



Faithful Citizenship 2010

“In the Catholic tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue and participation in political life is a moral obligation.”

Faithful Citizenship

Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Catholic Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States (2007), discusses the moral dimensions of public policies and the responsibility that all Catholics share to form their consciences in light of their faith.

Participation in elections is one of the many ways that Catholics serve as active, informed citizens. Catholics are encouraged to make their voices heard in the public arena on an ongoing basis by discussing the issues, communicating with elected officials, and influencing public opinion through the media.

The questions on the reverse of this card are intended to help guide Catholics in their efforts to make moral and prudential decisions about candidates and public policies. Please use this card when contacting candidates for local and state public office.

To obtain more information on Catholic social teaching, public policy issues, and ideas for engaging *Faithful Citizenship*, please contact the **Wisconsin Catholic Conference** (608-257-0004) or your local diocesan office at the number below:

Green Bay Office of Social Concerns: 920-272-8299
La Crosse Office of Ministries and Social Concerns: 608-791-2667
Madison Office of Evangelization and Catechesis: 608-821-3161
Milwaukee Office of Social Justice Ministry: 414-758-2286
Superior Office of Diocesan Consultation: 715-394-0204

To find out who is running for office in your area, contact your county or city clerk's office, or the Government Accountability Board at <http://gab.wi.gov/elections-voting>, 608-266-8005.

Wisconsin Catholic Conference
608/257-0004, www.wisconsinccatholic.org

Candidate Questions 2010

WHERE DOES THE CANDIDATE STAND ON:

Right to Life & Dignity of the Human Person

- Protecting human life and preserving state abortion restrictions?
- Ensuring that state participation in health care respects the life, dignity, health, and consciences of all?
- Preserving the state ban on assisted suicide and euthanasia?
- Preserving the state ban on the death penalty?
- Prohibiting research that destroys human embryos?
- Banning the cloning of human embryos?

Family Life

- Preserving marriage as a lifelong union between a man and a woman?
- Increasing support for pregnant women in need?
- Respecting the freedom of parents to educate their children, especially in matters of moral development?
- Expanding educational choice for all families?
- Allowing a state tax credit for adoption expenses?
- Treating all immigrants with dignity and respect?

Poor & Vulnerable / Dignity of Workers

- Increasing the state minimum wage to keep pace with inflation?
- Assuring basic support for families with children living in poverty?
- Maintaining access to health care for low-income persons?
- Increasing funding for safe and affordable housing?
- Providing community-based treatment instead of incarceration to non-violent drug and alcohol offenders?
- Protecting religious liberty and freedom of conscience for workers and religious institutions?

Care of God's Creation

- Supporting farmers who implement environmentally sound management practices?
- Promoting conservation and alternative, renewable energy sources?
- Protecting our state's natural resources?

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