

Abortion

- ❖ We endorse women's right to use contraception and, when they choose, to have an abortion. This right cannot be limited to women's age or marital status. Contraception and abortion must be included in all health insurance policies in the U.S., and any state government must be able to legally offer these services free of charge to women at the poverty level.
- ❖ We encourage women and men to prevent unwanted pregnancies.
- ❖ Public health agencies operating abroad should be allowed to offer family planning, contraception, and abortion in all countries that ask for those services.

Marriage

- ❖ We support equal rights of all persons, regardless of sexual orientation, to housing, jobs, civil marriage, medical benefits, child custody, and in all areas of activity enjoyed by all citizens.

Environment

- ❖ Overpopulation, like environmental degradation, is a national and global problem and must be solved by all nations individually and collectively at home and by international cooperation.
- ❖ We call for a Manhattan Project-level of commitment to developing clean renewable energy technologies - technologies that do not create pollution in the course of generating electricity. These can include wind, solar (including solar thermal and concentrating solar), ocean power, [geothermal](#), and small-scale hydro. Since even clean renewable energy can have negative environmental impacts, care must be taken to minimize such impacts.
- ❖ We support efforts of individuals and institutions to voluntarily purchase wind and solar power products through tradable renewable energy certificates.
- ❖ The Green Party calls for the early retirement of nuclear power reactors as soon as possible (in no more than five years), and for a phase-out of other technologies that use or produce nuclear waste.
- ❖ We support laws that promote paper recycling and mandate sustainable forestry practices that promote biodiversity. We also call for the development of alternative sources of paper manufacturing, such as from hemp fiber.\
- ❖ Preserving and extending wildlife habitat and biological diversity by creating and preserving large continuous tracts of open space (complete ecosystems so as to permit healthy, self-managing wildlife populations to exist in a natural state).

Energy

- ❖ U.S. dependence on oil and gas has driven an unparalleled assault on the global environment and on human rights in many nations. We call for a rapid transition to electric vehicles to ultimately eliminate the need for burnable fuels in private land transportation.
- ❖ We oppose the development of environmentally-destructive "alternative" fuels produced with polluting, energy-intensive processes or from unsustainable or toxic feedstocks, such as genetically-engineered crops, coal, or waste streams contaminated with persistent toxins.
- ❖ We advocate strong energy policies at all levels of government to shift decisively away from polluting energy systems towards reduced energy use and clean energy sources.
- ❖ We oppose energy utility deregulation. We support strong protections for electricity and natural gas consumers.
- ❖ We advocate strong public policies to widely deploy conservation, efficiency, and clean renewable energy technologies. Examples include tax credits, renewable portfolio standards, research programs, loans and grants.

Health Care

- ❖ Health care is a human right, not a privilege. The Green Party supports a wide range of health care services, not just traditional medicine that too often emphasizes high-tech intervention and surgical techniques.
- ❖ Medicare, which provides health care for over 40 million Americans, is at risk. We would vigorously pursue savings and cuts from abundant waste and fraud, eliminate unnecessary services that benefit providers more than patients, and rein in pharmaceutical industry price-gouging.
- ❖ A large percentage of illness is diet-related; therefore, improving the quality of our nation's food supply and our personal eating habits will lessen the strain on our health care system.
- ❖ 70% to 85% of illness in America is due to unmanaged stress. This means that national measures to reduce work hours, promote cyber-commuting for work, and increased vacation time for workers will significantly improve the public's health.
- ❖ The Green Party supports a universal, comprehensive, national single-payer health plan that will provide the following with no increase in cost
- ❖ Lifetime benefits for everyone. No one will lose coverage for any reason.
- ❖ Freedom to choose the type of health care provider, with a wide range of health care choices.
- ❖ Decision-making in the hands of health providers and their patients.

Crime

- ❖ We oppose the arrest, harassment or prosecution of anyone involved in any aspect of the production, cultivation, transportation, distribution or consumption of medicinal marijuana.
- ❖ We call for an end to the "war on drugs." We support expanded drug counseling and treatment.
- ❖ Juvenile offenders must not be housed in needlessly restrictive settings. They must never be housed with adults.
- ❖ Prison conditions must be humane and sanitary and should include heat, light, exercise, clothing, nutrition, libraries, possessions, and personal safety. Prisoners are entitled to psychological, drug, and medical treatment.
- ❖ Maximize restrictions on police use of weapons and restraining techniques such as pepper spray, stun belts, and choke holds.
- ❖ Abolish the death penalty.
- ❖ Victims' rights must be guarded and protected. Victim-impact statements are a method for achieving full justice, and restitution should be considered in many cases.

Education

- ❖ Education starts with choice, and within public education we believe in broad choices. Magnet schools, Site-based Management, Schools within Schools, alternative models, and parental involvement are ways in which elementary education can be changed to make a real difference in the lives of our children.
- ❖ We advocate creative and noncompetitive education at every age level, and the inclusion of cultural diversity in all curricula. We encourage hands-on approaches that promote a multitude of individual learning styles.
- ❖ Parents should be as involved as possible in their children's education; values do start with parents.
- ❖ Educational funding formulas at the state level need to be adjusted as needed to avoid gross inequalities between districts and schools. Educational grants should provide balance to ensure equal educational access for minority, deprived, special needs, and exceptional children.
- ❖ In higher education, federal college scholarship aid should be increased and offered to any qualified student.
- ❖ Our teachers are underpaid, overworked and rarely supplied with the resources necessary to do their work. It is time to stop disinvesting in education, and start placing it at the top of our social and economic agenda.
- ❖ We oppose vouchers, or any scheme that will transfer money out of the public school system.
- ❖ We support tuition-free post secondary (collegiate and vocational) public education.
- ❖ Until tuition-free schooling is available to all, student loans should be available to all students attending college, and should be repayable as a proportion of future earnings rather than at a fixed rate.

Taxes

- ❖ Fair Taxation: Greens Support:
 - More progressive taxation; relieve the burden on those less able to pay.
 - Raising corporate taxes; the corporate share of taxes has fallen from 33% in the 1940s to 7%.
 - Decrease taxes on labor as an incentive for employment.
 - Decrease the mortgage income tax deduction and re-establish the inheritance tax.
 - Taxes should be "transparent," that is, a simple system resistant to the machinations of special interests.

Civil Liberties

- ❖ The so-called war on terrorism must not become an assault on the civil liberties that are enshrined in our Constitution. The price of freedom is not the loss of liberty. Constitutionally protected rights - fought for by American patriots - are rights the Green Party patriotically holds in the highest regard.
- ❖ Non-violent civil disobedience should be a legally protected practice under the first amendment right of citizens to assemble and petition their government.
- ❖ Both federal and state enforcement laws are necessary to secure the practice of constitutional rights, civil rights and practices. This includes protection against intimidation, surveillance and retaliation by any government or non-government agency.

Immigration

- ❖ Recognizing that a just reform of immigration policy may take some time, we support:
- ❖ Measures to allow undocumented immigrants to obtain drivers licenses if they can prove their identity and pass the required tests.
- ❖ Measures to give legal status to undocumented immigrants who graduate from high school in the U.S.
- ❖ to allow them to attend public or private colleges and universities on an equal basis with other high school graduates.
- ❖ Reduce wait lists and make the system work more efficiently. Current numeric caps on immigrant visas must be increased.
- ❖ Guest worker programs are required when workers wish to work in the U.S. but do not want to be forced to give up their citizenship in their home countries, workers who sincerely are not seeking a path to U.S. citizenship.
- ❖ Greens oppose "English-only" legislation. We would advocate legislation to ensure that federal funds marked for communities to provide ESL (english as second language) training, and health and social support services to immigrants actually go to them.