

Candidate Questions 2008

WHERE DO YOUR CANDIDATES STAND ON:

Right to Life & Dignity of the Human Person

- Restricting abortion to the greatest extent possible under the law?
- Preserving the state ban on assisted suicide and euthanasia?
- Preserving the state ban on the death penalty?
- Prohibiting public funding of 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?
- Expanding educational choice for all families?
- Increasing public support for pregnant women in need?
- Allowing a state tax credit for adoption expenses?
- Adopting an immigration policy that does not separate families?

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?
- Increasing funding for safe and affordable housing?
- Ensuring universal access to healthcare, including mental health care?
- Providing community-based treatment instead of incarceration to non-violent drug and alcohol offenders?
- Protecting the right of conscience for workers and religious institutions?

Care of God's Creation

- Supporting farmers who implement environmentally sound management practices?
- Conserving energy and finding alternative energy sources?
- Preserving our state's natural resources?



Faithful Citizenship 2008

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

Faithful Citizenship

The recent statement, *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 Social Concerns Office: 920-272-8299

LaCrosse Justice and Peace Office: 608-791-2667

Madison Justice and Pastoral Outreach: 608-821-3086

Milwaukee Office of Catholic Social Action: 414-758-2286

Superior Office of Religious Ed. and Youth Ministry: 715-234-5044

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