

UNPRINCIPLED



REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE
RESEARCH BRIEFING BOOK
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UNPRINCIPLED

Most Americans, Including The Left, Can't Trust Hillary Clinton

This week Netroots Nation, the biggest progressive conference of the year, will take place in Phoenix, Arizona. Notably absent: Hillary Clinton.

Why would the presumptive Democratic nominee avoid a gathering of progressives?

Because their relationship is complicated.

It comes down to trust. Clinton doesn't trust Netroots; they booed her in 2007. (The event was called YearlyKos back then.)

And Netroots doesn't trust Clinton; they want a principled leader, not a craven politician.

Much of the Left, like the majority of Americans, don't believe Clinton is honest and trustworthy.

Here's why.



UNTRUSTED: BY THE NUMBERS

“More people have an unfavorable view of Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton now than at any time since 2001...”

– CNN, June 2015

52:

percentage of Americans who do not believe Clinton cares about people like them

57:

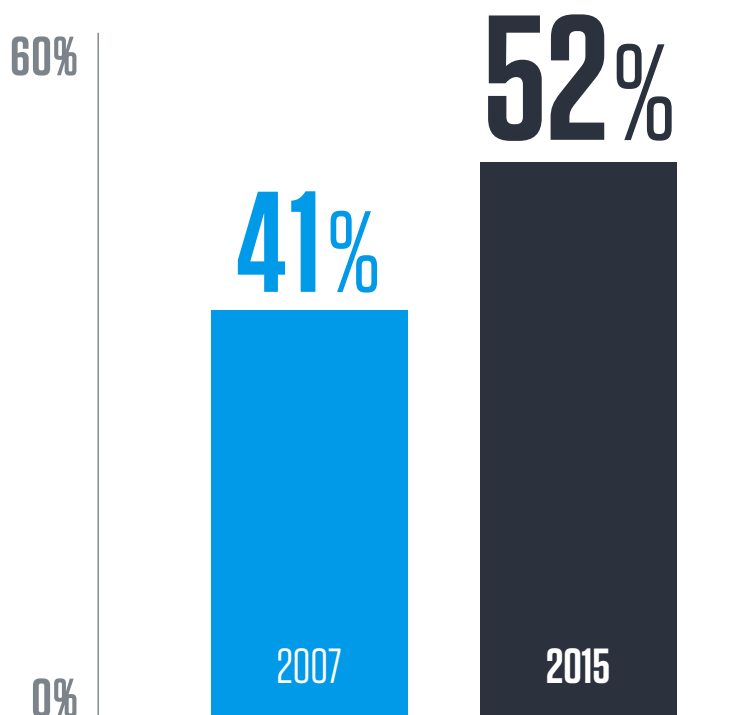
percentage of Americans who do not believe Clinton is honest and trustworthy

32:

percentage of liberals who do not believe Clinton is honest and trustworthy

– CNN/ORC Poll 5/29-31/15

Americans Think Clinton Doesn't Care



– CNN/ORC POLL 5/29-31/15



LIBERALS ARE SKEPTICAL...

“Is Hillary A Populist Of Convenience?”

– *Washington Post*

As Hillary changes her policy positions to please liberals (and play catch-up with Bernie Sanders), many are trying to figure out what Hillary Clinton really believes. Is she a principled progressive or a progressive of convenience?

NBC News reports that her positions sound “focus-group tested.”

The AP notes Clinton has “retooled her positions to line up with the views of progressive Democrats.”

No wonder those progressives are suspicious.

As one Democrat told the New York Times, “No Democrat I know really thinks she’ll change much as president.”

NBC NEWS

Vol. 1

“focus-group tested.”

– *NBC News*



SHIFTING ON THE ISSUES

What does she really believe?

On issue after issue, Hillary's policy positions have shifted whenever it's politically expedient.

ECONOMY

2014: Clinton attacked businesses. "Don't let anybody tell you that it's corporations and businesses that create jobs."

2015: Clinton says she wants to be a "champion" for small business owners.

TRADE

2012: Clinton called the Trans-Pacific Partnership a "gold standard."

2015: Clinton is "non-committal" on the trade deal, according to the AP.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

April 2015: Clinton called for a constitutional amendment that puts limits on "unaccountable money."

May 2015: The New York Times reported Clinton will become the first Democrat candidate to "personally" court donors for a SuperPAC.

SHIFTING ON THE ISSUES

MINIMUM WAGE

2015: After speaking on the minimum wage in June, some outlets reported that Clinton supports a \$15 minimum wage.

2015: After the same speech, other outlets reported Clinton was so vague that it was unclear what she supports.

DODD-FRANK

Jan. 2015: Clinton attacked Dodd-Frank tweeting that it was “risky and wrong.”

May 2015: Clinton calls for “easing regulations on small community banks,” according to the AP.

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

1996: Clinton supported the Defense Of Marriage Act that was enacted by Bill Clinton.

2008: Clinton opposed same-sex marriage.

2014: Clinton said same-sex marriage “should be a state-by-state fight.”

2015: Clinton says same-sex marriage is a Constitutional right.

DRIVERS LICENSES FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

2008: Clinton said she opposes giving driver’s licenses to illegal immigrants.

2015: Clinton says she supports giving driver’s licenses to illegal immigrants.

SANCTUARY CITIES

2008: Clinton voted to kill an amendment that would restrict federal funding for sanctuary cities and urged sanctuary cities to ignore federal law.

2015: Clinton states in an interview that sanctuary cities should listen to DHS.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

1994: Clinton praised Clinton Administration crime bill for being “smart and tough.”

2015: Clinton calls for a “new approach” to end the “era of mass incarceration.”



CANDIDATE FOR THE ONE PERCENT

**Liberals, like those at Netroots Nation, know who
Hillary Clinton really represents: The 1%.**

Actually, it's more like the 0.1%.

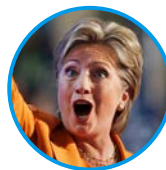
As the Wall Street Journal has observed, Clinton's "level of income would place the Clintons in at least the top 0.1 percent of the population."

The Clintons made at least \$30 million in 16 months, almost entirely from speaking fees. The average American household would have to work hundreds of years to earn that kind of money.

In total, the Clintons have earned over \$125 million from speeches since leaving the White House in 2001.

As a former Clinton White House aide remarked, "There's a sense that she doesn't really understand the depth of the struggles people have gone through over the past 10 years."

"DEAD BROKE" HILLARY CLINTON'S INCOME HYPOCRISY



90 MINUTE
HILLARY SPEECH COSTS



\$200,000



AVERAGE AMERICAN'S
YEARLY EARNINGS



\$45,647

GOP.COM



CANDIDATE FOR WALL STREET

Hillary Clinton isn't exactly the candidate of Main Street.

In fact, she has been described as the “favorite candidate of millionaires.”

Despite her rhetorical attacks on Wall Street, hedge fund managers and Wall Street executives aren't exactly worried. According to Politico, her criticisms were “met with a resounding ‘meh’” on Wall Street.

In other words, Clinton's big money donors know she has their backs. They think she's just saying what she has to say, but ultimately she'll take care of their interests.

POLITICO

Vol. 1

“...back in Manhattan, the hedge fund managers who've long been part of her political and fundraising networks aren't sweating the putdown and aren't worrying about their take-home pay just yet.”

– Politico, April 2015

CANDIDATE FOR K STREET

The story is the same among K Street lobbyists. They know Hillary's on their side too. In fact, as a headline from the liberal publication Mother Jones observed, "Clinton's Top Aides Have Lobbied for Companies Liberals Despise."

"Not only is Hillary taking money from lobbyists," Mother Jones reports, "she's also hiring them to run her campaign."

At least six of her campaign staffers have been registered lobbyists.



Up until her presidential announcement, Hillary Clinton was raking in six-figure speaking fees—including the fees she charged public universities facing tuition hikes.

Clinton never missed a chance to cash in on a simple speech.

As if the money issues weren't enough to prove the Clintons are out-of-touch, Hillary has admitted that she hasn't driven a car since 1996.





CANDIDATE OF SCANDAL

The pattern of secrecy is alarming to Americans across the political spectrum.

WHAT’S REALLY GOING ON AT THE CLINTON FOUNDATION?

The Clinton Foundation came under fire for violating its ethics agreement with the Obama administration by failing to submit new or increased contributions from foreign governments for ethics review and for failing to disclose donors while Clinton was Secretary of State.

As the Washington Post reported, “The Clinton Foundation accepted millions of dollars from seven foreign governments during Hillary Rodham Clinton’s tenure as Secretary of State,” including donations from countries like Kuwait, Qatar, and Oman.

The Clinton Foundation has a record of failing to disclose controversial donors and also failed to get approval for certain donations while Clinton was Secretary, including a \$500,000 donation from the Algerian government.



CANDIDATE OF SCANDAL

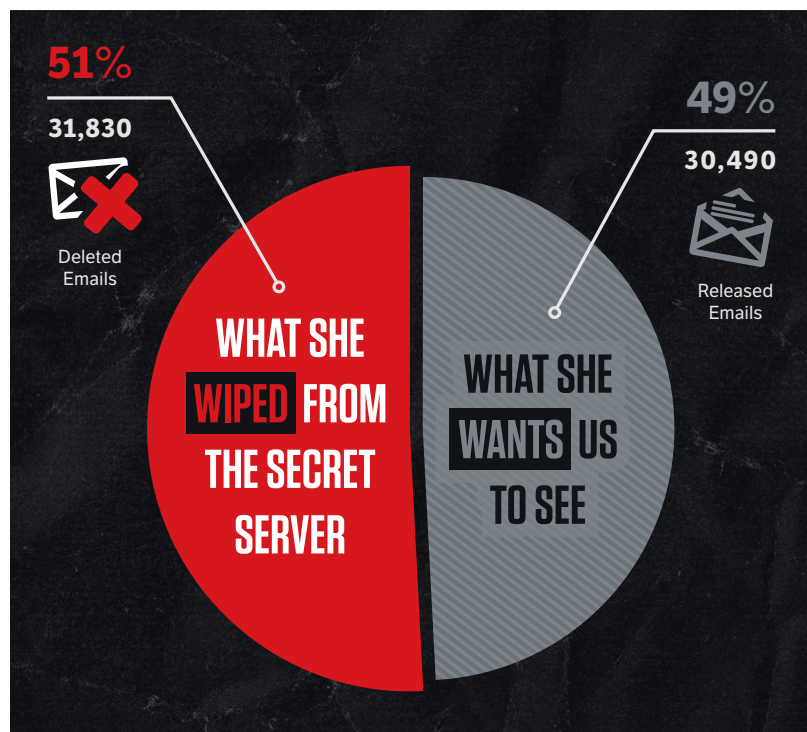
The foundation failed to disclose 1,100 donors to a Canadian charity tied to the foundation. And the foundation has also been forced to re-file multiple years of tax returns after failing to reports millions of dollars in donations.

What's really going on here? Is it just a coincidence that the foundation raked in money from countries and companies that stood to benefit from Hillary Clinton's actions as Secretary of State? The Clinton's campaign's defense is that there is "no smoking gun." Does that sound like a clear conscience?

WHAT'S HILLARY HIDING IN HER EMAILS?

After confessing to using a private email account and a secret server for official communications as Secretary of State, Clinton has gone to great lengths to avoid coming clean.

Clinton and her team handpicked which emails to turn over to the State Department. Then she wiped her server clean. Even though it was revealed that she didn't turn over all business-related emails to State, she still insists that the server "will remain private."





THE LEFT IS FEELING THE BERN

With Hillary Clinton becoming less palatable to liberals, socialist Bernie Sanders is becoming increasingly popular.

The avowed socialist has seen crowds in the thousands, and is within striking distance of Clinton in some polls.

The Washington Post has called him Clinton's "leading rival" and the "liberal alternative."

Clinton's team is getting uncomfortable. Her spokeswoman says they are "worried" and calls Sanders a "serious force." They want a coronation; they don't want to have to work for the nomination. The last thing they want is competition.

WASHINGTON POST

Vol. 1

"leading rival"
"liberal alternative"

— Washington Post

What does it say about the strength of Clinton's candidacy that a little-known Independent senator from Vermont who calls himself a socialist is her "leading rival" for the Democratic nomination?

What does it say about the strength of Democratic candidates in general?

In any case, it's clear why Hillary Clinton wouldn't be warmly received at Netroots.