

Fouke Party Platform

LGBTQ Rights:

The Fouke party believes that human rights should be protected for all people, regardless of gender and sexual identity/orientation. The United State's troubled history of discrimination towards minority groups has shed light on our country's duty to support everyone's fight for equal rights, including the LGBTQ community. We do not believe that we have the power to define marriage, or a relationship, and that people have the freedom to love anyone that they want to. Anti Discrimination in the workplace and housing, equal pay, equality of opportunity, marriage equality and the right to adopt are basic American rights that we should be proud to offer and protect for all. These rights are not for selective distribution, and we continue to advocate for them so that we live in a world where rights can be fully enjoyed by all people. No matter what you believe in, aspects that make you who you are should never lead to infringement and discrimination. We seek to allow the LGBTQ community to exercise their basic human rights, without living in fear. Our party desires to bring to life the Constitutional promise of equality for all, and join the fight to bring sufficient protection to those denied it. These communities are a large part of our constantly modernizing and developing country that we cannot exclude or ignore. Ignoring this community would severely affect our country as a whole. In summary, we believe that the LGBTQ community should be given the same opportunities as every American citizen, and that no one has the power or right to deny them basic equality rights.

Healthcare:

The Fouke party accepts that with the amount of money our nation and citizens put into healthcare, it is not serving the healthcare needs of the citizens of our country. Obama Care has failed Americans in some aspects, and the Fouke party knows that our nation deserves better. However, we believe that Obama Care should not be discarded, but instead revised. We firmly believe that every American is entitled to affordable and high quality healthcare, and it is known that our current system is not meeting this expectation. Medical debt and lack of medical costs covered by insurance is a real problem for Americans everyday, with many citizens in debt just trying to afford their healthcare bills. Healthcare prices have been consistently rising for years, and they will continue to increase if we do not take significant action. Affordable healthcare is a human right and a basic need for all citizens, and people should never be punished for health problems over which they have no control. It is our priority to lower healthcare prices while obtaining our current level of expertise, starting with the root of the problem, which lies within the insurance companies. The Fouke party plans to cover more simple procedures free of cost, and put more regulations on what insurance companies have the ability to cover. Our main goal in reforming the healthcare system is to reduce inefficiency and unnecessary administrative cost. To take this action, we plan to create a federal regulatory insurance healthcare company, opposed to the state agencies that are in place now. If a person cannot afford insurance, they should not be denied healthcare, but still be treated, and then put into a program that will help them pay their expenses. Our party acknowledges that it is essential to create an environment in

which medicine is more personalized and centered around the patients and their needs, and we strive to create improved healthcare conditions for our nation as a whole.

Gun rights:

The Fouke party has a strong belief in upholding 2nd Amendment, or the right to bear arms. United States citizen's desire to protect themselves, their homes, and their loved ones with a legal gun is legitimate and we plan to support that right. This right that we have is complex, therefore we also believe in permitting power to the states for regulation. If your state has restrictions on different types of weapons, the requirement of passing certain tests to own a weapon, or an age requirement to get a gun license, etc... it is equitable citizens should respect that and follow the state law. Another restriction we propose is that no citizen should own an assault weapon or any type of unnecessary military style weapon. These limitations are proposed to fulfill our duty of granting citizens the maximum amount of freedom while still promoting and creating a safe environment for all. Restrictions on weapons are necessary in our country, but no citizen that is mentally stable and passes all necessary tests should be denied the right to own a gun for appropriate uses, such protection and sport purposes. The need for self-defense in our nation will never die and therefore it is our duty to uphold the promise of the Constitution to keep and bear arms. Legally prohibiting guns for the law-abiding will not disarm criminals and prominent threats to our citizens, so the right to protect oneself and others from these dangers with a legal weapon is truly fair.

Environment:

Our party accepts that global warming and climate change are real threats to our society. The past years have been recorded as record hot, with the five warmest years in global record all in the 2010's, we are headed towards increasingly worse conditions in the future. Unforgiving droughts, floods, wildfires, and increasing levels of greenhouse gases are all real problems that are headed on a continuous path. To start the passage towards a better environment for us and future generations, we must start with decreasing the amount of greenhouse gases that are emitted into our atmosphere, which realistically occurs everytime we engage in something as simple as driving to work. Our proposed solution is that car dealerships slowly shift towards selling and promoting electric cars, which won't emit greenhouse gases and fossil fuels like regular gas powered vehicles do. Thus, we support the creation of more jobs in fields like biotechnology to increase the amount of research going into environmental solutions, such as alternative energy sources. By creating new clean energy sources, we hope to significantly decrease the amount of energy waste emitted by organizations. An additional proposition is to strengthen organizations like the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) to regulate people's environmental actions, and have the ability to put more restrictions on big corporations that could be damaging the environment, whether it is acknowledged or not. We also plan to implement a school lesson that will inform children more about the importance in recycling, in hopes of increasing awareness and knowledge regarding that responsibility. Finally, we will strive to improve the quality of our oceans in order to preserve them

for us and future generations. We hope to decrease the amount of oil drilling and spend money on cleaning up past oil spills by corporations that are hurting the ocean. By doing all of this, we will create a healthier environment for our world and the future world that will decrease global warming.

Education:

It is well known that education is an essential part of a child's life, and it is critical in giving them the information and skills they need to live happily and get ahead. This education should include learning behavioral and social norms that would give them the skill set to succeed. Thus, the federal government should not have the greatest role in dictating a child's education, but simply give them the opportunity to get it in the first place. We firmly believe that education should be more personalized at the state, and even local level to the children to give them the most beneficial experience. For example, children of Vermont do not have the same educational needs as children in Alabama, and we are here to acknowledge and take action on that. Therefore, we should try to eliminate some of the mandates put on education in America. This would include getting rid of national assessments and standards. We expect that by doing this children will not only understand the importance of education more, but enjoy the learning more. Along with that, we propose that teachers should be paid more because of their significant role in the students life that is very often ignored. Embracing teachers creativity would be a beneficial step, which is why we suggest giving them more flexibility from national requests. By increasing pay, we enable the offering of more rigorous courses to allow students to excel, while still offering a balance of standard courses. Additionally, we firmly believe stricter background checks on administrators, teachers, and any other school personnel. We are more than willing to use more money to fund additional experimental programs if it means better opportunities for the students, who are the future of our country. However, we also realize that better education does not depend solely on money, leading to the proposition to get rid of school districting or be more lenient on the rules surrounding it. This is to prevent students from feeling

confounded on a certain school, and presenting them with opportunities to attend the school where they feel they will excel. Increasing selection would personalize education even more by offering certain programs that have limited availability. A personalized education experience will help guarantee opportunities and the success of the future of our country.

Defense/ National Security:

We the Fouke party are very aware of the vast quantity of threats that this nation faces every single day. There are criminals, terrorists and everything in between that are constantly jeopardizing this country's prosperity, and we take our role of protecting citizens and our country from these threats with extreme seriousness. That being said, we also are aware that our current counteractive measures and national security are incredibly strong and reliable, where as other areas, such as education, are not. Every year we spend an outrageous amount of money on a military that could do all the things it does now with a fraction of the budget it currently has. We believe that the military's budget should be reduced to ninety percent of what it is now. We have no intention or tolerance of jeopardizing the safety of our citizens, but instead dividing the spending with other areas so that they have the opportunity to succeed and prosper just as our military does with increased efficiency in all areas. This money could be used in countless ways, such as improving our suffering infrastructure, providing our public schools with more adequate funding, or giving citizens the affordable healthcare they deserve. One way we plan on achieving this ten percent reduction in military spending is by getting rid of the Navy. Part of our proposal is to integrate the current Navy air power with the United State's Aiforce. This may seem like an impossible solution, but with a close look at the facts, we are extremely well defended with just the Airforce and Army. Since the invention and innovation of airplanes, nautical travel has very few practical uses. Our increasingly modernizing technology in our advanced nation contributes much more to weapons and planes than it does to ships. Instead, we intend to use our money to make greater contributions to the Army and Airforce because they are the future in our successful military that we plan to fully support. The excellent travel time of airplanes and potential they provide for our military shows we have little reason to have military

vessels in the water. Even if there are enemy ships, it's just as easy to shoot them with planes as it is to shoot them with boats. We plan to continue fighting against this world's menaces, but doing it much more efficiently while contributing to other aspects of our nation.

Affirmative Action:

Members of the Fouke Party firmly stand by the Supreme Court's ruling in *Regents of University of California vs. Bakke* to improve educational and employment opportunities for those still faced with barriers in present day. Affirmative action is not only beneficial in the sense that it requires the selection of a wider range of candidates, but also in the sense that it allows the recognition of a wider range of skill and knowledge. Foukes acknowledge that racism and discrimination are a large part of our nation's history that we have no tolerance for in the present and future. We believe in supporting those we once infringed on to prove their worth and significance to our country. Affirmative action does not allow for unequal treatment, but the protection of minorities to be fairly considered for a position due to the obstacles they are faced with. The knowledge that African American men are seven times as likely to get stopped and searched by police than white men supports our stride to take uplifting action to support minorities however necessary. This example is just one of many racial disparities that still exist education, health, housing, and employment, which is why we strive to provide minorities with opportunities they deserve. Our dedication to procedural guarantees will not demean any racial or ethnic group but instead promote the Constitutional promise of equality. The negative action and violence in our country's history is aimed at minority groups to keep them down, and it still does so. It is not enough to pretend all is equal now, we must do more, and that is why we not only view affirmative action as favorable but necessary to create equality.

Abortion:

Although our party has had pro-life views in the past, we have evolved over time. Outlawing abortions would not be beneficial to our country, but also create danger and illegal activity that is our duty to prevent and protect citizens from. We view abortion as a woman's choice and believe that both parents of the fetus should have some say in the woman's pregnancy. We firmly believe in a woman's right to have complete control over her own body, and the right to privacy, expressing our support for the pro-choice argument. When a woman is having an abortion we strive to keep her anonymous if that is part of her wish. No woman should ever be ashamed for making a complicated decision and we are therefore dedicated to protecting women's rights during an emotionally difficult time. We defend and stand behind the Supreme Court's ruling in *Roe vs Wade*, because making a reproductive choice empowers women by letting them make important decisions about their bodies rather than being controlled by an intervention the law. A fetus becomes a person when they are able to live outside of the womb after birth, not at conception. We desire to provide women with easy access to professional abortions in order to prevent the severe dangers that come with illegal abortions. The outlawing of abortions would indefinitely lead to women attempting to do it themselves and taking extreme measures to access illegal abortions, which would put numerous lives at risk. These methods have a history of leading to severe maternal injuries and even death. Our duty as the government is to protect citizens from this clear danger. We believe that a woman's right to

control their bodies and decide their reproductive fate is personal and a fundamental right in the platforms of our country.