

## **Some reasons why conservatives should support Donald Trump**

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During Idaho's Presidential Primary Donald Trump was not the voter's first choice. Trump received about a quarter of the state votes in the Republican Primary, the winner, Sen. Ted Cruz got close to half of the vote. Locally, in Eastern Idaho Trump finished with less than one-fifth of the vote.

Cruz appealed conservative record appealed to many voters in the Gem State. Many Idaho Republican were suspicious of Trump's conservative credentials given that he in the past had supported many Democrats for public office, and has in the past espoused many positions which run counter to conservative principals.

Regardless of how Idaho Republican feel about Trump, now that been selected as the GOP's nominee from President it is time for party members, and other conservatives, to move forward into the 2016 election. While some may feel unmotivated to support Donald Trump for President, there are good reasons why conservatives should support his candidacy this fall.

### **The Supreme Court and Federal Judges**

One issue which should concern conservatives is the U.S. Supreme Court. The Supreme Court, and federal courts in general, have been an obstacle to Conservative efforts. In May Trump provided a list of four judges he would consider appointing to the Supreme Court. Each of the names the Trump Campaign provided as possible nominees to the high court carry with them solid conservative credentials.

Given the type of people on Trump's list of possible Supreme Court nominees, it is likely he would appoint conservative federal lower court judges as well.

Hillary Clinton on the other hand would no doubt continue Obama's policy of appointing activist liberal judges to the Supreme Court, and the rest of the federal judiciary. Most conservatives would agree it would be hard to stomach another four years of liberal judicial appointees.

### **A Solid Conservative V.P.**

Another indication of a Trump Presidency's tone is his selection of Gov. Mike Pence as his running mate. Pence as a member of Congress, and as Governor of Indiana, has established for himself a solid conservative record. Pence has been, according to the Cato Institute, "a champion tax cutter." The Indiana Governor's also has a strong record on the Second Amendment, Pro-Life

issues, and social issues. I think many Republicans will be comfortable with Mike Pence being one heartbeat away from the Presidency.

We do not know whom Hillary Clinton will choose as her running mate at this point. However, it is certain that no one will call them, “a champion tax cutter,” a supporter of the Second Amendment, or a social conservative.

#### A Convert to the Conservative Cause

It is true Trump’s position on many issues have changed over time. Trump, who once was “Pro-Choice” is now “Pro-Life.” Trump is also committed to fighting aggressively and proactively against terrorist groups such as ISIS. He is also committed to protecting the Second Amendment and providing relief to taxpayers. Trump is not the first Presidential nominee to be a convert to conservative cause. Ronald Reagan was a convert as well.

For many Trump is not the ideal candidate for President. However, when compared to Hillary Clinton, and what her presidency could mean for America, supporting Trump this November is a wise choice conservatives here in Idaho should make.