

SARPY COUNTY REPUBLICAN PLATFORM
Adopted 5 June 2004

The Sarpy County Republican Party falls under the platform of the Republican Party of Nebraska.

Our founders fought for independence as a nation in order to build a government dedicated to the proposition that all people are created equal and that all people are granted inalienable rights from their creator which government exists to protect.

The Sarpy County Republican Party supports a strong defense policy and supports our armed forces in the fight against terrorism wherever it may be found.

The Sarpy County Republican Party supports federal impact aid, in order to better provide for our local schools.

The Constitution was enacted to establish justice and domestic peace, to provide for the common defense, to promote the general welfare and to secure the blessings of liberty to the people of the United States.

America's strength comes from its families, its neighborhoods, and its moral heritage. From these basic building blocks come self-reliant individuals prepared to exercise both rights and responsibilities.

We affirm the family (persons related by blood, marriage or adoption) as the natural indispensable institution for human development. The family nurtures those qualities necessary to maintain and advance civilization.

We support measures that strengthen the family and marriage which is its true foundation. We oppose laws that intrude unnecessarily on the rights of the family, contribute to the dissolution of the family or interfere with parental rights. We define marriage as the legal union of one man and one woman.

We believe that all human beings have an inalienable right to life which is endowed by their Creator from the moment of conception to natural death and which the state exists to protect. We therefore affirm that government acts outside its authority when it grants anyone the right to take an innocent life.

We support efforts to remove obstacles to the permanent placement of foster children and to reform antiquated regulations that make adoption needlessly difficult.

We believe that parents have the primary responsibility for their children's education. Therefore, we support policies that provide parents with maximum control of the rearing of their children, including academic, moral and religious education.

Government should provide protection for all our people. Our safety must be the guiding principle of criminal justice. This requires a judicial system that imposes swift and sure punishments, including death for heinous crimes, strict incarceration for violent crimes and creative punishment for non-violent crimes.

We support the right of individuals and families to bear legally owned arms in a responsible manner and oppose legislation that would have the effect of denying individuals or families this right.

We call particular attention to the problem of illegal drug use and legal drug abuse, child and spouse abuse and neglect, and pornography, which strike at the roots of our families. We deplore the emphasis of sex and violence in the media and encourage all citizens to actively discourage such emphasis.

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We believe that a growing economy provides the best opportunity for citizens to support their families. Therefore, we support measures that encourage the development of new businesses, the expansion of existing businesses, and lead to a more broad based economy. We oppose any expansion of gambling in our state because gambling devastates the social and economic stability of individuals, families and communities.

We recognize the importance of agriculture to our economy and support new and diversified uses for its products.

We believe that all public entities have the responsibility to Americans to operate under balanced budgets and resist increasing taxes by managing their funds in a prudent and conservative manner. All public programs should be held accountable for elimination of wasteful practices.

Excessive taxation has made it increasingly difficult for families to meet their needs. We favor a tax policy that supports and strengthens the American family. Too often, families have been driven into the arms of government, seeking services they can no longer afford due to the heavy burden of taxation.

We recognize that maintaining our quality of life will require clean air, water and soil. We therefore support reasonable efforts, without excessive government regulation and taxes, to maintain the good environment that we now enjoy.

Families require assured access to affordable, quality health care. We therefore, support measures that would give families control over their options. We believe that socialized medicine has failed to give both the quality and access to care that American families want. We favor a tax policy that enhances the ability of American families to purchase the health care of their choice.

We believe that the solvency of Social Security is the continuing responsibility of our elected officials.

As families mature, the financial support and long term health care of our older members become a manner of serious concern. We favor policies that make it easier for individuals and families to provide for retirement without relying on government support. We encourage and support the private and charitable sector's role in providing adequate, affordable long-term health coverage and support legislation to make it easier for them to do so.