needs of the poor rests with the Church. In every major city in America, there is a Catholic Hospital. There is often a Baptist, or Methodist, or Presbyterian, or Jewish Hospital as well. These religious institutions were designed in

part to care for the health needs of the community, especially the poor. Let them return to their purpose, and get the government out of the “Church business.”

**Plank #5—Raising the national debt ceiling**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 1 We have already created a debt so large that it will probably never be repaid justly. I.e., QE3, then QE4...then QE10, etc., may be unethically employed to print money to pay our debt. That notwithstanding, we must have large cuts in the federal budget, rather than further enslaving our children to debt to China. Those cuts must come to entitlements, and in the defense budget. (Right now, the U.S. spends more than half of the world's entire expenditures on armaments and armies. This is unsustainable.) If we made cuts in the military, and phased out all entitlements, we would leave enormous amounts of revenue in the hands of taxpayers, and be able to pay down our national debt.

**Plank #6—Capital Punishment for convicted murderers**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 5. There are some people for whom I would offer to pull the switch. (I also believe that executions should be public, and that young men who are in trouble with the law should be required to view the execution.)

**Plank #7—Same-sex marriage**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 1. “Same sex marriage” is an affront to God and man. It violates Natural Law, and well as the Laws of God. Beyond that, it seeks to legitimize a sinful, self-destructive lifestyle. We cannot legitimize nor normalize that which is against the Laws of Heaven and Nature, and a behavior that is self-destructive.

**Plank #8—Prayers in public schools**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 5. While I strongly favor voluntary prayer in government (public) school, I confess that I disagree with government funded, government mandated schools. The premise of government schools is that “every child is a child of the state.” That is a lie. So...while the “galley slaves” are forced to row the boat, should they be able to pray? Should the Ten Commandments be hung on the wall? Yes. But it should be voluntary.

**Plank #9—Legal abortions through first six months of pregnancy**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 1. Abortion is a euphemism for child killing. Abortion is murder. Murder is “the deliberate destruction of a judicially innocent human life in a time of peace.” (Not war, not manslaughter, not an accident, not capitol punishment, not killing an animal.) Hence, laws must be passed that protect human beings from conception until birth, making it a criminal act to kill a human being while they reside in their mother’s womb.

**Plank #10—Right of individuals to keep and bear arms**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 5. Remember, “Gun control is a steady hand.” The second amendment is not for hunting, it is to keep a people free. The right to keep and bear arms is ultimately about self-defense; defense against evildoers, whether criminals outside the law, or criminals in power that use the law and levers of government to oppress people. I.e., if the Jews of Germany or the Armenians of Turkey had been armed, perhaps their respective governments would not have slaughtered them.

**Plank #11—Stronger regulations to protect the environment**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 2. We have plenty of regulations to protect our water and our air. The current “green movement” is often driven by those who are anti-human (Malthusian) or anti-American (communists and socialists).

**Plank #12—Legalization of marijuana**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 5. America has the largest prisoner population (per capita) in the world. This is appalling. And often, it is for non-violent drug possession or sales. For example, I spent time in federal prison with a lawyer who was sentenced to five years (a federally mandated term for his first offense) because he was growing some 50 marijuana plants in his back yard, for his personal use. If we legalized marijuana, it would make it a “controlled substance” like tobacco, and the government would benefit from the tax revenue of sales, and would save the money of law enforcement and incarceration costs that it currently spends. (Obviously, laws against driving while “high” or “intoxicated” on marijuana would need to be in place, etc.)

**Plank #13— Expansion of domestic oil drilling**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 5. Our foreign policy regarding oil is suicidal. We are literally funding terrorism every time we fill up our cars with gas. We should exploit the oil in ANWR, on both sides of Florida, off the coast of the southern states and Texas, as well as opening up drilling inland. If we exploited the oil at our disposal, we would free ourselves from our addiction to Arab oil, and put a significant crimp in the funding of terrorism.

Moreover, if we exploit domestic oil, it will create hundreds of thousands of jobs for Americans.

**Plank #14—Vouchers for children attending private and parochial schools**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: Both 5 and 1. First, as with Social Security, I am opposed to the government putting a gun to my head to force me to pay for a stranger's daily bread and physical needs. It is compulsion, not compassion. Likewise, when it comes to education, I am 100% opposed to government schools. But it would also be unjust to force my neighbor to pay for my children to go to a parochial school. They are my children, and my responsibility. If my neighbor wishes to give a scholarship to my children, that is his choice.

So, as a tactical matter, I would close the Federal Department of Education the day I was elected. I would end all federal subsidies of local education. Next, I would support the breakup of the monopoly that government schools (driven by teachers' unions) has on primary education by instituting a complete school choice (voucher) system. If the local communities or states want to implement such a program, that is their business; it is not a federal matter. However, I am ultimately opposed to forcing people to pay for the education of other people's children.

On a historical note, when we had NO government schools – funded by taxes, with compulsory attendance – we had the most educated populace in the world. Plowboys read Plutarch's Illustrious Lives and the King James Bible. As it is now, 1/3 of those who graduate from high school cannot read their own diploma.

**Plank #15— Enactment of stronger anti-discrimination laws**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 1. We have more than enough anti-discrimination laws as it is...probably too many, when it comes to hiring quotas for larger companies. My bet is that the next "anti-discrimination" laws will favor homosexuals. Business owners should be able to hire and promote who they want to, not who the government is currently favoring.

**Plank #16—Extension of the Patriot Act**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 1. The Patriot Act was (and is) an institutional violation of many of our constitutional rights. Without question, Martin Luther King would have been targeted under the Patriot Act, which I find intolerable.

**Plank #17—Corn-based ethanol**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 1, 5. If the question means “government subsidized,” I am strongly opposed. If it means “privately funded,” I am in favor of it. I am in favor of alternative energy, but I do not want the Federal Government funding it.

**Plank #18—Expansion of nuclear energy**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 5. A great source of energy.

**Plank #19—Taxes on gas-guzzling vehicles**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 1. I think everyone who loves freedom should drive a great big, safe, SUV...and everyone who wants us to be slaves to the socialist state should drive an itty-bitty Hyundai.

**Plank #20—Stem cell research**

<u>1</u> Strongly Oppose	<u>2</u> Oppose	<u>3</u> Indifferent/ Don't Care	<u>4</u> Favor	<u>5</u> Strongly Favor
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Comments: 1, 5. If the question means embryonic stem-cells, I am opposed. Such "research" is a criminal act, reminiscent of Nazi "medical research." To create a human life in order to destroy it is barbaric. If the question means adult stem cells, I am highly in favor, and recent medical breakthroughs using adult stem cells show great promise.

**Plank #21—Renewing emphasis on space exploration**

<u>1</u> Strongly Oppose	<u>2</u> Oppose	<u>3</u> Indifferent/ Don't Care	<u>4</u> Favor	<u>5</u> Strongly Favor
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Comments: 2. Not now; we don't have the money. But...maybe we could send Al Gore and a couple of his friends on a one-way trip to Mars...

**Plank #22—Tort reform**

<u>1</u> Strongly Oppose	<u>2</u> Oppose	<u>3</u> Indifferent/ Don't Care	<u>4</u> Favor	<u>5</u> Strongly Favor
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Comments: 5. Our health costs (cost of care and insurance) are skyrocketing because of lawsuits – many of them frivolous – and because of "defensive medicine;" i.e., doctors prescribing tests that are not needed, because they are afraid of being sued if something goes wrong. We need a cap on amounts to be awarded, and perhaps a medical review board to assess whether the medical practice in a given case was sound, even if the outcome was not what was hoped for. That review board could determine if a lawsuit had merit or not.

**Plank #23—State right-to-work laws**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 5. I support unions; the safety and wages we enjoy are largely due to unions. But I also support the freedom of individuals to not join a union, and to be able to work without fear of reprisal.

**Plank #24—Privatization of Social Security**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 5. I cannot say enough, nor say it strongly enough. Social Security is a scam. It is immoral; it is theft and a compulsion-driven, generational transfer of wealth. It is a Ponzi scheme. And it needs to be ended.

As a practical matter, and a matter of political expediency, those who are on Social Security must continue to receive their benefits. Then, an arbitrary age must be picked (age 55 or 57) in which those people of that age will receive some benefits. But at the end of the day, people should be free to determine how they will prepare for old age. It is not the government's duty.

**Plank #25—Establishing a national sales tax**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 5. The federal income tax should be ended now. The government has NO RIGHT to know what we make. Moreover, the graduated income tax is Marxist...straight out of the Communist Manifesto. Get rid of the income tax, and replace it with a federal sales tax on ALL retail purchases.

**Plank #26—Enhanced penalties for hate crimes**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 1. A crime is a crime is a crime. Theft, or murder, should receive the punishment due the crime, regardless of motivation.

**Plank #27—Banning smoking in outdoor public places**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 1. Such a proposal is absurd. It is more encroachment on personal liberty.

**Plank #28—Conferring Miranda rights on suspected international terrorists**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 1. No. They need to be treated as spies, or as enemy military combatants.

**Plank #29—Increased tax rates for the wealthiest Americans**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 1. I think we should just take all the money of all the wealthiest Americans, and give it to the poor. Then we can all be broke together. But in a few short years, the money will probably be back in the hands of the formally rich, the industrious, the entrepreneurs, etc. (This was a joke of sorts.)

OK, on a serious note...I despise the graduated income tax. It is based in a Marxist paradigm of class warfare, and as I stated above, the call for a graduated income tax (the "poor" paying a smaller percent, and the "rich" paying a higher percentage) is straight

from the Communist Manifesto. I call for the end of the income tax altogether, and the institution of a Federal Sales tax.

**Plank #30—Balanced budget amendment to the U.S. Constitution**

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Indifferent/ Don't Care	Favor	Strongly Favor

Comments: 2. I think it is a political gimmick. If the governing powers do not have the political will to spend within their means, why would they pass such an amendment? Moreover if they did, and then they did not stay within their means (they had a deficit), it would result in a “constitutionally mandated” tax increase. I think we should spend within our means because it is right.