Candidate Questionnaire-New York 2000

The National Priorities Project is pleased to offer this vehicle for helping you gain a better understanding of where each candidate stands on a range of issues affecting your community. This questionnaire is a companion piece to NPP's <i>State of the States 2000: The 3rd Annual Assessment of the State Were In.</i> It offers specific questions to get you started and allows space for you to add your own.			
Education			
Possible Issues to Raise:			
• School reconstruction needs • Test scores			
• High school graduation rates			
Sample Question:			
90% of schools in New York are in need of significant repair. How will you address this problem?			
Candidate Name:			
Running for:			
My Question/Comments:			

Candidate Name: Running for:	
My Question/Comments:	

Some possible ways to put this questionnaire to good use include:

(1) Bring it to a live debate/meeting in your own town and ask for concrete answers.

(2) Gather friends to watch a televised debate and use it for an evaluation and discussion of the candidates.

(3) Use it as a guide for emailing/writing candidates to get responses to the questions that concern you.

(4) Study it on your own, think about the issues you care about and who would best represent them.

(5) Ask your local media to raise these questions with the candidates.

Housing	Economic Security
Possible Issues to Raise:	Possible Issues to Raise:
• Shortage of affordable housing units	 Number of children living in poverty
• Homelessness	• Head Start serving only 11.2% of all eligible children
• Potential loss of affordable rental housing	• % of jobs with the most growth in New York that pay below poverty wages
Sample Question:	
52% of New York renters cannot afford to pay the Fair	Sample Question:
Market Rent. What will you do to build more affordable housing?	Will you support full funding of Head Start?
	Candidate Name:
Candidate Name:	
	My Question/Comments:
My Question/Comments:	

Candidate Name:	Candidate Name:

Environment	Health Care
Possible Issues to Raise:	Possible Issues to Raise:
• Health risks due to poor air quality	• People without health insurance
• Drinking water contamination	• Children without health insurance
• Holding corporations responsible for the waste they produce	• People with inadequate health insurance
Sample Question: What will you do to bring the 50 water treatment facilities in New York up to clean drinking water standards? Candidate Name: My Question/Comments:	Sample Question: How will you address the growing numbers of uninsured people in New York, which have increased from 2 million in 1987 to 3.2 million today? Candidate Name: My Question/Comments:

Candidate Name: My Question/Comments:	Candidate Name:



The National Priorities Project (NPP) offers citizen and community groups tools and resources to shape federal budget and policy priorities which promote social and economic justice. For more reports or other information go to our website www.natprior.org or contact us at (413) 584-9556. The outcome of the 2000 Elections will greatly impact the direction that our federal spending priorities will take.* We hope this questionnaire will help you obtain the information you need to make the best decisions possible for you and your community.

(*For more information about the impact of federal spending priorities on many of the issues raised in this questionnaire, including localized state and city data, please see the National Priorities Project, *State of the States Report 2000* or visit NPP's website at *www.natprior.org.*)

Military

Possible Issues to Raise:

• Cost of fighter jets

• The U.S.'s stockpile of 12,000 nuclear weapons

• Proposals to increase the Pentagon share of Discretionary spending from 50% to 54%

Sample Questions:

The United States has 2,300 fighter jets considered to be the best in the world. The Pentagon wants to build 3,889 more. The F-22 fighter jets are a part of this proposed increase and would cost New York taxpayers \$7.1 billion. Do you support funding the F-22?

Do you advocate cutting community-based spending for housing, Head Start and education to increase the Pentagon budget?

Candidate Name:_____

My Question/Comments:

Candidate Name: _____

My Question/Comments:

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