

The mid-term elections are almost here. What factors will influence my vote? I am against abortion and also the death penalty. I care deeply about the health of our most vulnerable as well as the health of our planet. I uphold the first amendment, but reject all disregard for truth and civility in public discourse. I uphold the second amendment, but am against assault weapons. I am appalled at the power of the gun lobby over public officials. I acknowledge the need to protect our borders, but I abhor the separation of children from their parents at the border. I take seriously my right and obligation to vote. No one political party represents all my values. They are all flawed. No one issue will determine the way I vote. I will make a conscience decision on the candidates who best (not perfectly) represent my values and what I perceive to be the greatest good. Those who vote differently from me are not evil, stupid, or my enemy. They are my fellow Americans living in a democratic society where our differences do not need to divide us.

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