

opinion

I’m voting for Joe Biden

SCOUT WEBER
President, College Democrats

I will be voting for former Vice-President Joe Biden in the upcoming election because he is a leader for the people. He has set himself as an example and a representative for the American people, and I truly believe that he would dedicate his presidency to the middle class and to the majority. If you watched the first debate on Sept. 29, you likely saw that Biden made a conscious effort to directly address and connect with the American people. He is very inspiring as a classic American family man, as he has remained proud of his family history despite what his opponent has to say about it. He has years of experience in government and he knows how to negotiate and compromise with other politicians while remaining true to his beliefs. He also has plans for issues that are important to me like healthcare, gun violence and climate change. Joe Biden fights for the issues that I believe in.

Joe Biden and President Obama worked hard to pass the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which provides health insurance benefits to 100 million people. One aspect of the

for common sense gun laws that would keep weapons of war off the streets and out of the hands of the wrong people. The Biden Plan consists of banning the manufacture and sale of assault weapons and high-capacity magazines. There is no reason for a civilian to have a weapon with the power and speed of an assault weapon. Biden also plans to reinstate the policy enacted by the Obama Administration that requires background checks and prevents people with mental health issues from possessing firearms. In almost every mass shooting, the shooter has a history of mental health problems. One of the first actions the Trump Administration took was to reverse this law. A popular argument that I hear against gun restriction is “guns don’t kill people, people do,” and this might be right; so why wouldn’t we want to take every precaution to keep guns out of dangerous hands?

While Joe Biden has said he does not support the Green New Deal, a program that would address climate change and economic inequality, he sees it as a crucial framework that highlights the magnitude of this problem while emphasizing the fact that our economy and our environment

I’m voting for Donald Trump

JOE BEAVER
President, College Republicans

“The Pursuit of Happiness”

The degradation of American politics began when we started looking at figurehead politicians to solve our problems; we no longer assumed our rightful place to better our communities by our own hands. There was a time when we did not shout to the skies about the woes of our circumstances but looked to our faith, our families, and our friends for support. Responsibility was once the mechanism for pursuing personal happiness, not its antithesis. This is when America was great.

The truth? We the people have become complacent with politicians determining our destiny. We remain content in our isolated perceptions of the World, hypersensitive to particular issues that fit our understanding, while ignoring those that do not. We assume ourselves to be the authority between right and wrong and expect that those we elect will carry our values into effect, as we see fit. Yet, we fail to govern our own lives, to assume the responsibilities of community, to boldly change the world one interaction at a time.

schooling years. As children grow into adulthood, financial independence allows them to start a career, start a business or start a family, among many other paths - no matter their origin. As Americans, we cherish the success of all people. The success of women to make choices in America begins with their right to be born.

If America is to be the land of opportunity it once was, being continually preserved by the hands of each citizen of particular races, colors, and creeds, then financial tools must be present in each community. Law enforcement must be strong so that financial opportunities for prosperity can exist in every community - urban and rural, North and South, East and West. No country can prosper by tearing itself down. If the police in your area are corrupt, then become a cop, or support your neighbors in doing so. If the bank in your town is hesitant to issue loans to those that need it most, start your own credit union, or support your neighbors in doing so. Form group healthcare associations with your neighbors to expand coverage and lower premiums. Be the change you want to see in your community.

Whether in the heart of Ashland or the downtown of Cleveland, the protection of



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President Donald Trump, left, and Democratic presidential candidate, former Vice President Joe Biden, right, are pictured in this composite photo, both speaking in 2020.

ACA that benefits me personally is it allows for young people to stay covered on their parents’ insurance plan until the age of 26. Prior to the ACA, people had to find their own health insurance when they turned 19 or when they were out of school. The ACA also guarantees that you are covered even if you have a pre-existing condition like cancer, diabetes, or a mental health challenge; this was not a guarantee prior to the ACA. Since the ACA was passed, it has been attacked, the Trump Administration has restricted it and Donald Trump has said that he plans to fully repeal it or restrict it further. Biden has shown us that he believes that every American has a right to the peace of mind knowing that they have affordable health care. The ACA is one of his proudest accomplishments as Vice President.

Joe Biden has a plan to end the gun violence epidemic. Gun violence is not just mass shootings, which we are seeing become a bigger and bigger problem in our country; gun violence is also daily acts of violence or suicides that we do not always hear about on national news. To fight this, Biden wants to enact stricter gun laws. Creating stricter gun laws is not an infringement of the Second Amendment and Joe Biden is not going to take away your guns. Biden stands

are completely connected. He sees climate change as an urgent issue that he plans to fight with clean-energy technology that would also provide modern, middle-class jobs here in America. His goal is to create a 100% clean energy economy and reach net-zero emissions by 2050. When the Trump Administration withdrew the U.S. from the Paris Agreement on climate change, it sent a message to the people and the rest of the world that we are not taking climate change seriously. Biden plans to recommit to the Paris Agreement. We as individuals can do our part to reverse the effects of climate change and create a clean environment, but the biggest problem is large corporations that prioritize profit over people and knowingly pollute our environment and communities. Biden plans to hold these corporations accountable.

Again, I believe that Joe Biden is a leader for the people. He fights for the things I believe in, and I hope that some of what I highlighted here resonates with you, too. Early voting is available in Ohio and you can visit <https://ohiodems.org/vote-early/> to find out when and where you can vote safely this year.

We would rather be angry at the particular information that is cropped, edited and fed to us. I say to you, this election is about the death of the citizen.

Making America great again is far more than an orange reality tv star that got elected President. It is a second chance for Americans to begin shaping their own lives, once again. Say what you will about him - the President does not assume himself to be the determiner of your destiny. His reelection slogan can be more properly understood as a call to action: Keep Making America Great. It is your hands that will shape your town, your county, your state, and, consequently, your Nation. The American soul breathes life once again when you, the American citizen, seeks to better this land, above and beyond casting a vote every election cycle.

Individual success starts with your financial independence: the ability to choose your own career and healthcare. When the economy booms, you have more opportunities to get an education. A child’s path should not be limited to a zip-code when entering their

your community, from the forces of harm, requires that you utilize your right to keep and bear arms. So too, must we protect our communities from the effects of climate change by investing in corporate innovation of technologies and supporting trade deals with China that prompt a switch from soft coal to natural gas. A competition of many energies prompts the perfection of those that top America’s need for quality and efficiency.

America needs a government that aspires to be as good as its people, as its Founding principles, as its promise to the world that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from this Earth. The sword of government cannot be America’s savior - we will be disappointed time, and time again. I am voting for Donald Trump because I believe our nation is best when we are trusted by our leaders to make our own lives, our own families, and our own communities great again, each and every single day.

the Collegian

EDITOR’S NOTE

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