

We the People:
Wide Awake
For Our Newest
Birth of Freedom

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**Republican House
Policy Committee**

Abraham Lincoln: **Wide Awake**



“Why should there not be a patient **confidence** in the ultimate **justice** of the people? Is there any better, or equal, **hope** in this world?”

President Abraham Lincoln
March 4, 1861

We the People

Beset by great challenges, Americans must determine freedom's future. In this crucible of liberty, America's salvation remains her free people.

During the horror of civil war, President Abraham Lincoln affirmed his faith in the people:

"Why should there not be a patient confidence in the ultimate justice of the people? Is there any better, or equal, hope in this world?"

During the tumultuous Industrial Era, President Theodore Roosevelt affirmed his faith in the people:

"We believe in all our hearts in democracy; in the capacity of the people to govern themselves; and we are bound to succeed, for our success means not only our own triumph, but the triumph of the cause of the rights of the people throughout the world, and the uplifting of the banner of hope for all the nations of mankind."

During the peak of stagflation and communist expansion, President Ronald Reagan affirmed his faith in the people:

"We are too great a nation to limit ourselves to small dreams. We are not, as some would have us believe, doomed to an inevitable decline. I do believe in a fate that will fall on us if we do nothing. So, with all the creative energy at our command, let us begin an era of national renewal. Let us renew our determination, our courage, and our strength. And let us renew our faith and our hope. We have every right to dream heroic dreams."

During our chaotic Global Age, Americans must affirm our faith in ourselves.

What We Face

Throughout history, Americans have met great challenges and inspired the world.

The Greatest Generation overcame four great challenges:

1. The social, economic and political upheavals of industrialization;
2. A world war against evil enemies;
3. The Soviet Union as a strategic threat and rival model of governance; and
4. The moral struggle of the civil rights movement



Now, our Global Generation must overcome four great challenges:

1. The social, economic and political upheavals of globalization;
2. A world war against evil enemies;
3. Communist China as a strategic threat and rival model of governance; and
4. Moral relativism's erosion of our self-evident truths

Despite the parallels, a difference exists: The Greatest Generation faced their challenges consecutively; our Global Generation faces our challenges simultaneously.

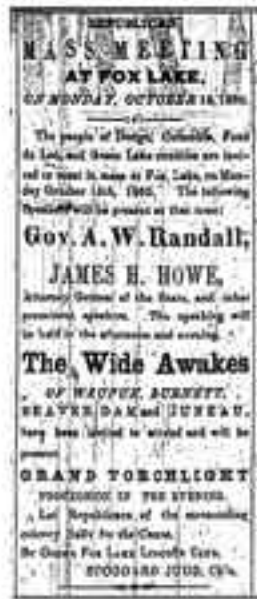
In the 21st Century, America must continue her exceptional, inspirational role of expanding human freedom and self-government, so her sovereign citizens can transcend these four great challenges.

Republicans: Wide Awake

They were “Wide Awakes” – Americans marching through sleepy hamlets for candidate Abraham Lincoln and the cause of human freedom. They were “Republicans!”

Today, Republicans continue to embrace our enduring duty to:

1. Expand human liberty and self-government;
2. Conserve our cherished way of life and its foundations of faith, family, community and country;
3. Empower Americans to achieve constructive, necessary change; and
4. Defend America’s national security



And we act upon five permanent principles:

1. Our liberty is from God not the government;
2. Our sovereignty is in our souls not the soil;
3. Our security is from strength not surrender;
4. Our prosperity is from the private sector not the public sector; and
5. Our truths are self-evident not relative

True, “politics is the art of the possible” and principled Republicans will differ on how

to best apply these principles to solve problems. But we all agree with Teddy Roosevelt:

*"I am a Republican pure and simple...
Whatever good I have been able to
accomplish in public life has been
accomplished through the Republican
Party. I have acted with it in the past,
and wish to act with it in the future."*

Heirs of TR's visionary leadership during America's Industrial Era, we are wide awake to lead America during our Global Age.

What Republicans Support

Government should not get bigger as our world gets smaller.

The Industrial Era's technologies spurred the centralized, vertical organization of economic enterprises. Big government grew to mirror this vertical model.

Our Global Age's innovation revolution spurs the democratized, horizontal organization of economic enterprises. **Big government must become smaller, smarter, transparent and accountable** to mirror this horizontal model.

America should continue leading this new birth of freedom. Yet, trapped in the past, the Left makes big government stronger and more expensive, and leaves sovereign Americans weaker and more indebted.

Big government wants to bury our freedom. But our freedom will bury big government.

Prosperity through Opportunity

Republicans reject big government's enticements to trade our economic liberty for the state's "economic security." Instead, we seek prosperity through opportunity.

- ☐ We **SUPPORT** personal responsibility
- ☐ We **SUPPORT** citizens' keeping the just, hard-earned fruits of their labors
- ☐ We **SUPPORT** citizens' unalienable property rights
- ☐ We **SUPPORT** replacing the progressive income tax
- ☐ We **SUPPORT** a balanced budget amendment
- ☐ We **SUPPORT** just and efficient federal budgeting and the end of pork barrel earmarks
- ☐ We **SUPPORT** a sound dollar
- ☐ We **SUPPORT** utilizing cost-saving, choice-maximizing market forces to preserve our fraying social safety net
- ☐ We **SUPPORT** ending the Wall Street Bank Bailout and the "too big to fail" myth
- ☐ We **SUPPORT** a more competitive and creative financial industry that promotes entrepreneurial initiative; and, reaffirms there is no greater power in America than her sovereign people
- ☐ We **SUPPORT** spurring economic growth through expanded and permanent tax relief for Americans
- ☐ We **SUPPORT** implementing smart regulatory reform based on common sense and sound science
- ☐ We **SUPPORT** tort reform



- ☑ We **SUPPORT** strengthening intellectual property rights and patent protection
- ☑ We **SUPPORT** attracting private capital to our shores by reducing taxes and eliminating regulatory barriers
- ☑ We **SUPPORT** sensible, affordable health care reform that harnesses the innovation revolution to expand the supply of health care; foster patient-centered wellness; reduce costs; and increase quality and choices
- ☑ We **SUPPORT** attaining energy independence through a responsible, “all of the above” energy plan that maximizes American energy production; incentivizes free-market, green innovations; and encourages common sense conservation
- ☑ We **SUPPORT** negotiating equitable trade agreements with free countries that obey international trade laws and respect their citizens’ human rights
- ☑ We **SUPPORT** expanding worker re-training, and opportunities for continuing education and life-long learning
- ☑ We **SUPPORT** establishing collaborative relationships amongst employers and employees
- ☑ We **SUPPORT**, without amnesty or animus, reforming the broken immigration system to prioritize asylum and assimilation – including the adoption of English as our official language – for the benefit of legal immigrants and Americans
- ☑ We **SUPPORT** education not indoctrination
- ☑ We **SUPPORT** parental control of their children’s moral education
- ☑ We **SUPPORT** parental and local control of public education
- ☑ We **SUPPORT** teaching core academic subjects – reading, math, science, civics, history, and computer and financial literacy

- ❑ We **SUPPORT** freeing teachers to teach by ending the bureaucratization of education
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** making higher education more accessible and accountable to parents, students and taxpayers

Security through Liberty

Republicans reject defeatism in our War for Freedom against Terrorism and the struggle against rogue regimes. Instead, we seek security through liberty.

- ❑ We **SUPPORT** our citizen soldiers, veterans and their families
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** the United States as a force for moral good in the world, and is hated and attacked for being a beacon of freedom to the oppressed and enslaved
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** the policy of “Security through Liberty”
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** unconditional victory in the War for Freedom against terrorism



- ❑ We **SUPPORT** and will never abandon an oppressed people America has sworn to liberate from tyranny, or a sovereign democracy under terrorist threat and/or attack, such as our staunch ally Israel
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** a “bottom up” counter-insurgency strategy that empowers newly emancipated peoples to seize and shape their own destinies; join our family of free nations; and, together, defeat terrorists

- ❑ We **SUPPORT** a modern military that can simultaneously deter hostile regimes; defeat terrorists and insurgents; and, if necessary, defeat a hostile regime
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** strengthening the Arsenal of Democracy's productive capacities in the manufacturing and technology and securing them from expropriation and/or cyber-attack
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** imploding the Iranian regime – which must never possess an atomic weapon – by imposing sanctions and assisting Iranian freedom seekers
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** prescient reconstruction partnerships with countries in danger of becoming failed states and, thereby, havens for terrorists and rogue regimes
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** severe economic and diplomatic sanctions against any nation abetting the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to rogue regimes
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** an integrated missile defense shield with our allies
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** strengthening our intelligence and security organizations and operations
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** reinvigorating the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to defeat freedom's new threats
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** drastically reducing our payments to and participation in the United Nations
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** forming a Liberty Alliance with other free nations to advance freedom and human dignity
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** a constructive containment policy toward communist China

- ❑ We **SUPPORT** securing our nation's borders
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** a Homeland Security policy that knows our enemy; treats terrorism as a martial matter not a criminal matter; and stops terrorists before they attack

Truth through Community

Republicans reject big government's promotion of moral relativism and political "correctness." Instead, we seek truth through community.

- ❑ We **SUPPORT** the God-given, inviolable sanctity and dignity of the human being
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** faith, truth and the Culture of Life
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** the voluntary bonds of faith, family, community and country that, alone, can morally educate the hearts of a free people
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** the entrepreneurial idealism of faith, family and community against the tyranny of bureaucracy
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** the free exercise of religion, because no good government denies God's presence
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** the sanctity of the family
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** parental rights against state usurpation
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** federalism as the first line of defense against an omnipotent federal government



- ❑ We **SUPPORT** the empowerment of individuals, families and communities as the best lines of defense against an omnipotent federal government
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** faith-based initiatives to help the most vulnerable amongst us
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** tax relief for charitable contributions
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** community organizations' right to exist free from politically motivated state discrimination
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** voluntary conservation initiatives by individuals, families and community organizations
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** emancipating the poor from state dependence
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** Americans' patriotic allegiance to our nation's unifying traditions and symbols
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** Americans' sovereignty against infringement by international agreements
- ❑ We **SUPPORT** protecting our Constitution and statutes against judicial activists' in-sourcing of foreign laws

Thus do we embrace our inheritance of liberty and self-government, so all Americans may more fully pursue their happiness and shape our nation's destiny.

What Americans Can Do

In homes, farms, mills and malls across America, citizens are asking: "What can we do?"

Republicans know our liberty has forged the most prosperous and equitable economy in history; and birthed and nurtured

democracy around the world. These concerned citizens are determined to ensure freedom continues preserving and promoting our prosperity and security.

Fortunately, today we can do more for America than any generation in history: Matching entrepreneurial idealism with global technology, in a key stroke we can communicate with Congress; study pending legislation; and discuss issues with citizens across America.

These technologies also provide us more time and opportunities to perform the indispensable acts of virtuous citizenship – voting; writing e-mails or snail mail; making phone calls; volunteering with church, civic and political organizations; supporting or running for elective offices; tutoring students; mentoring troubled youth; donating to charitable organizations; and, yes, attending religious services.



As entrepreneurial idealists supporting our enduring institutions of faith, family and community, our service to America will be as boundless as our moral imagination and devotion to freedom.

Our Newest Birth of Freedom

At the close of the 20th Century, the conservative philosopher Russell Kirk asked:

"Is it conceivable that American civilization...in the 21st Century (can) enter upon an Augustan age of peace and restored order?"

As heirs of the American Revolution, we must defend "the last, best hope of earth" and advance freedom. So challenged in this chaotic age, we must affirm our faith in ourselves as Americans; expand liberty and self-government; and bequeath the greatest nation on earth to our children.

We will. For while Russell Kirk wondered about America's 21st Century future, he knew the answer lived in Americans' free souls:

"The enlightened conservative does not believe that the end or aim of life is competition; or success; or enjoyment; or longevity; or power; or possessions. He believes, instead, that the object of life is Love."

Loving her, we realize America is not an economy or a bureaucracy – America is a country. Serving her, we will ensure America remains our shining sanctuary of liberty, inspired and guided by the virtuous genius of her free people; and eternally blessed by the unfathomable grace of God.

Beset by great challenges and duty bound to determine freedom's future, we answer history's summons:

*Now, God be thanked
Who has matched us with His hour;
And caught our youth,
And wakened us from sleeping.*

Wide awake in our Global Age, we will achieve America's newest birth of freedom!



Our Challenges

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September 27, 1910

Ronald Reagan: **Wide Awake**



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President Ronald Reagan
January 20, 1981

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