

**C 3a | Key to Party-Based Political Issues**

Issue	Democrats	Republicans
Should women have the right to have an abortion?	The majority thinks it should not be made illegal; they support Roe v. Wade.*	The majority thinks it should not be legal; they oppose Roe v. Wade.
Do you support the legalization of same-sex marriage?	Generally support it.	On the whole oppose it.
Should the federal government allow the death penalty?	While support for the death penalty is strong among Democrats, opponents of the death penalty are also a substantial fraction of the Democratic base.	A large majority of Republicans support the death penalty.
Should the government address global warming more effectively?	Democrats claim that the Republicans are ignoring climate change.	Republicans claim that the Democrats have turned a blind eye to the economy.
Should the government raise the federal minimum wage?	Support minimum wages, which should be raised to a certain level.	Wages should be set by the free market. The government should not interfere with the economy.
Do you support more effective gun control?	An issue that splits both parties.	An issue that splits both parties.
Should marijuana be legalized?	88% support legalization, 12% oppose it.	59% oppose legalization, 41% support it.
Do you support the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (“Obamacare”)?	Support universal health care; strong support of government involvement in health care, including Medicare and Medicaid. Generally support “Obamacare”.	Private companies can provide health care services more efficiently than government-run programs. Oppose “Obamacare” provisions like (1) requirement for individuals to buy health insurance or pay a fine, (2) required coverage of contraceptives.
Would you support an increase in taxes on the rich in order to reduce interest rates on student loans?	Believe in progressive taxation, i. e., higher tax rates for higher income brackets.	Believe taxes shouldn’t be increased for anyone, including the wealthy. Wages should be set by the free market.
Do you support stronger measures in border security policy?	50% support stronger measures, 50% oppose stronger measures.	96% support stronger measures, 4% oppose stronger measures.

\* U.S. Supreme Court Ruling from 1973 that allows abortion; however, it also gave individual states the rights to limit it.