

A close-up photograph of a sunflower with bright yellow petals and a brown, textured center. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the flower and some green leaves.

VOTE FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE IN

Green Party of the United States

Mini-Platform, 2015



I
Voted

GOVERNMENT FOR THE PEOPLE,
NOT THE CORPORATIONS

#TRUEDEMOCRACY

Our nation was founded on the principles of liberty, justice, and the idea that all people should have a voice in their government.

But the current government has been built on political campaigns funded by rich, corporate special interests, with very little representation for the 99%.

Reforming campaign finance laws and including all political parties in debates will return to a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

BAD NEWS

Over \$6.28 billion were spent in the 2012 federal elections, and the winners of each congressional race spent an average of 63.5% more than the losers of each congressional race, highlighting a clear correlation between wealth and power.

Source: Center for Responsive Politics

GOOD NEWS

Other countries, such as the Federal Republic of Germany, have proven that public campaign financing can help all parties have a voice, and help the people, rather than corporations, be better represented.

Source: Library of Congress, Law Library

WE WILL:

- ✓ Prohibit corporations from spending to influence elections, preferably by constitutional amendment abolishing corporate personhood.

WE WILL:

- ✓ Enact proportional representation voting systems for legislative seats and Instant Run-off Voting (IRV) for executive offices on all levels of government.

WE WILL:

- ✓ Provide full public financing for all elections, including free and equal radio and television time on public airwaves.



THERE IS NO WAY TO PEACE
PEACE IS THE WAY

#PEACENOW

Our nation has the potential to be a leading advocate for peace and diplomacy in the international forum.

But the two major parties have consistently advocated for war, arms production, a bloated military budget, and maintained nuclear arms.

Elected Greens would advocate for the opposite, valuing human lives higher than profits, corporate greed, or a sense of American exceptionalism.

BAD NEWS

In the past 3,400 years, humans have only been at total peace with each other for 286 of them, or approximately 8%.

Source: New York Times

GOOD NEWS

Cutting the military budget in half would still allow our military force to be several times larger than any other on Earth, and would allow dozens of other aid and life-saving programs to be created.

Source: Washington Post

WE WILL:

- ✓ Work with other nations to limit and dismantle all nuclear arms.

WE WILL:

- ✓ Support the United Nations as a forum for diplomacy and recognize the obligation of our government to enforce Security Council resolutions

WE WILL:

- ✓ Disarm militarized police departments to ensure that the people are under their protection, not under attack.



LIBERTY AND
JUSTICE FOR ALL

#SOCIALJUSTICE

Over the past century, the USA has made large strides towards providing all people with equal opportunities and protections under the law.

But millions are still persecuted and denied the rights and privileges of a US citizen due to their race, sex, ideology, and other discriminatory factors.

We can achieve equality for all people if we work with communities to stop the hardships that they face on a daily basis.

BAD NEWS

Women earn an average of 82% of what their male counterparts earn, African Americans are imprisoned disproportionately to European Americans, and the average undergraduate who takes out loans graduates \$30,000 in debt.

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Bureau of Prisons, NY Times

GOOD NEWS

Countries around the world, such as Canada, have already adopted laws that provide groups that are generally discriminated against with equal protections, and a variety of countries have committed to limiting the amount of debt students incur.

Source: Canadian Department of Justice and Public Safety

WE WILL:

- ✓ Call for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women.

WE WILL:

- ✓ Provide free college tuition to all qualified students at public universities and vocational schools.

WE WILL:

- ✓ Curb institutional racism by eradicating poverty, investing in education, protecting human rights, and ending the criminalization of minority communities.



FOSSIL FREE,
AFFORDABLE ENERGY

#SAFECLIMATE

In the last thirty years there has been an explosion in public environmental awareness and activism, with little action from Congress or the Presidency.

Governments must also prioritize action on climate change to avoid devastating harm to our economy, society and environment.

A rapid transition to a zero-carbon sustainable economy will create millions of jobs and secure a safe climate for our children and grandchildren.

BAD NEWS

Climate change resulting in a warming of 3° Celsius is projected to cost the United States \$150 Billion per year, and a warming of 4° Celsius is projected to cost the United States over \$300 billion.

Source: Office of the President of the United States

GOOD NEWS

In 2012, Austria, New Zealand, and Iceland all generated more than 60% of their energy from renewables. Meanwhile, the United States was stuck at a shameful 12.5%.

Source: US Energy Information Administration

WE WILL:

- ✓ Ban fracking, phase out coal power stations, and say “no” to new nuclear power plants.

WE WILL:

- ✓ Take urgent action on climate change and work with other countries to hold the increase in global temperature to below 2° Celsius.

WE WILL:

- ✓ Develop affordable mass transit systems that are more economical to use than private vehicles.



HEALTH CARE
IS A HUMAN RIGHT

#BETTERCARE

The introduction of the Affordable Care Act has brought about a much needed, nation-wide discussion about the way our health care system works. However, an estimated 13% of Americans, over 10 million people, are still left uninsured, and more are strained by the financial burden.

Adopting single-payer health care can save Americans and the Federal Government money while insuring all and increasing benefits.

BAD NEWS

Over 10 million Americans are still uninsured and over one-third of female voters report that they have had a hard time affording contraception at some point in their lives.

Source: Planned Parenthood

GOOD NEWS

Other industrialized countries around the world have proven that single-payer health care leads to improved quality of life, increased life expectancy averages, and financial savings.

Source: New York Times

WE WILL:

- ✓ Promote universal access to contraception, which will help stop the spread of STIs and lower abortion rates.

WE WILL:

- ✓ Enact single-payer health care nation-wide.

WE WILL:

- ✓ Prohibit corporations from concealing information about public health, labor conditions, environmental safety via protective orders or confidential settlements.



AN ECONOMY
THAT WORKS FOR ALL

#FAIRECONOMY

We have everything we need to build a fair economy: natural resources, skilled people, and modern technology.

But the current government has built an unfair economy where those at the top gain while those at the bottom suffer.

We can transform our economy if we have the courage to challenge the vested interests and close the gap between the 1% and the 99%.

BAD NEWS

The top 10%, most wealthy Americans own 75.3% of the wealth in the country, leaving the bottom 90% owning only 24.7%.

Source: Credit Suisse Global Wealth Databook, 2013

GOOD NEWS

Many towns across the country, such as Los Angeles and Seattle, have already taken the initiative to enact a living wage, and some states, such as New York, have begun discussing the possibility of adopting state-wide single-payer systems.

Source: NPR News

WE WILL:

- ✓ Promote “fair trade” rather than corporate “free trade”, as “fair trade” protects communities, labor, consumers, and the environment.

WE WILL:

- ✓ Increase the minimum wage to reach a living wage of \$15 an hour, tied to inflation.

WE WILL:

- ✓ End corporate welfare, decrease taxes on the poor, and levy financial transaction taxes, wealth taxes, and estate taxes on the 1%.



GREEN PARTY

OF THE UNITED STATES

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ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication was created by Joshua Kelly of the Waterford, CT Green Party, and was largely based on the mini-platform of the UK Green Party.