



TRUMP/HARRIS RECORD COMPARISON

This document compares actions taken by former
President Donald Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris
on faith-related issues



JUDGES

Appointed Gorsuch, Kavanaugh, and Barrett to the Supreme Court.1

Voted "no" on Gorsuch, Kavanaugh, and Barrett's appointments.²

COURT PACKING

Opposed court packing (adding justices to the U.S. Supreme Court to change the Court's ideological balance).³

Said she was "absolutely open" to court packing.4

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Created a **Religious Liberty Taskforce** at the DOJ; provided religious exemptions from the contraceptive mandate; advocated for the **repeal of the Johnson Amendment.**⁵

Introduced a bill to weaken the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA); opposed religious exemptions from the contraceptive mandate.⁶

LIFE

Celebrated the **overturning of** *Roe v. Wade*; promised to veto any legislation that would weaken pro-life laws; was the first American President to **speak at the March for Life.**⁷

Supported **codifying** *Roe v. Wade*; voted against the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act; was the first American Vice President to **visit a Planned Parenthood facility**.8

FREE SPEECH

Supported free speech for wedding vendors and faith-based foster care providers in U.S. Supreme Court cases; issued an executive order to promote and protect free speech.⁹

Opposed free speech for wedding vendors and pro-life demonstrators in U.S. Supreme Court cases; co-sponsored a bill to require pro-life clinics to give women information about obtaining abortions.¹⁰

FAMILY ISSUES

Opposed gender transition surgeries for children; supported keeping men out of women's sports; opposed the Equality Act; supported traditional marriage.¹¹ Supported gender transitions for children; supported the Equality Act (which could allow men in womens sports); said she would install a Chief Advocate for LGBTQ+ Affairs in the White House in 2020.¹²

MILITARY

Strengthened military religious liberty; **disallowed service by military personnel with gender dysphoria.**¹³

Supported VA health facilities providing abortion services; supported service by military personnel with gender dysphoria.¹⁴

ISRAEL

Recognized **Jerusalem as Israel's capital**; moved the **U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem**; negotiated **the Abraham Accords**; **withdrew from the Iran deal**; said he would give Israel "the support that it needs to win." ¹⁵

Expressed an "unwavering committment" to Israel; called for an "immediate cease-fire" in Gaza; described the situation in Gaza as a "humanitarian catastrophe"; skipped Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's address to Congress in July 2024. 16

- 1. U.S. Senate, *Supreme Court Nominations (1789-Present)* (last accessed Aug. 18, 2024).
- 2. U.S. Senate, Roll Call Vote, 115th Congress 1st Session, On the Nomination of Neil M. Gorsuch to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States (Apr. 7, 2017); U.S. Senate, Roll Call Vote 115th Congress 2nd Session, On the Nomination of Brett M. Kavanaugh to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States (Oct. 6, 2018); U.S. Senate, Roll Call Vote, 116th Congress 2nd Session, On the Nomination of Amy Coney Barrett to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States (Oct. 26, 2020).
- 3. Ginger Gibson, Trump Rejects Idea of Expanding U.S. Supreme Court, Reuters (Mar. 19, 2019).
- 4. New York Times, Meet the Candidates, Question 14, Are You Open to Expanding the Size of the Supreme Court? (last accessed Aug. 18, 2024).
- 5. U.S. Department of Justice, <u>Attorney General Sessions Delivers Remarks at the Department of Justice's Religious Liberty Summit</u> (July 30, 2018); Healthcare Conscience Rule, <u>84 FR § 23170</u> (2019); Mark Landler & Laurie Goodstein, <u>Trump Vows to 'Destroy' Law Banning Political Endorsements by Churches</u>, New York Times (Feb. 2, 2017).
- 6. Do No Harm Act, S.593, 116th Congress (2019); e.g., Brief for the States of California, et. al., Zubik v. Burwell, 578 U.S. 403 (2016) (Little Sisters of the Poor case).
- 7. CBS News, <u>Trump Says He's Proud of Role in Overturning Roe v. Wade</u>, CBS News (April 8, 2024); White House, <u>Letter to Speaker of the House of Representatives</u>, <u>The Honorable Nancy Pelosi</u> (Jan. 18, 2019); White House, <u>Remarks by President Trump at the 47th Annual March for Life</u> (Jan. 24, 2020).
- 8. Jordan Smith, <u>By Vowing to Codify Roe, Kamala Harris Ensures Continued Government Meddling in Abortion Care</u>, The Intercept (Aug. 15, 2024); U.S. Senate, <u>Roll Call Vote, 116th Congress 2nd Session, On the Cloture Motion, S. 311: Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act</u> (Feb. 25, 2020); @KamalaHarris, <u>X</u> (Feb 25, 2020, 6:26 PM); Deepa Shivaram & Tamara Keith, <u>Harris Visited an Abortion Clinic, a First for Any President or Vice President</u>, NPR (Mar. 14, 2024).
- 9. E.g., Brief for the United States, Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado C.R. Comm'n, 584 U.S. 617 (2018); Brief for the United States, Fulton v. City of Philadelphia, 593 U.S. 522 (2021); White House, E0 13798: Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty (May 4, 2017).
- 10. White House, Statement by Vice President Harris on Supreme Court's Ruling In 303 Creative v. Elenis (June 30, 2023); Brief of the States of New York, California, et. al., McCullen v. Coakley, 573 U.S. 464 (2014); State of California Department of Justice, Attorney General Kamala D. Harris Issues Statement on Governor Brown Signing Reproductive FACT Act into Law (Oct. 9, 2015) (the U.S. Supreme Court found that the FACT Act violated the First Amendment in National Institute of Family and Life Advocates v. Becerra, 585 U.S. 755 (2018)).
- 11. Jenna Browder, <u>Trump Courts Christians at NRB Convention, Promises to Defend Faith and Religious Liberty</u>, CBN (Feb. 23, 2024); Tim Fitzsimons, <u>Trump Opposes Federal LGBTQ Nondiscrimination Bill, Citing 'Poison Pills'</u>, NBC News (May 14, 2019); Timothy Cama, <u>Trump: 'I'm for Traditional Marriage'</u>, The Hill (June 28, 2015).
- 12. White House, <u>Fact Sheet: White House Honors Transgender Day of Visibility</u> (March 31, 2023); @KamalaHarris, <u>X</u> (June 22, 2023, 11:30 AM); <u>Proposed Title IX Athletics Rule</u>, 88 FR § 22860 (2023); Kamala Harris for the People (2020 Presidential Campaign), <u>Kamala's LGBTQ+ Plan To Provide Equality and Dignity For All Full Policy</u> (last accessed Aug. 18, 2024 via the <u>WayBack Machine</u>).
- 13. U.S. Department of Defense, <u>DoD Instruction 1300.17: Religious Liberty in the Military Services</u> (Sept. 1, 2020); U.S. Department of Defense, <u>DOD Official: Updated Transgender Policy Based on Treating All With Dignity</u> (Apr. 12, 2019).
- 14. White House, <u>Fact Sheet: White House Task Force on Reproductive Healthcare Access Announces New Actions and Marks the 51st Anniversary of Roe v. Wade</u> (Jan. 22, 2024); Kamala Harris for the People (2020 Presidential Campaign), <u>Kamala's LGBTQ+ Plan To Provide Equality and Dignity For All | Full Policy</u> (last accessed Aug. 18, 2024 via the <u>WayBack Machine</u>).
- 15. White House, <u>Statement by Former President Trump on Jerusalem</u> (Dec. 7, 2020); White House, <u>President Donald J. Trump Keeps His Promise To Open U.S. Embassy In Jerusalem, Israel</u> (May 14, 2018); U.S. Department of State, <u>The Abraham Accords</u> (Sept. 15, 2020); White House, <u>President Donald J. Trump is Ending United States</u> <u>Participation in an Unacceptable Iran Deal</u> (May 8, 2018); Times of Israel Staff, <u>Trump Slams Harris for 'Always Demanding Ceasefire,' Says He'd Deport 'Pro-Hamas Thugs,'</u> Times of Israel (Aug. 16, 2024).
- 16. Sam Fossum & Nadeen Ebrahim, <u>Harris Says She 'Will Not Be Silent' on Gaza Suffering While Telling Netanyahu to Get Ceasefire Deal Done</u>, CNN (July 26, 2024); Erica L. Green, <u>Harris Calls for an 'Immediate Cease-Fire' in Gaza</u>, New York Times (Mar. 3, 2024); Manu Raju, Betsy Klein & Morgan Rimmer, <u>Harris to Skip Netanyahu's Speech to Congress But Plans Separate Meeting</u>, CNN (July 22, 2024).



Visit First Liberty's Election Resource Center at FirstLiberty.org/Elections

First Liberty Institute is a nonprofit, charitable organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. It does not endorse or participate in any campaign activity for or against political candidates. The content of this publication is intended to be used for informational, educational, and reference purposes only.

972.941.4444 | info@firstliberty.org | FirstLiberty.org