



THE BEST OF POLITICS,
GLOBALLY, NOT JUST FROM
THE UNITED STATES: COMMON
SENSE PROGRESSIVISM

2024 (American) Democratic National
Convention

ABSTRACT

The following are sociological and historical analysis from Dr Buch, a progressive scholar.

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Course Title: American-Australian Relational
History



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The Best of Politics, globally, not just from the United States: Common Sense Progressivism

By Dr Neville Buch, MPHA (Qld)

A Message from the 2024 (American) Democratic National Convention (DNC).

The following are sociological and historical analysis from Dr Buch, a progressive scholar. For critical attention to these progressive statements during the DNC, go to the PBS websites:

[Live fact check: Night 1 of the Democratic National Convention](#)

[Live fact check: Night 2 of the Democratic National Convention](#)

[Live fact check: Night 3 of the Democratic National Convention](#)

[Live fact check: Night 4 of the Democratic National Convention](#)

In the Anglophone world, United States, along with the United Kingdom, Canada (with French sources), and Australia and New Zealand, have had a 20th century battling for common-sense progressivism, and none of that diminishes the value of progressivism in other parts of the world, and, indeed, other forms of progressivism.



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DAY 1

Hillary Clinton in her 2024 DNC speech recounted landmarks in women's' progressivism, particularly for the vote and reproductive rights. In each battle, at the time of resistance, it was never seen as "common-sense" by the wider population, but became so. Law is rarely 'commonsensical'. But democratic populations do commonly sense the need for law reform, and the need to defend laws for liberality, human rights, and, as Australians say, "a fair go." As President Biden pointed out, events like 'January 6th' and 'Charlottesville' demonstrate that one section of a democratic population do not share that common sense. One fourth of the American population (an approximation been published) *believe* Donald Trump. This is a person with very little common sense, as Mary Trump, his aunt and a psychologist, has written such a personal and professional evaluation. Yet one fourth of the population are captive to the political propoganda. One might accuse Democrats of political propoganda, and there would be inescapable examples, nevertheless much less than 'The Big Lie' that the Republican machine makes in defending Donald Trump against the charge that he presents "a clear and present danger." Common sense would say that Trump means what he says in his *threats*, and not in his *promises*. His first term in office is clear evidence. ***Those attracted to his messaging are those attracted (and value) to his threats.***

From former Democratic presidential nominee, and former United States Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton spoke on the first night of the 2024 Democratic National Convention on Monday night:

Thank you, my fellow Democrats. Thank you, my fellow Americans. Thank you so much. Thank you all...

Wow. There's a lot of energy in this room, just like there is across the country. Something is happening in America, you can feel it. Something we've worked for and dreamed of for a long time. First though, let's salute President Biden.

He has been democracy's champion at home and abroad. He brought dignity, decency, and confidence back to the White House, and he showed what it means to be a true patriot. Thank you, Joe Biden, for your lifetime of service and leadership.

And now we are writing a new chapter in America's story.



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You know, my mother Dorothy was born right here in Chicago before women had the right to vote. That changed 104 years ago yesterday. Think about it: Tennessee became the final state to ratify the 19th Amendment to the Constitution. The state legislature was deadlocked until one lawmaker's mother, a widow who read three newspapers a day, sent a letter—a letter to her son. “No more delays,” she wrote. “Give us the vote.” And since that day, every generation has carried the torch forward.

In 1972, a fearless black congresswoman named Shirley Chisholm, she ran for President. And her determination let me and millions of others dream bigger. Not just because of who she was, but because of who she fought for: working parents, poor children, the last, the least, and the lost.

In 1984, I brought my daughter to see Geraldine Ferraro, the first woman nominated for vice president. If we can do this, Gerry said, we can do anything.

And then there was 2016, when it was the honor of my life to accept our party's nomination for President. And nearly 66 million Americans voted for a future where there are no ceilings on our dreams.

And afterwards, we refused to give up on America. Millions marched. Many ran for office. We kept our eyes on the future.

Well, my friends, the future is here.

I wish my mother and Kamala's mother could see us. They would say, “Keep going,” surely. And Gerry would say, “Keep going.” Women fighting for reproductive healthcare are saying, “Keep going.” Families building better lives, parents stretching to afford childcare, young people struggling to pay their rent—they're all asking us to keep going.

So with faith in each other and joy in our hearts, let's send Kamala Harris and Tim Walz to the White House.

You know, the story of my life and the history of our country is that progress is possible, but not guaranteed. We have to fight for it and never, ever give up. There is always a choice. Do we push forward or pull back, come together as we the people or split into us versus them? That's the choice we face in this election.

Kamala has the character, experience, and vision to lead us forward. I know her heart and her integrity.

We both got our start as young lawyers helping children who were abused and neglected. That kind of work changes a person. Those kids stay with you. Kamala



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carries with her the hopes of every child she protected, every family she helped, every community she served. So as President, she will always have our backs, and she will be a fighter for us. She will fight to lower costs for hardworking families, open the doors wide for good paying jobs. And yes, she will restore abortion rights nationwide.

As a prosecutor, Kamala locked up murderers and drug traffickers. She will never rest in defense of our freedom and safety. Donald Trump fell asleep at his own trial. And when he woke up, he made his own kind of history—the first person to run for President with 34 felony convictions.

But we also know as Vice President, Kamala sat in the situation room and stood for America's values. I know what it takes, and I can tell you as commander-in-chief, Kamala won't disrespect our military and our veterans. She reveres our Medal of Honor recipients. She won't be sending love letters to dictators. She will defend democracy and our Constitution and will protect America from enemies foreign and domestic.

Think about it. The Constitution says, the President's job is to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed." Those are the words of our founders: "take care." Just look at the candidates. Kamala cares—cares about kids and families, cares about America. Donald only cares about himself.

On her first day in court, Kamala said five words that still guide her: "Kamala Harris, for the people." That is something that Donald Trump will never understand. So it is no surprise, is it, that he is lying about Kamala's record, he's mocking her name and her laugh. Sounds familiar?

But we have him on the run now. So no matter what the polls say, we can't let up. We can't get driven down crazy conspiracy rabbit holes. We have to fight for the truth. We have to fight for Kamala as she will fight for us. Because you know what? It still takes a village to raise a family, heal a country, and win a campaign. And America needs every one of us, our energy, our talents, our dreams. We're not just electing a President. We are uplifting our nation. We're opening the promise of America wide enough for everyone.

Together, we've put a lot of cracks in the highest, hardest glass ceiling. And tonight, tonight's so close to breaking through once and for all.

I want to tell you what I see through all those cracks and why it matters for each and every one of us. What do I see? I see freedom. I see the freedom to make our own decisions about our health, our lives, our loves, our families. The freedom to work with dignity and prosper, to worship as we choose or not. To speak our minds



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freely and honestly. I see freedom from fear and intimidation, from violence and injustice, from chaos and corruption. I see the freedom to look our children in the eye and say, “In America, you can go as far as your hard work and talent will take you,” and mean it.

And you know what? On the other side of that glass ceiling is Kamala Harris raising her hand and taking the oath of office as our 47th President of the United States. Because my friends, when a barrier falls for one of us, it falls, it falls and clears the way for all of us.

So for the next 78 days, we need to work harder than we ever have. We need to beat back the dangers that Trump and his allies pose to the rule of law and our way of life. Don’t get distracted or complacent. Talk to your friends and neighbors. Volunteer. Be proud champions for the truth and for the country that we all love.

I want my grandchildren and their grandchildren to know I was here at this moment, that we were here and that we were with Kamala Harris every step of the way. This is our time, America. This is when we stand up. This is when we break through. The future is here. It’s in our grasp. Let’s go win it.

Source: <https://time.com/7012534/read-hillary-clinton-2024-dnc-speech-full-transcript/>

From President Joe Biden took to the Democratic National Convention stage in Chicago on Monday night:

To my dearest daughter, Ashley, God love you, you’re incredible. Thanks for the introduction, and for being my courageous heart, along with Hunter and our entire family. And especially our rock, Jill, who is, those of you who know us, she still leaves me both breathless and speechless. Everybody knows her. I love her more than she loves me. She walks down the stairs and I still get that going “boom, boom, boom.” You all who know me know I’m not kidding. Let’s give a special round of applause to our First Lady Jill Biden.

My dad used to have an expression for real. He’d say, “Joey, family is the beginning, the middle, and the end.” And I love you all. Folks—and America, I love you.

Folks, let me ask you. Let me ask you: Are you ready to vote for freedom? Are you ready to vote for democracy and for America? Let me ask you: Are you ready to



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elect Kamala Harris and Tim Walz President and Vice President of the United States?

My fellow Democrats, my fellow Americans, nearly four years ago in winter on the steps of the Capitol, on a cold January day, I raised my right hand and I swore an oath to you and to God, to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and to faithfully execute the office of the President of the United States. In front of me was a city surrounded by the National Guard. Behind me, a Capitol just two weeks before had been overrun by a violent mob. But I knew then, from the bottom of my heart that I knew now, there is no place in America for political violence. None.

You cannot say you love your country only when you win. In that moment, I wasn't looking to the past, I was looking to the future. I spoke to the work at hand, the moment we had to meet. It was, as I told you then, a winter of peril and possibility. Of peril and possibility. We're in the grip of a once in a century pandemic, historic joblessness, a call for racial justice long overdue, clear and present threats to our very democracy.

(Crowd chants: "We love Joe!") Thank you.

Yet, I believed then, and I believe now, that progress was and is possible. Justice is achievable, and our best days are not behind us, they're before us. Now it's summer. The winter has passed, and with a grateful heart I stand before you now on this August night to report that democracy has prevailed, democracy has delivered, and now democracy must be preserved.

You've heard me say it before, we're facing an inflection point, one of those rare moments in history when the decisions we make now will determine the fate of our nation and the world for decades to come. That's not hyperbole, I mean it literally. We're in a battle for the very soul of America.

I ran for President in 2020 because of what I saw in Charlottesville in August of 2017. Extremists coming out of the woods, carrying torches, their veins bulging from their necks, carrying Nazi swastikas and chanting the same exact antisemitic bile that was heard in Germany in the early '30s. Neo-Nazis, white supremacists, and the Ku Klux Klan, so emboldened by a President then in the White House that they saw as an ally. They didn't even bother to wear their hoods.

Hate was on the march in America. Old ghosts in new garments, stirring up the oldest divisions, stoking the oldest fears, giving oxygen to the oldest forces that they long sought to tear apart America. In the process, a young woman was killed. When I contacted her mother, I asked about what happened. She told me. When the President was asked what he thought had happened, Donald Trump said, and



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I quote, “There are very fine people on both sides.” My God, that’s what he said. That is what he said and what he meant.

That’s when I realized—had to listen to the admonition of my dead son—I could not stay on the sidelines. So I ran.

Because I had no intention of running again. I’d just lost part of my soul. But I ran with a deep conviction in America. I know and believe in an America where honesty, dignity, decency, still matter. An America where everyone has a fair shot and hate has no safe harbor. An America where the fundamental creed of this nation that all of us are created equal is still very much alive. And a broad coalition of Americans joined with me. Eighty-one million voters voted for us, more than any time in all of history. Because of all of you in this room and others, we came together in 2020 to save democracy.

As your President, I’ve been determined to keep America moving forward, not going back. To stand against hate and violence in all its forms. To be a nation where we not only live with but thrive on diversity, demonizing no one, leaving no one behind, and becoming a nation that we profess to be.

I also ran to rebuild the backbone of America, the middle class. I made a commitment to you that I’d be a President for all Americans, whether you voted for me or not. We have done that. Studies show the major bills we have passed actually delivered more to red states than blue, because the job of the President is to deliver to all of America.

And because of you—and I’m not exaggerating, because of you—we’ve had one of the most extraordinary four years of progress ever. Period. When I say we, I mean Kamala and me.

Just think about it. COVID no longer controls our lives. We got from economic crisis to the strongest economy in the entire world. Record 16 million new jobs. Record small business growth. Record high stock market. Record high 401(k)s. Wages up and inflation down, way down and continuing to go down. The smallest racial wealth gap in 20 years. And yes, we both know we have more to do, but we’re moving in the right direction. More Americans have peace of mind that comes from having health insurance. More Americans have health insurance today than ever before in American history.

And after—as a young senator beginning to fight, beginning to fight for 50 years, to give Medicare the power to negotiate low prescription drug prices, we finally beat big Pharma. And guess who cast the tie breaking vote? Vice President soon-to-be President Kamala Harris. And now it’s the law of the land. Instead of paying \$400



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a month for insulin, seniors with diabetes will pay \$35 a month. The law we passed already includes, starting in January, every senior's total prescription costs can be capped at \$2,000 no matter how expensive the drugs they have. And what we don't focus on, and our Republican friends don't seem to understand, our reforms don't just save seniors money, they save the American taxpayers money. You know what we just passed saved? It saved \$160 billion over the next decade. That's not hyperbole. It's because Medicare no longer has to pay those exorbitant prices to the Big Pharma.

But look.

(Crowd chants: "Thank you, Joe!") Thank you, Kamala, too.

Look. Folks, how can we have the strongest economy in the world without the best infrastructure in the world? Donald Trump promised Infrastructure Week, every week for four years, and he never built a damn thing.

And now because of what Kamala and I have done—remember, we were told we couldn't get it done? Remember, when we came into office, we couldn't get anything passed?—but right now, we're giving America an infrastructure decade not week. We're modernizing our roads, our bridges, our ports, our airports, our trains, our buses, removing every lead pipe from schools and homes so every child could drink clean water. We're providing affordable high speed internet for every American no matter where they live, unlike, not unlike what Roosevelt did with electricity. And so much more. We are uniting the country, we're growing our economy, we're improving our quality of life, and we're building a better America. Because that's who we are.

How can we be the strongest nation in the world without leading the world in science and technology? After years of importing 90% of our semiconductor chips from abroad, which America invented those chips, our CHIPS and Science Act meant that private companies from around the world are now investing literally tens of billions of dollars to build new chip factories right here in America. And over that period, they'll create tens of thousands of jobs. And many of those jobs in the so-called Fabs, the buildings that make the chips that are being constructed now. And guess what? The average salary in those fabs, size of a football field, will be over \$100,000 a year, and you don't need a college degree.

Because of you and so many electeds out there, American manufacturing is back. Where the hell does it say we wouldn't lead the world in manufacturing. Eight-hundred-thousand new manufacturing jobs.



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Our Republican friends and others made sure they'd go abroad to get the cheapest labor. We used to import products and export jobs. Now we export American products and create American jobs, right here in America, where jobs belong. With every new job, with every new factory, pride and hope is being brought back to communities throughout the country that were left behind. You know you're from it, many of you. You know what it's like when that factory closed where your mother, your father, your grandmother, grandfather worked. And now you're back, providing once again, proving that Wall Street didn't build America, the middle class built America, and unions—unions—built the middle class.

It's been my view since I came to the Senate and that's why I'm proud to have been the first President to walk a picket line and be labeled the most pro-union President in history. And I accept it. That's a fact. Because when unions do well, we all do well.

(Crowd chants: "Union Joe!") You got it man. You got it. I agree. I'm proud.

Look, remember when we were told we couldn't get anything done, we couldn't get anything done in the Congress? Well, with your support, we passed the most significant climate law in the history of mankind. Over \$370 billion. Cutting carbon emissions in half by 2030. Launching a Climate Corps similar to AmeriCorps and Peace Corps, creating tens of thousands of jobs for young people in the future who are gonna make sure this continues. Creating hundreds of thousands of jobs in clean energy for American workers, including the IBEW installing 500,000—500,000—charging stations all across America. And in the process, reducing carbon emissions. And we're seeing it, we're seeing to it that the first beneficiaries of environmental initiatives are those fenceline communities that have been smothered by the legacy of pollution. Louisiana and Delaware, Route 9, all the factories, all those chemical factors are right next to the poorest neighborhoods. They're the ones we're going to bring back.

And how, how can we be the greatest nation in the world without the best education system in the world? Donald Trump and the Republican friends—they not only can't think, they can't read very well. Seriously, think about it. Look at their Project 2025. They want to do away with the Department of Education.

Well, during the pandemic, Kamala and I helped states and cities get back their schools back open. And we gave public school teachers a raise. We created apprenticeships with businesses in the communities, putting students on a path to a good paying job whether or not they go to college. And by the way, we're making college a hell of a lot more affordable. Increasing Pell grants by \$900. Over \$15 billion dollars to HBCUs, minority-serving institutions including Hispanic



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institutions and tribal colleges. We kept our commitment to provide more student relief than ever by lifting the burden of helping millions of families so they could get married, start a family, buy a home, and begin to build family wealth and contribute to the community and grow our economy. It's not costing us, it's creating more wealth.

We fundamentally transformed how our economy grows, from the middle-out and the bottom-up instead of the top-down. You know, my dad used to say there wasn't a whole hell of a lot to drop down on my kitchen table at the end of the month. I come from a basic middle-class family—three bedroom house, four kids, a grandpop living with us, decent neighborhood, but never a penny to spare—and look, that top-down notion never worked. A lot of Democrats thought it worked, but it doesn't. And when we did all that, what we've done, everybody can do well. Everybody.

Donald Trump calls America a failing nation. No, I'm saying, but think about this. Think about this. He publicly says to the whole world—I'm going to say something outrageous. I know more foreign leaders by their first names and know them well than anybody alive just because I'm so damn old. Well, I'm not joking—think of the message he sends around the world when he talks about America being a failing nation.

He says, we're losing. He's the loser. He's dead wrong. Many of you are very successful people who travel the world. Name me a country in the world that doesn't think we're the leading nation in the world. Without America—not a joke, think about it, I'm being literal—who can lead the world other than the United States of America?

Well, guess what? America's winning and the world's better off for it. America's more prosperous and America is safer today than under Donald Trump. Trump continues to lie about crime in America like everything else. Guess what? On his watch, the murder rate went up 30%, the biggest increase in history. Meanwhile, we made the largest investment, Kamala and I, in public safety ever. Now, the murder rate is falling faster than any time in history. Violent crime has dropped to the lowest level of more than 50 years. And crime will keep coming down when we put a prosecutor in the Oval Office instead of a convicted felon.

And folks, the distinguished Senator from California and I passed the first ban on assault weapons. And guess what? It worked. If we care about public safety, we need to prevent gun violence. And what makes me ashamed when I've traveled the world, which I do, more children in America are killed by a gunshot than any other cause in the United States. More die from a bullet than cancer, accidents, or



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anything else in the United States of America. My God. That's why Kamala and I are proud. We beat the NRA when we passed the first major bipartisan gun safety law in 30 years. I am serious. That comes from here. (*Biden points to his heart.*) And now it's time to ban assault weapons again and demand universal background checks.

It's hard. I never thought I'd stand before a crowd of Democrats and refer to a President as a liar so many times. No, I'm not trying to be funny. It's sad.

Trump continues to lie about the border. Here's what he won't tell you. Trump killed the strongest bipartisan border deal in the history of the United States that we negotiated with the Senate Republican took four weeks. Once it passed, and then we acknowledged those expansive border change in American history, he called senators to say, "Don't support the bipartisan bill" because he said it would help me politically and hurt him politically. My God. No, I'm serious. Think about it. Not a joke. Ask even the press who doesn't like me, they'll tell you that's true. Typically Trump, once again, putting himself first and America last.

Then I had to take executive action. The result of the executive action I took: border encounters have dropped over 50%. In fact, there are fewer border crossings today than when Donald Trump left office. And unlike Trump, we will not demonize immigrants, saying they're the poison of the blood of America, poison the blood of our country. Kamala and I are committed to strengthening legal immigration, including protecting Dreamers and more.

And here's what else I believe in: protecting your freedom. Your freedom to vote, your freedom to love who you love, and your freedom to choose. In its decision overturning *Roe v. Wade*, as you heard earlier tonight, the United States Supreme Court majority wrote the following, "Women are not without electoral or political power." No kidding. MAGA Republicans found out the power of women in 2022. And Donald Trump is going to find out the power of women in 2024. Watch.

And where Trump and his MAGA Republican right wingers seek to erase history, we Democrats continue to write history and make more history. I'm proud. I'm proud to have kept my commitment to appoint the first Black woman in the United States Supreme Court, Ketanji Brown Jackson, a symbol for every young woman in America that you can do anything. I'm proud that I've kept my commitment to have an administration that looks like America and that taps into the full talent of our nation. The most diverse cabinet in history, including the first Black woman and South Asian descent to serve as Vice President—and will soon serve as the 47th President of the United States.



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She's good. Look.

(*Crowd chants: "Thank you, Joe!"*) Thank you, Kamala.

Folks, I've long said, we have many obligations as a nation. But I got in trouble years ago for saying I'd make no apologies. We have only one truly sacred obligation: to prepare and equip those we send to war and care for them and their families when they come home and when they don't. That's why I was so proud to have written and signed the PACT Act, one of the most significant laws ever, helping veterans and their families exposed to toxic materials like burn pits and Agent Orange.

I was around during the Vietnam War. It's hard. Nobody's able to prove that their illness is a consequence of Agent Orange. And no one was able to prove initially that because they lived in burn pits—like my son lived next to in Iraq for a year—that it was the cause of their illness. But because of the PACT Act, a surviving spouse to two children, is now eligible for a stipend of about \$3,000 a month. And those children who lost a parent are eligible for tuition benefits to go to college and to get job training. It's already helping over one million veterans and their families just so far. Well, I love them and I'm so proud of my son's service.

We get it. But guess who doesn't get it—and doesn't respect our veterans. We know from his own chief of staff, the four-star general John Kelly, that Trump when in Europe would not go to the grave sites, the one of—in France—the brave service members who gave their lives to this country. He called them suckers and losers. Who in the hell does he think he is? Who does he think he is? There's no words for a person. They are not the words of a person—not worthy of being a commander-in-chief, period. Not then. Not now. And not ever. I mean that. I mean that from the bottom of my heart. Just as no commander-in-chief should ever bow down to a dictator, the way Trump bows down to Putin. I never have, and I promise you, Kamala Harris will never do it, will never bow down.

When Trump left office, Europe and NATO was in tatters. Not a joke. "America First" doctrine changed our whole image in the world. Well, I spent—they gave the hours, about 190 hours, sum total—[inaudible] with my counterparts or heads of state in Europe to strengthen NATO. We did. We united Europe like it hadn't been united for years, adding Finland and Sweden to NATO.

Ten days before he died, Henry Kissinger called and said, "Not since, not since Napoleon has Europe not looked over their shoulder at Russia with dread, until now. Until now." Well, guess what? Putin thought he'd take Kyiv in three days. Three years later, Ukraine is still free.



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When I came to office, the conventional wisdom was that China would inevitably surpass the United States. They haven't noticed: No one's saying that now.

And we'll keep working to bring hostages home and end the war in Gaza and bring peace and security to the Middle East. As you know, I wrote a peace treaty for Gaza. A few days ago, I put forward a proposal that brought us closer to doing that than we've done since October 7th. We're working around the clock, my Secretary of State, to prevent a wider war and reunite hostages with their families and surge humanitarian health and food assistance into Gaza now, to end the civilian suffering of the Palestinian people and finally, finally, finally deliver a ceasefire and end this war.

Those protesters out in the street, they have a point. A lot of innocent people are being killed on both sides.

Just as we worked around the clock to bring home wrongfully detained Americans and others from Russia, in one of the most complicated swaps in history—but they're home—Kamala and I are going to keep working to bring all Americans wrongfully detained around the world home. I mean it.

Folks, I've got five months left in my presidency. I've got a lot to do. I intend to get it done.

It's been the honor of my lifetime to serve as your President. I love the job, but I love my country more. I love my country more.

And all this talk about how I'm angry with all those people who said I should step down—that's not true.

(Crowd chants: "We love Joe.")

I love my country more, and we need to preserve our democracy. In 2024, we need you to vote. We need you to keep the Senate. We need you to win back the House of Representatives. And above all, we need you to beat Donald Trump and elect Kamala and Tim President and Vice President of the United States of America.

Look, they'll continue to lead America forward, creating more jobs, standing up for workers, growing the economy, lowering the cost of American families so they just have a little more breathing room. We made incredible progress, and we have more work to do. And Kamala and Tim will continue to take on corporate greed and bring down cost of food. They'll keep taking on Big Pharma, making insulin \$35 a month, not just for seniors but for everyone in America. And capping prescription drug cost to a total of \$2,000, not just for seniors but for everyone. And folks, that's going to save America again tens of billions of dollars. Folks, they'll make housing



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more affordable, building 3 million new homes, providing \$25,000 down payment assistance for the first-time home buyer, more than the 10 we approved.

Donald Trump wants a new tax on imported goods, food, gas, clothing, more. You know what that would cost the average family, according to the experts? \$3,900 a year in tax. No, it's a fact. Kamala and Tim will make the childcare tax credit permanent, lifting millions of children out of poverty and helping millions of families get ahead.

But you know what Trump has? He created the largest debt any President had in four years with his \$2 trillion tax cut for the wealthy. Well, Trump has a new plan. He wants to provide a \$5 billion tax cut for corporations that are very wealthy—read it—put us further in debt. And folks, you know we have a thousand billionaires in America. You know what their average tax rate they pay? 8.2%. If we just increased their taxes—we proposed to 25%, which isn't the highest tax rate even—it would raise 500 billion new dollars over 10 years, and they'd still be very wealthy. Look, Kamala and Tim are going to make them pay their fair share. They'll protect social security and Medicare. Trump wants to cut social security and Medicare. Kamala and Tim will protect your freedom. They'll protect your right to vote. They'll protect your civil rights.

And you know Trump will do everything to ban abortion nationwide. Oh, he will. You know, Kamala and Tim will do everything they possibly can. That's why you have to elect a Senate and a House to restore *Roe v. Wade*.

The ancient Greeks taught us that character is destiny. Character is destiny. For me and Jill, we know Kamala and Doug are people of character. It's been our honor to serve alongside them. And we know that Tim and Gwen Walz are also people of great character.

Selecting Kamala was the very first decision I made when I became our nominee. And it was the best decision I made my whole career. We've not only gotten to know each other, we've become close friends. She's tough, she's experienced, and she has enormous integrity. Enormous integrity. Her story represents the best American story.

And like many of our best Presidents, she was also Vice President. That's a joke.

But she'll be a President our children could look up to. She'll be a President respected by world leaders because she already is. She'll be a President we can all be proud of. And she will be an historic President who puts her stamp on America's future.



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This will be the first presidential election since January 6th. On that day, we almost lost everything about who we are as a country. And that threat—this is not hyperbole—that threat is still very much alive. Donald Trump says he will refuse to accept the election result if he loses again. Think about that. He means it. Think about that. He’s promising a “bloodbath” if he loses, in his words, and that he’ll be a dictator on “day one,” in his own words. By the way, this sucker means it. No, I’m not joking. Think about it. Anybody else said that in the past, you’d think he was crazy—he is crazy—but you’d think it was an exaggeration. But he means it. We can’t let that happen.

Folks, all of us carry a special obligation. Independents, Republicans, Democrats. We saved democracy in 2020, and now we must save it again in 2024. The vote that each of us cast this year will determine whether democracy and freedom will prevail. It’s that simple. It’s that serious. And the power is literally in your hands. History’s in your hands. Not hyperbole. It’s in your hands. America’s future’s in your hands.

Let me close with this: Nowhere else in the world could a kid with a stutter and modest beginnings in Scranton, Pennsylvania, and Claymont, Delaware, grow up to sit behind the Resolute Desk in the Oval Office. That’s because America is and always has been a nation of possibilities. Possibilities. We must never lose that. Never.

Kamala and Tim understand that this nation must continue to be a place of possibilities. Not just for the few of us, but for all of us. Join me in promising your whole heart to this effort. And where my heart will be, I promise I’ll be the best volunteer Harris and Walz’s camp have ever seen.

Each of us has a part in the American story. For me and my family, there’s a song that means a lot to us, that captures the best of who we are as a nation. The song is called *American Anthem*. There’s one verse that stands out—and I can’t sing worth a damn so I’m not gonna try, I’ll just quote it—“The work and prayers of centuries have brought us to this day. What shall our legacy be? What will our children say? Let me know in my heart when my days are through. America, America, I gave my best to you.”

(Crowd chants: “Thank you, Joe!”)

I’ve made a lot of mistakes in my career, but I gave my best to you. For 50 years, like many of you, I’ve given my heart and soul to our nation. And I’ve been blessed a million times in return with the support of the American people.



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I've either been too young to be in the Senate because I wasn't 30 yet and too old to stay as President. But I hope you know how grateful I am to all of you.

I can honestly say, and I mean this from the bottom—I'll give you my word as a Biden—I can honestly say I'm more optimistic about the future than I was when I was elected as a 29-year-old United States Senator. I mean it.

Folks, we just have to remember who we are. We're the United States of America. And there's nothing we cannot do when we do it together. God bless you all, and may God protect our troops. Thank you.

Source: <https://time.com/7012342/watch-president-biden-dnc-speech/>

DAY 2

What is also clear to the contemporary historian – to critical reading in the present history which we now live in – is that the Obama Presidency (44th U.S. President) changed the political landscape in the period 2009-2017, and in the same way Donald Trump (45th U.S. President), again, reshaped the landscape in the period 2017-2021. It has been an extraordinary period of culture-history warfare, not only for the United States, but in many places around the world. Former First Lady Michelle Obama spoke about the pain that such damage it is caused. Former President Barack Obama did well in speaking of the civility that the country needed to overcome this warfare. It is clear to educated persons in countries outside the United States, that the DNC has captured the high ground: principled and compassionate. The challenge has been to speak to Republicans, Independents, and the Undecided voter. In this regard it is significant that, at the DNC, Republicans and Independents have also given speeches in support of the Kamala Harris and Tim Walz team. The remaining audience to reach is the undecided voter.

From former First Lady Michelle Obama took to the Democratic National Convention stage in Chicago on Tuesday night:

Thank you guys. OK. We got a big night ahead. Thank you all so much. Thank you. Hello, Chicago!

Something, something wonderfully magical is in the air, isn't it? Yeah.



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You know, we're feeling it here in this arena, but it's spreading all across this country we love. A familiar feeling that's been buried too deep for far too long. You know what I'm talking about. It's the contagious power of hope, the anticipation, the energy, the exhilaration of once again being on the cusp of a brighter day. The chance to vanquish the demons of fear, division, and hate that have consumed us and continue pursuing the unfinished promise of this great nation. The dream that our parents and grandparents fought and died and sacrificed for. America, hope is making a comeback.

But, to be honest, I am realizing that until recently, I have mourned the dimming of that hope. And maybe you've experienced the same feelings—it's that deep pit in my stomach, a palpable sense of dread about the future. And for me, that mourning has also been mixed with my own personal grief. The last time I was here in my hometown was to memorialize my mother, the woman who showed me the meaning of hard work and humility and decency. The woman who set my moral compass high and showed me the power of my own voice. Folks, I still feel her loss so profoundly. I wasn't even sure if I'd be steady enough to stand before you tonight, but my heart compelled me to be here because of the sense of duty that I feel to honor her memory and to remind us all not to squander the sacrifices our elders made to give us a better future.

You see, my mom in her steady quiet way, lived out that striving sense of hope every single day of her life. She believed that all children, all people have value. That anyone can succeed if given the opportunity. She and my father didn't aspire to be wealthy—in fact, they were suspicious of folks who took more than they needed. They understood that it wasn't enough for their kids to thrive if everyone else around us was drowning. So my mother volunteered at the local school. She always looked out for the other kids on the block. She was glad to do the thankless, unglamorous work that, for generations, has strengthened the fabric of this nation. The belief that if you do unto others, if you love thy neighbor, if you work and scrape and sacrifice, it will pay off—if not for you, then maybe for your children or your grandchildren.

You see, those values have been passed on through family farms and factory towns, through tree-lined streets and crowded tenements, through prayer groups and national guard units and social studies classrooms. Those were the values my mother poured into me until her very last breath.

Kamala Harris and I built our lives on those same foundational values. Even though our mothers grew up an ocean apart, they shared the same belief in the promise of this country. That's why her mother moved here from India at 19. It's



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why she taught Kamala about justice, about the obligation to lift others up, about our responsibility to give more than we take. She'd often tell her daughter: "Don't sit around and complain about things. Do something."

So, with that voice in her head, Kamala went out and she worked hard in school, graduating from an HBCU, earning her law degree at a state school. And then she went on to work for the people fighting to hold law breakers accountable, strengthening the rule of law, fighting to get folks better wages, cheaper prescription drugs, a good education, decent healthcare, childcare, elder care. From a middle class household, Kamala worked her way up to become Vice President of the United States of America.

My girl, Kamala Harris, is more than ready for this moment. She is one of the most qualified people ever to seek the office of the presidency. And she is one of the most dignified—a tribute to her mother, to my mother, and to your mother too. The embodiment of the stories we tell ourselves about this country. Her story is your story. It's my story. It's the story of the vast majority of Americans trying to build a better life.

Look, Kamala knows, like we do, that regardless of where you come from, what you look like, who you love, how you worship, or what's in your bank account, we all deserve the opportunity to build a decent life. All of our contributions deserve to be accepted and valued. Because no one has a monopoly on what it means to be an American. No one.

Kamala has shown her allegiance to this nation, not by spewing anger and bitterness, but by living a life of service and always pushing the doors of opportunity open to others. She understands that most of us will never be afforded the grace of failing forward. We will never benefit from the affirmative action of generational wealth. If we bankrupt the business or choke in a crisis, we don't get a second, third, or fourth chance. If things don't go our way, we don't have the luxury of whining or cheating others to get further ahead. No. We don't get to change the rules, so we always win. If we see a mountain in front of us, we don't expect there to be an escalator waiting to take us to the top. No. We put our heads down. We get to work. In America, we do something.

(Crowd chants: "Do something!")

And throughout her entire life, that's what we've seen from Kamala Harris, the steel of her spine, the steadiness of her upbringing, the honesty of her example, and yes, the joy of her laughter and her light.



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It couldn't be more obvious: Of the two major candidates in this race, only Kamala Harris truly understands the unseen labor and unwavering commitment that has always made America great.

Now, unfortunately, we know what comes next. We know folks are going to do everything they can to distort her truth. My husband and I, sadly, know a little something about this. For years, Donald Trump did everything in his power to try to make people fear us. See, his limited, narrow view of the world made him feel threatened by the existence of two hardworking, highly educated, successful people who happen to be Black.

Wait, I want to know: Who's going to tell him that the job he's currently seeking might just be one of those "Black jobs"?

Look, it's his same old con: doubling down on ugly, misogynistic, racist lies as a substitute for real ideas and solutions that will actually make people's lives better. Look, because cutting our healthcare, taking away our freedom to control our bodies, the freedom to become a mother through IVF like I did—those things are not going to improve the health outcomes of our wives, mothers, and daughters. Shutting down the Department of Education, banning our books—none of that will prepare our kids for the future. Demonizing our children for being who they are and loving who they love—look, that doesn't make anybody's life better.

Instead, it only makes us small. And let me tell you this: Going small is never the answer. Going small is the opposite of what we teach our kids. Going small is petty, it's unhealthy, and quite frankly, it's unpresidential.

So, why would any of us accept this from anyone seeking our highest office? Why would we normalize that type of backward leadership? Doing so only demeans and cheapens our politics. It only serves to further discourage good, big-hearted people from wanting to get involved at all. America, our parents taught us better than that, and we deserve so much better than that.

That's why we must do everything in our power to elect two of those good, big-hearted people. There is no other choice than Kamala Harris and Tim Walz. No other choice.

But, as we embrace this renewed sense of hope, let us not forget the despair we have felt. Let us not forget what we are up against. Yes, Kamala and Tim are doing great now. We're loving it. They're packing arenas across the country. Folks are energized. We are feeling good. But, remember there are still so many people who are desperate for a different outcome, who are ready to question and criticize every move Kamala makes, who are eager to spread those lies, who don't want to



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vote for a woman, who will continue to prioritize building their wealth over ensuring that everyone has enough.

So no matter how good we feel tonight or tomorrow or the next day, this is going to be an uphill battle. So folks, we cannot be our own worst enemies. No. See, because the minute something goes wrong, the minute a lie takes hold, folks, we cannot start wringing our hands. We cannot get a Goldilocks complex about whether everything is just right. And we cannot indulge our anxieties about whether this country will elect someone like Kamala instead of doing everything we can to get someone like Kamala elected.

Kamala and Tim, they have lived amazing lives and I am confident that they will lead with compassion, inclusion, and grace. But they are still only human. They are not perfect. And like all of us, they will make mistakes. But luckily y'all, this is not just on them. No, uh-uh. This is up to us, all of us, to be the solution that we seek. It's up to all of us to be the antidote to the darkness and division. Look, I don't care how you identify politically—whether you're a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or none of the above. This is our time to stand up for what we know in our hearts is right. To stand up, not just for our basic freedoms but for decency and humanity; for basic respect, dignity, and empathy; for the values at the very foundation of this democracy.

It's up to us to remember what Kamala's mother told her: "Don't just sit around and complain. Do something." So if they lie about her—and they will—we've got to do something. If we see a bad poll—and we will—we've got to put down that phone and do something. If we start feeling tired, if we start feeling that dread creeping back in, we gotta pick ourselves up, throw water on our face, and what?

(Crowd chants: "Do something!")

We only have two and a half months, y'all, to get this done. Only 11 weeks to make sure every single person we know is registered and has a voting plan. So we cannot afford for anyone, anyone, anyone, America, to sit on their hands and wait to be called. Don't complain if no one from the campaign has specifically reached out to you to ask you for your support. There is simply no time for that kind of foolishness. You know what you need to do.

So, consider this to be your official ask: Michelle Obama is asking you—no, I'm telling y'all—to do something.

(Crowd chants: "Do something!")



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Because, y'all, this election is gonna be close. In some states, just a handful—listen to me—a handful of votes in every precinct could decide the winner. So we need to vote in numbers that erase any doubt. We need to overwhelm any effort to suppress us. Our fate is in our hands. In 77 days, we have the power to turn our country away from the fear, division, and smallness of the past. We have the power to marry our hope with our action. We have the power to pay forward the love, sweat, and sacrifice of our mothers and fathers and all those who came before us.

We did it before, y'all, and we sure can do it again. Let us work like our lives depend on it, and let us keep moving our country forward and go higher—yes, always higher—than we've ever gone before, as we elect the next President and Vice President of the United States, Kamala Harris and Tim Walz.

Thank you all. God bless.

Now, before I go, I have one more job tonight. Yeah, one more job. You all, thank you for all the love, but it is now my honor to introduce somebody who knows a whole lot about hope, someone who has spent his life strengthening our democracy—and let me tell you, as someone who lives with him, he wakes up every day, every day, and thinks about what's best for this country. Please welcome America's 44th President and the love of my life, Barack Obama.

Source: <https://time.com/7013289/michelle-obama-2024-dnc-speech-full-transcript/>

Former President Barack Obama was the keynote speaker of the second night of the Democratic National Convention in Chicago:

Chicago—it's good to be home. It is good to be home. And I don't know about you, but I'm feeling fired up. I am feeling ready to go even if I am the only person stupid enough to speak after Michelle Obama.

I am feeling hopeful because this convention has always been pretty good to kids with funny names who believe in a country where anything is possible; because we have a chance to elect someone who has spent her entire life trying to give people the same chances America gave her, someone who sees you and hears



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you and will get up every single day and fight for you, the next President of the United States of America, Kamala Harris.

It's been 16 years since I had the honor of accepting this party's nomination for President. And I know that's hard to believe, because I have not aged a bit. But it's true. And looking back, I can say, without question, that my first big decision as your nominee turned out to be one of my best. And that was asking Joe Biden to serve by my side as Vice President.

Other than some common Irish blood, Joe and I come from different backgrounds. But we became brothers. And as we worked together for eight—sometimes pretty tough—years, what I came to admire most about Joe wasn't just his smarts, his experience; it was his empathy and his decency and his hard earned resilience, his unshakeable belief that everyone in this country deserves a fair shot. And over the last four years, those are the values America has needed most.

At a time when millions of our fellow citizens were sick and dying, we needed a leader with the character to put politics aside and do what was right. At a time when our economy was reeling, we needed a leader with the determination to drive what would become the world's strongest recovery: 15 million jobs, higher wages, lower healthcare costs. At a time when the other party had turned into a cult of personality, we needed a leader who was steady and brought people together, and was selfless enough to do the rarest thing there is in politics: putting his own ambition aside for the sake of the country.

History will remember Joe Biden as an outstanding President who defended democracy at a moment of great danger. And I am proud to call him my President, but I am even prouder to call him my friend.

(Crowd chants: "Thank you, Joe!")

Now, the torch has been passed. Now, it is up to all of us to fight for the America we believe in. And make no mistake, it will be a fight. For all the incredible energy



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we've been able to generate over the last few weeks, for all the rallies and the memes, this will still be a tight race in a closely divided country. A country where too many Americans are still struggling, where a lot of Americans don't believe government can help. And as we gather here tonight, the people who will decide this election are asking a very simple question: Who will fight for me? Who's thinking about my future, about my children's future, about our future together?

One thing is for certain: Donald Trump is not losing sleep over that question. Here's a 78-year-old billionaire who has not stopped whining about his problems since he rode down his golden escalator nine years ago. It has been a constant stream of gripes and grievances that's actually been getting worse now that he is afraid of losing to Kamala. There's the childish nicknames, the crazy conspiracy theories, this weird obsession with crowd sizes.

It just goes on and on and on. The other day, I heard someone compare Trump to the neighbor who keeps running his leaf blower outside your window every minute of every day. Now, from a neighbor, that's exhausting. From a President, it's just dangerous.

The truth is, Donald Trump sees power as nothing more than a means to his ends. He wants the middle class to pay the price for another huge tax cut that would mostly help him and his rich friends. He killed a bipartisan immigration deal written in part by one of the most conservative Republicans in Congress that would've helped secure our southern border, because he thought trying to actually solve the problem would hurt his campaign. He doesn't—

(Crowd boos.) Do not boo. Vote.

He doesn't seem to care if more women lose their reproductive freedom, since it won't affect his life. And most of all, Donald Trump wants us to think that this country is hopelessly divided: between us and them, between the real Americans who—of course—support him and the outsiders who don't. And he wants you to think that you'll be richer and safer if you will just give him the power to put those



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other people back in their place. It is one of the oldest tricks in politics, from a guy whose act has—let's face it—gotten pretty stale.

We do not need four more years of bluster and bumbling and chaos. We have seen that movie before, and we all know that the sequel is usually worse.

America's ready for a new chapter. America's ready for a better story. We are ready for a President Kamala Harris.

And Kamala Harris is ready for the job. This is a person who has spent her life fighting on behalf of people who need a voice and a champion. As you heard from Michelle, Kamala was not born into privilege. She had to work for what she's got. And she actually cares about what other people are going through. She's not the neighbor running the leaf blower. She's the neighbor rushing over to help when you need a hand.

As a prosecutor, Kamala stood up for children who had been victims of sexual abuse. As an Attorney General of the most populous state in the country, she fought big banks and for-profit colleges, securing billions of dollars for the people they had scammed. After the whole mortgage crisis, she pushed me and my Administration hard to make sure homeowners got a fair settlement. It didn't matter that I was a Democrat, didn't matter that she had knocked on doors for my campaign in Iowa—she was going to fight to get as much relief as possible for the families who deserved it.

As Vice President, she helped take on the drug companies to cap the cost of insulin, lower the cost of healthcare, give families with kids a tax cut. And she is running for President with real plans to lower costs even more and protect Medicare and Medicaid and sign a law to guarantee every woman's right to make her own healthcare decisions.

In other words, Kamala Harris won't be focused on her problems, she'll be focused on yours. As President, she won't just cater to her own supporters and



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punish those who refuse to kiss the ring or bend the knee. She'll work on behalf of every American. That's who Kamala is.

And in the White House, she will have an outstanding partner in Governor Tim Walz. Let me tell you something. Let me tell you something. I love this guy. Tim is the kind of person who should be in politics: born in a small town, served his country, taught kids, coached football, took care of his neighbors. He knows who he is, and he knows what's important. You can tell those flannel shirts he wears don't come from some political consultant; they come from his closet, and they have been through some stuff. They have been through some stuff. That's right.

Together, Kamala and Tim have kept faith with America's central story: a story that says, "We are all created equal." All of us endowed with certain inalienable rights. That everyone deserves a chance. That even when we don't agree with each other, we can find a way to live with each other. That's Kamala's vision. That's Tim's vision. That's the Democratic Party's vision. And our job over the next 11 weeks is to convince as many people as possible to vote for that vision.

Now, it won't be easy. The other side knows it's easier to play on people's fears and cynicism. It always has been. They will tell you that government is inherently corrupt, that sacrifice and generosity are for suckers, and since the game is rigged it's okay to take what you want and just look after your own. That's the easy path.

We have a different task. Our job is to convince people that democracy can actually deliver. And, and in doing that, we can't just point to what we've already accomplished. We can't just rely on the ideas of the past. We need to chart a new way forward to meet the challenges of today. And Kamala understands this. She knows, for example, that if we want to make it easier for more young people to buy a home, we need to build more units and clear away some of the outdated laws and regulations that made it harder to build homes for working people in this country. That is a priority. And she's put out a bold new plan to do just that.

On healthcare, we should all be proud of the enormous progress that we've made through the Affordable Care Act, providing millions of people access to affordable



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coverage, protecting millions more from unscrupulous insurance practices. And I'd noticed, by the way, that since it's become popular, they don't call it Obamacare no more.

But Kamala knows we can't stop there, which is why she'll keep working to limit out-of-pocket costs. Kamala knows that if we want to help people get ahead, we need to put a college degree within reach of more Americans. But she also knows college shouldn't be the only ticket to the middle class. We need to follow the lead of governors like Tim Walz, who said, if you've got the skills and the drive, you shouldn't need a degree to work for state government.

And in this new economy, we need a President who actually cares about the millions of people all across this country, who wake up every single day to do the essential, often thankless work: to care for our sick, to clean our streets, to deliver our packages. We need a President who will stand up for their right to bargain for better wages and working conditions. And Kamala will be that President.

Yes, she can.

(Crowd chants: "Yes, she can!") Yes, she can.

A Harris-Walz administration can help us move past some of the tired, old debates that keep stifling progress. Because at their core, Kamala and Tim understand that when everybody gets a fair shot, we are all better off. They understand that when every child gets a good education, the whole economy gets stronger. When women are paid the same as men for doing the same job, all families benefit. They understand that we can secure our borders without tearing kids away from their parents. Just like we can keep our streets safe while also building trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve and eliminating bias that will make it better for everybody.

Donald Trump and his well-heeled donors, they don't see the world that way. For them, one group's gains is necessarily another group's loss. For them, freedom



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means that the powerful can do pretty much what they please, whether it's fire workers trying to organize a union or put poison in our rivers or avoid paying taxes like everybody else has to do.

Well, we have a broader idea of freedom. We believe in the freedom to provide for your family if you're willing to work hard. The freedom to breathe clean air and drink clean water and send your kids to school without worrying if they'll come home. We believe that true freedom gives each of us the right to make decisions about our own life, how we worship, what our family looks like, how many kids we have, who we marry. And we believe that freedom requires us to recognize that other people have the freedom to make choices that are different than ours. That's okay.

That's the America Kamala Harris and Tim Walz believe in: an America where "we, the people" includes everyone. Because that's the only way this American experiment works. And despite what our politics might suggest, I think most Americans understand that. Democracy isn't just a bunch of abstract principles and dusty laws in some book somewhere. It's the values we live by. It's the way we treat each other, including those who don't look like us or pray like us or see the world exactly like we do.

That sense of mutual respect has to be part of our message. Our politics have become so polarized these days that all of us across the political spectrum seem so quick to assume the worst in others unless they agree with us on every single issue. We start thinking that the only way to win is to scold and shame and out-yell the other side. And after a while, regular folks just tune out, or they don't bother to vote.

Now that approach may work for the politicians who just want attention and thrive on division, but it won't work for us. To make progress on the things we care about, the things that really affect people's lives, we need to remember that we've all got our blind spots and contradictions and prejudices. And that if we want to win over those who aren't yet ready to support our candidates, we need to listen to their concerns and maybe learn something in the process.



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After all, if a parent or grandparent occasionally says something that makes us cringe, we don't automatically assume they're bad people. We recognize that the world is moving fast, that they need time and maybe a little encouragement to catch up. Our fellow citizens deserve the same grace we hope they'll extend to us. That's how we can build a true Democratic majority, one that can get things done.

And by the way, that does not just matter to the people in this country. The rest of the world is watching to see if we can actually pull this off. No nation, no society has ever tried to build a democracy as big and as diverse as ours before. One that includes people that, over decades, have come from every corner of the globe. One where our allegiances and our community are defined not by race or blood but by a common creed. And that's why when we uphold our values, the world's a little brighter. When we don't, the world's a little dimmer—and dictators and autocrats feel emboldened, and over time, we become less safe.

We shouldn't be the world's policeman and we can't eradicate every cruelty and injustice in the world. But America can be and must be a force for good: discouraging conflict, fighting disease, promoting human rights, protecting the planet from climate change, defending freedom, brokering peace. That's what Kamala Harris believes and so do most Americans.

(Crowd chants: "Yes, we can!")

I know these ideas can feel pretty naive right now. We live in a time of such confusion and rancor, with a culture that puts a premium on things that don't last: money, fame, status, likes. We chase the approval of strangers on our phones. We build all manner of walls and fences around ourselves, and then we wonder why we feel so alone. We don't trust each other as much because we don't take the time to know each other. And in that space between us, politicians and algorithms teach us to caricature each other and troll each other and fear each other.

But here's the good news, Chicago: All across America, in big cities and small towns, away from all the noise, the ties that bind us together are still there. We still coach Little League and look out for our elderly neighbors. We still feed the hungry



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in churches and mosques and synagogues and temples. We share the same pride when our Olympic athletes compete for the gold. Because the vast majority of us do not want to live in a country that's bitter and divided. We want something better. We want to be better. And the joy and the excitement that we're seeing around this campaign tells us we're not alone.

You know, I've spent a lot of time thinking about this these past few months because, as Michelle mentioned, this summer we lost her mom, Ms. Marian Robinson. And I don't know that anybody has ever loved their mother-in-law any more than I love mine. Mostly it's because she was funny and wise and the least pretentious person I knew. That and she always defended me with Michelle when I messed up. (Crowd laughs.) I'd hide behind her.

But I also think one of the reasons Marian and I became so close was she reminded me of my grandmother, the woman who helped raise me as a child. And on the surface, the two of them did not have a lot in common. One was a Black woman from right here, south side of Chicago, right down the way—(Crowd cheers.)—went to Englewood High School. The other was a little old white lady born in a tiny town called Peru, Kansas. (Crowd cheers.) Now I know there aren't that many people from Peru. (Crowd laughs.)

And yet they shared a basic outlook on life. They were strong, smart, resourceful women, full of common sense, who, regardless of the barriers they encountered—and women growing up in the '40s and '50s and '60s, they encountered barriers—they still went about their business without fuss or complaint and provided an unshakeable foundation of love for their children and their grandchildren. In that sense, they both represented an entire generation of working people, who through war and depression, discrimination, and limited opportunity, helped build this country. A lot of them toiled every day at jobs that were often too small for them and didn't pay a lot. They willingly went without just to keep a roof over their family's heads, just to give their children something better.

But they knew what was true. They knew what mattered: things like honesty and integrity, kindness, and hard work. They weren't impressed with braggarts or bullies. They didn't think putting other people down lifted you up or made you



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strong. They didn't spend a lot of time obsessing about what they didn't have. Instead, they appreciated what they did. They found pleasure in simple things: a card game with friends, a good meal and laughter around the kitchen table, helping others, and, most of all, seeing their children do things and go places that they would've never imagined for themselves.

Whether you are a Democrat or a Republican or somewhere in between, we have all had people like that in our lives. People like Kamala's parents, who crossed oceans because they believed in the promise of America. People like Tim's parents, who taught him about the importance of service. Good, hardworking people, who weren't famous or powerful but who managed in countless ways to leave this country just a little bit better than they found it.

As much as any policy or program, I believe that's what we yearn for: a return to an America where we work together and look out for each other. A restoration of, what Lincoln called on the eve of civil war, our "bonds of affection." An America that taps what he called "the better angels of our nature."

That is what this election is about. And I believe that's why, if we each do our part over the next 77 days, if we knock on doors, if we make phone calls, if we talk to our friends, if we listen to our neighbors, if we work like we've never worked before, if we hold firm to our convictions, we will elect Kamala Harris as the next President of the United States and Tim Walz as the next Vice President of the United States. We will elect leaders up and down the ballot who will fight for the hopeful, forward-looking America we all believe in. And together, we too will build a country that is more secure and more just, more equal, and more free. So let's get to work.

God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.



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Professional Historian

DAY 3

The culture-history warfare is not new, and it keeps going on the spiral of political wilful ignorance: the silent majority, moral majority, New Christian Right, etc, have been movements of the past where a significant section of the American population was hoodwinked in hatred outside “the tribe”. The *imperfect* President (42nd U.S. President; 1993-2001) spoke, at the DNC, on this propaganda, pointing out the nonsense rhetoric of Donald Trump. Tim Walz at the third night of the 2024 Democratic National Convention, accepted his nomination for the Vice-Presidency. He spoke as an ordinary American who happened to be an extraordinary and contemporary leader in modern progressivism; a folksy common-sense progressivism.

Former President Bill Clinton spoke at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago on the third night:

Good evening. After the last two days, am I proud to be a Democrat! I’m especially proud of President Biden, who came to office during the pandemic and an economic crash. He healed us and got us back to work. He strengthened our alliances for freedom and security.

Perhaps the greatest test of anyone in power is whether they’re willing to relinquish it. George Washington knew that and it enhanced his legacy. The same is now true for Joe Biden. Mr. President, thank you for your courage, compassion, and class; for your service and your sacrifice. You have not only kept the faith—you are spreading the faith.

Now, let’s cut to the chase: The stakes are too high and I’m too old to gild the lily. I actually turned 78 two days ago. And I’m still not quite as old as Donald Trump.

Last night we nominated Kamala Harris and Tim Walz to be the next president and vice president.

Two leaders with improbable, all-American life stories that could only happen here, with careers starting in community courtrooms and classrooms. Two leaders who have spent a lifetime getting the job done.



Dr Neville Buch

Professional Historian

A presidential election is a job interview for the greatest job in the world. What questions will you ask—because you’re doing the hiring. Will a president take us forward or backward? Will she give our kids a brighter future? Will she make us more united or more divided? Will we all feel heard, seen, and valued, regardless of who we voted for?

We, the people, are the employers, charged by our Constitution to hire a president to do a job that we get to redefine every four years. In effect, the American people say, “Here are our problems; solve them. Here are our opportunities; seize them. Here are our fears; ease them. Here are our dreams; help us make them come true.” A president can answer that call by leading us to work together—or dodging what needs to be done by dividing, distracting, and deceiving us.

In 2024, we have a clear choice: “We the People” versus “me, myself, and I.” I know which one I like better for our country. Kamala Harris will solve problems, seize opportunities, ease our fears, and make sure that every American can chase their dreams.

When she was a student, she worked at McDonald’s. She greeted every person with that thousand-watt smile and said, “How can I help you?” And now, at the pinnacle of power, she’s still

asking “How can I help you?” I’ll be so happy when she actually enters the White House because, at last, she’ll break my record as the president who has spent the most time at McDonald’s.

Meanwhile, Donald Trump—a paragon of consistency—is still dividing, blaming, and belittling. He creates and curates chaos. It’s showmanship, but it’s not leadership. Not a day goes by that I’m not grateful for the chance the American people gave me to be one of the 45 people who have held the job. Even on the bad days, you can still make something good happen.

Kamala Harris is the only candidate in this race with the vision, the experience, the temperament, the will, and—yes—the sheer joy to do that on good and bad days. To be our voice.



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Now, how does Donald Trump use his voice? Mostly to talk about himself—his vengeance, vendettas, complaints, conspiracies. The next time you hear him, don't count the lies—count the I's. He's like the tenor warming up before the opera: me, me, me, me. Kamala Harris is focused on you.

Do you want to build a strong economy from the bottom up and the middle out? Or do you want to spend the next four years talking about crowd sizes? Since the end of the Cold War in 1989, America has created about 51 million new jobs—about 50 million under Democrats, 1 million under Republicans. 50 to 1! Coach Walz will tell ya, if you're up 50 to 1—you're winning!

Do you want more affordable housing, affordable health care, and affordable child care? Do you want more financing for small businesses? Do you want to strengthen our alliances and stand up for freedom and democracy around the world? Or a tribute to the "late great" Hannibal Lecter? Do you want to save our country and our world from the calamities of climate change? Or obsess on the vital debate between getting eaten by sharks or electrocuted? President Obama once famously called me the Explainer in Chief, but folks—but I can't even.

I want an America that's more joyful, inclusive, and future-focused. Where we weather the storms and earn the benefits together. That's the America Kamala Harris will lead. She's already made her first presidential decision, picking a running mate. And boy, did she knock it out of the park. She called Tim Walz for duty one more time. He's the real deal with a record—as a coach, as a teacher, as a soldier, as a congressman, and as a great governor—to prove it. And he reminds us of home.

Kamala Harris has fought for kids that were left out and left behind. She's taken on gangs trafficking across the border, and fought to protect the rights of homeowners. She's been our leader in the fight for reproductive freedom, and advanced America's interests and values all over the world. She'll work to make sure that no American working full-time has to live in poverty and that homeownership is an achievable dream, not a privilege. She'll protect your right to vote, including your right to vote for someone else.



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For 250 years, the forces of division have tried to halt the march of progress in this beautiful experiment of ours. In the face of stiff, often violent opposition, we have kept hope alive and kept marching forward together.

Kamala Harris's story is the story of an America we all know is possible. Where "We the People" continually strive to make our union more perfect. One where a daughter of the Bay and a son of the Heartland can be the president and vice president.

We should not despair about America's divisions, because we move from happiness to heartbreak, from building and breaking to rebuilding and making. We do the best we can. Until, in God's goodtime, there comes a new generation to pick up where we left off. That's the opportunity we're given now. To pick an extraordinary woman, clearly up to the job, who'll bring us together and move us forward.

So, talk to your neighbors. Meet people where they are. Don't demean them. Ask them for their help.

And ask them, as Kamala still does, "How can I help you?" We've got a lot of hay in the barn—we just need to saddle up and ride with strength through November. If America hires Kamala Harris and Tim Walz, we will never regret it.

Take it from the Man from Hope, Kamala Harris is the woman from joy. And we will make a joyful noise on Election Day if you do your part. Thank you. God bless you and God bless America.

Source: <https://www.nbcconnecticut.com/news/national-international/bill-clinton-full-speech-text-dnc-chicago-2024/3368578/>



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From Minnesota governor and the DNC candidate (confirmed nominee) for Vice-President, Tim Walz, at the third night of the 2024 Democratic National Convention on Wednesday night:

Wow. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Wow. Thank you.

Thank you, first of all, to Vice President Harris. Thanks for putting your trust in me, and for inviting me to be part of this incredible campaign.

And a thank you to President Joe Biden, for four years of strong, historic leadership.

It's the honor of my life to accept your nomination for vice president of the United States. We're all here tonight for one beautiful, simple reason: We love this country.

So thank you, to all of you here in Chicago, and all of you watching at home tonight. Thank you for your passion. Thank you for your determination. And most of all, thank you for bringing the joy to this fight.

Now I grew up in Butte, Nebraska, a town of 400 people. I had 24 kids in my high school class. And none of them went to Yale.

But I'll tell you what. Growing up in a small town like that, you learn how to take care of each other. That family down the road, they may not think like you do, they may not pray like you do. They may not love like you do. But they're your neighbors. And you look out for them. And they look out for you. Everybody belongs. And everybody has a responsibility to contribute.

For me, it was serving in the Army National Guard. I joined up two days after my 17th birthday, and I proudly wore our nation's uniform for 24 years. My dad, a



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Korean War-era Army veteran, died of lung cancer a couple of years later. He left behind a mountain of medical debt. Thank god for Social Security survivor benefits.

And thank God for the G.I. Bill that allowed my dad and me to go to college. And millions of other Americans. Eventually, like the rest of my family, I fell in love with teaching. Three out of four of us married teachers. I wound up teaching social studies and coaching football at Mankato West High School. Go, Scarlets. We ran — we ran a 44 defense, we played through to the whistle on every single play, and we even won a state championship. Never close the yearbook, people.

Abortion in the Spotlight: In a dramatic shift from just four years ago, Democrats are embracing abortion rights in a manner unlike ever before, another sign of how radically the politics of the issue have changed.

But it was those players and my students who inspired me to run for Congress. They saw in me what I had hoped to instill in them: a commitment to the common good, an understanding that we're all in this together, and the belief that a single person can make a real difference for their neighbors. So there I was, a 40-something high school teacher with little kids, zero political experience and no money, running in a deep-red district. But you know what? Never underestimate a public-school teacher. Never.

I represented my neighbors in Congress for 12 years. And I learned an awful lot. I learned how to work across the aisle on issues like growing the rural economies and taking care of veterans. And I learned how to compromise without compromising my values.

Then I came back to serve as governor, and we got right to work making a difference in our neighbors' lives. We cut taxes for the middle class. We passed paid family and medical leave. We invested in fighting crime and affordable housing. We cut the cost of prescription drugs and helped people escape the kind of medical debt that nearly sank my family. And we made sure that every kid in our



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state gets breakfast and lunch every day. So while other states were banning books from their schools, we were banishing hunger from ours.

We also protected reproductive freedom, because in Minnesota, we respect our neighbors and the personal choices they make. And even if we wouldn't make those same choices for ourselves, we've got a golden rule: Mind your own damn business. And that includes I.V.F. and fertility treatments. And this is personal for Gwen and I. If you've never experienced the hell that is infertility, I guarantee you, you know somebody who has. I can remember praying each night for a phone call. The pit in your stomach when the phone would ring, and the absolute agony when we heard the treatments hadn't worked.

It took Gwen and I years, but we had access to fertility treatments. And when our daughter was born, we named her Hope. Hope, Gus and Gwen, you are my entire world, and I love you. I'm letting you in on how we started a family because this is a big part about what this election is about. Freedom. When Republicans use the word freedom, they mean that the government should be free to invade your doctor's office. Corporations — free to pollute your air and water. And banks — free to take advantage of customers.

But when we Democrats talk about freedom, we mean the freedom to make a better life for yourself and the people that you love. Freedom to make your own health care decisions. And yeah, your kids' freedom to go to school without worrying about being shot dead in the hall. Look, I know guns. I'm a veteran. I'm a hunter. And I was a better shot than most Republicans in Congress, and I've got the trophies to prove it. But I'm also a dad. I believe in the Second Amendment, but I also believe our first responsibility is to keep our kids safe.

That's what this is all about. The responsibility we have to our kids, to each other and to the future that we're building together, in which everyone is free to build the kind of life they want.

But not everyone has that same sense of responsibility. Some folks just don't understand what it takes to be a good neighbor. Take Donald Trump and JD Vance.



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Their Project 2025 will make things much, much harder for people who are just trying to live their lives. They spend a lot of time pretending they know nothing about this. But look, I coached high school football long enough to know, and trust me on this: When somebody takes the time to draw up a playbook, they're going to use it.

And we know, if these guys get back in the White House, they'll start jacking up the costs on the middle class. They'll repeal the Affordable Care Act. They'll gut Social Security and Medicare. And they will ban abortion across this country, with or without Congress.

Here's the thing. It's an agenda nobody asked for. It's an agenda that serves nobody, except the richest and the most extreme amongst us. And it's an agenda that does nothing for our neighbors in need.

Is it weird? Absolutely. Absolutely. But it's also wrong, and it's dangerous. It's not just me saying so, it's Trump's own people. They were with him for four years. They're warning us that the next four years will be much, much worse.

You know, when I was teaching, every year we'd elect a student body president. And you know what? Those teenagers could teach Donald Trump a hell of a lot about what a leader is. Leaders don't spend all day insulting people and blaming others. Leaders do the work.

So I don't know about you, I'm ready to turn the page on these guys. So, go ahead. Say it with me: We're not going back.

[Crowd chants: "We're not going back."]

We've got something better to offer the American people. It starts with our candidate, Kamala Harris. From her first day — as a prosecutor, as a district



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attorney, as an attorney general, as a United States senator, and then our vice president — she’s fought on the side of the American people. She’s taken on the predators and fraudsters. She’s taken down the transnational gangs. And she’s stood up to powerful corporate interests. She has never hesitated to reach across that aisle if it meant improving your lives. And she’s always done it with energy, with passion and with joy.

Folks, we’ve got a chance to make Kamala Harris the next president of the United States. But I think we owe it to the American people to tell them exactly what she’d do as president before we ask them for their votes. So this is the part — clip and save it, and send it to your undecided relatives so they know: If you’re a middle-class family, or trying to get into the middle class, Kamala Harris is going to cut your taxes. If you’re getting squeezed by prescription drug prices, Kamala Harris is going to take on Big Pharma. If you’re hoping to buy a home, Kamala Harris is going to help make it more affordable. And no matter who you are, Kamala Harris is going to stand up and fight for your freedom to live the life that you want to lead, because that’s what we want for ourselves, and it’s what we want for our neighbors.

You know, you might not know it, but I haven’t given a lot of big speeches like this. But I have given a lot of pep talks. So let me finish with this, team. It’s the fourth quarter. We’re down a field goal. But we’re on offense and we’ve got the ball. We’re driving down the field. And boy, do we have the right team. Kamala Harris is tough. Kamala Harris is experienced. And Kamala Harris is ready. Our job, our job, our job, our job for everyone watching, is to get in the trenches and do the blocking and tackling. One inch at a time. One yard at a time. One phone call at a time. One door knock at a time. One \$5 donation at a time.

Look, we’ve got 76 days. That’s nothing. There’ll be time to sleep when you’re dead. We’re going to leave it on the field. That’s how we’ll keep moving forward. That’s how we’ll turn the page on Donald Trump. That’s how we’ll build a country where workers come first, health care and housing are human rights, and the government stays the hell out of your bedroom.



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That’s how we make America a place where no child is left hungry. Where no community is left behind. Where nobody gets told they don’t belong. That’s how we’re going to fight.

And as the next president of the United States always says, when we fight —

[Crowd chants: “We win!”]

When we fight —

[Crowd chants: “We win!”]

When we fight —

[Crowd chants: “We win!”]

Thank you. God bless.

Source: <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/08/22/us/politics/tim-walz-dnc-speech-transcript.html>

DAY 4

The DNC candidate (confirmed nominee) for President, Kamala Harris’, speech was well-on-message for common sense progressivism:

- character is inspiring;
- put your faith in our campaign;
- no stranger to unlikely journeys;
- an unshakeable dream to be the scientist;



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- supposed to return home to a traditional arranged marriage;
- that act of self-determination made my sister Maya and me;
- wherever our parents' jobs took us;
- “Run, Kamala. Run.” “Don’t be afraid.” “Don’t let anything stop you.”;
- taught me to be fearless;
- harmony between my parents did not last;
- A beautiful working-class neighborhood;
- Uncle Sherman. Aunt Mary. Uncle Freddy. And Auntie Chris;
- None of them, family by blood. And all of them, Family. By love;
- Family who loved us. Believed in us. And told us we could be anything. Do anything;
- They instilled in us the values they personified. Community. Faith. And the importance of treating others as you would want to be treated. With kindness. Respect. And compassion;
- But she never lost her cool. She was tough. Courageous. A trailblazer in the fight for women’s health;
- For a simple reason. In our system of justice, a harm against any one of us is a harm against all of us;
- No one should be made to fight alone. We are all in this together;
- People who work hard. Chase their dreams. And look out for one another;
- fleeting opportunity to move past the bitterness, cynicism, and divisive battles of the past;
- And listens. Who is realistic. Practical. And has common sense. And always fights...
- Because the future is always worth fighting for;
- we are not going back;
- people can realize their right to dignity. Security. Freedom. And self-determination.

From Vice-President and the DNC candidate (confirmed nominee) for President, Kamala Harris, at the last night of the 2024 Democratic National Convention on Thursday night:

Good evening.

To my husband, Doug, thank you for being an incredible partner to me and father to Cole and Ella.



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And happy anniversary. I love you so very much.

To Joe Biden—Mr. President. When I think about the path we have traveled together, I am filled with gratitude.

Your record is extraordinary, as history will show.

And your character is inspiring. Doug and I love you and Jill. And I am forever thankful to you both.

And to Coach Tim Walz, you are going to be an incredible Vice President.

And to the delegates and everyone who has put your faith in our campaign—your support is humbling.

America, the path that led me here in recent weeks, was no doubt ... unexpected. But I'm no stranger to unlikely journeys.

My mother Shyamala Harris had one of her own. I miss her every day. Especially now. And I know she's looking down tonight. And smiling.

My mother was 19 when she crossed the world alone, traveling from India to California, with an unshakeable dream to be the scientist who would cure breast cancer.

When she finished school, she was supposed to return home to a traditional arranged marriage.

But, as fate would have it, she met my father, Donald Harris, a student from Jamaica. They fell in love and got married, and that act of self-determination made my sister Maya and me.

Growing up, we moved a lot. I will always remember that big Mayflower truck, packed with all our belongings, ready to go: to Illinois, to Wisconsin, and wherever our parents' jobs took us.

My early memories of my parents together are joyful ones. A home filled with laughter and music. Aretha. Coltrane. And Miles.

At the park, my mother would tell us to stay close. But my father would just smile, and say, "Run, Kamala. Run." "Don't be afraid." "Don't let anything stop you."

From my earliest years, he taught me to be fearless.

But the harmony between my parents did not last.



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When I was in elementary school, they split up. And it was mostly my mother who raised us.

Before she could finally afford to buy a home, she rented a small apartment in the East Bay.

In the Bay, you either live in the hills or the flatlands. We lived in the flats.

A beautiful working-class neighborhood of Firefighters, nurses, and construction workers, all who tended their lawns with pride.

My mother worked long hours.

And, like many working parents, she leaned on a trusted circle to help raise us.

Mrs. Shelton, who ran the daycare below us and became a second mother. Uncle Sherman. Aunt Mary. Uncle Freddy. And Auntie Chris.

None of them, family by blood. And all of them, Family. By love.

Family who taught us how to make gumbo. How to play chess. And sometimes even let us win.

Family who loved us. Believed in us. And told us we could be anything. Do anything.

They instilled in us the values they personified. Community. Faith. And the importance of treating others as you would want to be treated. With kindness. Respect. And compassion.

My mother was a brilliant, five-foot-tall, brown woman with an accent. And, as the eldest child, I saw how the world would sometimes treat her.

But she never lost her cool. She was tough. Courageous. A trailblazer in the fight for women's health.

And she taught Maya and me a lesson that Michelle mentioned the other night— She taught us to never complain about injustice. But...do something about it.

She also taught us—Never do anything half-assed. That's a direct quote.

I grew up immersed in the ideals of the Civil Rights Movement.

My parents had met at a civil rights gathering. And they made sure we learned about civil rights leaders, including lawyers like Thurgood Marshall and Constance Baker Motley.



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Those who battled in the courtroom to make real the Promise of America. So, at a young age, I decided I wanted to do that work. I wanted to be a lawyer.

And when it came time to choose – the type of law I would pursue – I reflected on a pivotal moment in my life.

When I was in high school, I started to notice something about my best friend Wanda.

She was sad at school. And there were times she didn't want to go home.

So, one day, I asked if everything was alright. And she confided in me that she was being sexually abused by her step-father. And I immediately told her she had to come stay with us.

And she did. That is one of the reasons I became a prosecutor.

To protect people like Wanda. Because I believe everyone has a right: To safety. To dignity. And to justice.

As a prosecutor, when I had a case, I charged it not in the name of the victim. But in the name of. "The People."

For a simple reason. In our system of justice, a harm against any one of us is a harm against all of us.

I would often explain this, to console survivors of crime. To remind them: No one should be made to fight alone. We are all in this together.

Every day in the courtroom, I stood proudly before a judge and said five words: "Kamala Harris, for the People."

And to be clear: My entire career, I have only had one client. The People.

And so, on behalf of The People, On behalf of every American. Regardless of party. Race. Gender. Or the language your grandmother speaks.

On behalf of my mother and everyone who has ever set out on their own unlikely journey.

On behalf of Americans like the people I grew up with. People who work hard. Chase their dreams. And look out for one another.

On behalf of everyone whose story could only be written in the greatest nation on Earth.

I accept your nomination for President of the United States of America.



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With this election, our nation has a precious, fleeting opportunity to move past the bitterness, cynicism, and divisive battles of the past.

A chance to chart a New Way Forward.

Not as members of any one party or faction. But as Americans.

I know there are people of various political views watching tonight.

And I want you to know: I promise to be a President for all Americans.

You can always trust me to put country above party and self. To hold sacred America's fundamental principles. From the rule of law. To free and fair elections. To the peaceful transfer of power.

I will be a President who unites us around our highest aspirations. A President who leads. And listens. Who is realistic. Practical. And has common sense. And always fights for the American people.

From the courthouse to the White House, that has been my life's work.

As a young courtroom prosecutor in Oakland, I stood up for women and children against predators who abused them.

As Attorney General of California, I took on the Big Banks. Delivered \$20 billion for middle-class families who faced foreclosure. And helped pass a Homeowner Bill of Rights—one of the first of its kind.

I stood up: For veterans and students being scammed by Big for-Profit colleges. For workers who were being cheated out of the wages they were due. For seniors facing elder abuse.

I fought against cartels who traffic in guns, drugs, and human beings. Who threaten the security of our border and the safety of our communities.

Those fights were not easy. And neither were the elections that put me in those offices. We were underestimated at every turn. But we never gave up. Because the future is always worth fighting for.

And that's the fight we are in right now. A fight for America's future.

Fellow Americans, this election is not only the most important of our lives. It is one of the most important in the life of our nation.

In many ways, Donald Trump is an unserious man.



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But the consequences of putting Donald Trump back in the White House are extremely serious.

Consider not only the chaos and calamity when he was in office, but also the gravity of what has happened since he lost the last election.

Donald Trump tried to throw away your votes.

When he failed, he sent an armed mob to the United States Capitol, where they assaulted law enforcement officers.

When politicians in his own party begged him to call off the mob and send help, he did the opposite. He fanned the flames.

And now, for an entirely different set of crimes, he was found guilty of fraud by a jury of everyday Americans. And separately, found liable for committing sexual abuse.

And consider what he intends to do if we give him power again.

Consider his explicit intent to set free the violent extremists who assaulted those law enforcement officers at the Capitol.

His explicit intent to jail journalists. Political opponents. Anyone he sees as the enemy.

His explicit intent to deploy our active-duty military against our own citizens.

Consider the power he will have— especially after the United States Supreme Court just ruled he would be immune from criminal prosecution.

Just imagine Donald Trump with no guardrails. How he would use the immense powers of the presidency of the United States. Not to improve your life. Not to strengthen our national security.

But to serve the only client he has ever had: Himself.

And we know what a second Trump term would look like. It's all laid out in "Project 2025." Written by his closest advisors. And its sum total is to pull, our country back into the past.

But America, we are not going back.

We are not going back to when Donald Trump tried to cut Social Security and Medicare. We are not going back to when he tried to get rid of the Affordable Care Act.



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When insurance companies could deny people with pre-existing conditions.

We are not going to let him eliminate the Department of Education that funds our public schools. We are not going to let him end programs like Head Start that provide preschool and child care.

America, we are not going back. We are charting. A. New. Way. Forward.

Forward—to a future with a strong and growing middle class.

Because we know a strong middle class has always been critical to America's success. And building that middle class will be a defining goal of my presidency.

This is personal for me. The middle class is where I come from. My mother kept a strict budget. We lived within our means. Yet, we wanted for little.

And she expected us to make the most of the opportunities that were available to us. And to be grateful for them. Because opportunity is not available to everyone.

That's why we will create what I call an opportunity economy. An opportunity economy where everyone has a chance to compete and a chance to succeed. Whether you live in a rural area, small town, or big city.

As President, I will bring together: Labor and workers, Small business owners and entrepreneurs, And American companies.

To create jobs. Grow our economy. And lower the cost of everyday needs. Like health care. Housing. And groceries.

We will: Provide access to capital for small business owners, entrepreneurs, and founders. We will end America's housing shortage. And protect Social Security and Medicare.

Compare that to Donald Trump. He doesn't actually fight for the middle class. Instead, he fights for himself and his billionaire friends. He will give them another round of tax breaks, that will add 5 trillion dollars to the national debt.

All while he intends to enact what, in effect, is a national sales tax—call it, a Trump tax— that would raise prices on middle-class families by almost 4 thousand dollars a year.

Well, instead of a Trump tax hike, we will pass a middle class tax cut that will benefit more than 100 million Americans.



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Friends, I believe America cannot truly be prosperous unless Americans are fully able to make their own decisions about their own lives. Especially on matters of heart and home.

But tonight, too many women in America are not able to make those decisions. Let's be clear about how we got here.

Donald Trump hand-picked members of the United States Supreme Court to take away reproductive freedom. And now he brags about it. His words: Quote –“I did it, and I'm proud to have done it.” End quote.

Over the past two years, I have traveled across our country. And women have told me their stories. Husbands and fathers have shared theirs. Stories of: Women miscarrying in a parking lot...Getting sepsis...Losing the ability to ever have children again...

All—because doctors are afraid of going to jail for caring for their patients. Couples just trying to grow their family...cut off in the middle of IVF treatments. Children who have survived sexual assault, potentially forced to carry the pregnancy to term.

This is what is happening in our country. Because of Donald Trump. And understand, —he is not done.

As a part of his agenda, he and his allies would: Limit access to birth control, Ban medication abortion, And enact a nation-wide abortion ban with or without Congress.

And. Get this, he plans to create a National. Anti-Abortion. Coordinator. And force states to report on women's miscarriages and abortions. Simply put. They are. Out. Of. Their. Minds.

And one must ask: Why exactly is it that they don't trust women?

Well. We. trust. women.

And when Congress passes a bill to restore reproductive freedom, as President of the United States, I will proudly sign it into. law.

In this election, many other fundamental freedoms are at stake. The freedom to live safe from gun violence—in our schools, communities, and places of worship. The freedom to love who you love openly and with pride. The freedom to breathe clean air, drink clean water, and live free from the pollution that fuels the climate crisis. And the freedom that unlocks all the others. The freedom to vote.



Dr Neville Buch

Professional Historian

With this election, We finally have the opportunity to pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and the Freedom to Vote Act. And let me be clear. After decades in law enforcement, I know the importance of safety and security, especially at our border.

Last year, Joe and I brought together Democrats and conservative Republicans to write the strongest border bill in decades.

The Border Patrol endorsed it.

But Donald Trump believes a border deal would hurt his campaign. So he ordered his allies in Congress to kill the deal.

Well, I refuse to play politics with our security. Here is my pledge to you: As President, I will bring back the bipartisan border security bill that he killed. And I will sign it into law.

I know we can live up to our proud heritage as a nation of immigrants— And reform our broken immigration system. We can create an earned pathway to citizenship— And secure our border. America, we must also be steadfast in advancing our security and our values abroad.

As Vice President, I have: confronted threats to our security, negotiated with foreign leaders, strengthened our alliances, and engaged with our brave troops overseas.

As Commander-in-Chief, I will ensure America always has the strongest, most lethal fighting force in the world. I will fulfill our sacred obligation to care for our troops and their families.

And I will always honor, and never disparage, their service and their sacrifice.

I will make sure that: We lead the world into the future on space and Artificial Intelligence. That America—not China—wins The competition for the 21st century. And that we strengthen—not abdicate—our global leadership.

Trump, on the other hand, threatened to abandon NATO. He encouraged Putin to invade our allies. Said Russia could—quote—“do whatever the hell they want.”

Five days before Russia attacked Ukraine, I met with President Zelensky to warn him about Russia’s plan to invade. I helped mobilize a global response—over 50 countries—to defend against Putin’s aggression. And as President, I will stand strong with Ukraine and our NATO allies.



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Professional Historian

With respect to the war in Gaza. President Biden and I are working around the clock. Because now is the time to get a hostage deal and ceasefire done.

Let me be clear: I will always stand up for Israel's right to defend itself and I will always ensure Israel has the ability to defend itself. Because the people of Israel must never again face the horror that the terrorist organization Hamas caused on October 7th. Including unspeakable sexual violence and the massacre of young people at a music festival.

At the same time, what has happened in Gaza over the past 10 months is devastating. So many innocent lives lost. Desperate, hungry people fleeing for safety, over and over again. The scale of suffering is heartbreaking.

President Biden and I are working to end this war such that Israel is secure, the hostages are released, the suffering in Gaza ends, and the Palestinian people can realize their right to dignity. Security. Freedom. And self-determination.

And know this: I will never hesitate to take whatever action is necessary to defend our forces and our interests against Iran and Iran-backed terrorists. And I will not cozy up to tyrants and dictators like Kim-Jong-Un, who are rooting for Trump. Because they know he is easy to manipulate with flattery and favors. They know Trump won't hold autocrats accountable—because he wants to be an autocrat.

As President, I will never waver in defense of America's security and ideals. Because, in the enduring struggle between democracy and tyranny, I know where I stand—and where the United States of America belongs.

Fellow Americans, I love our country with all my heart.

Everywhere I go—in everyone I meet—I see a nation ready to move forward. Ready for the next step, in the incredible journey that is America.

I see an America where we hold fast to the fearless belief that built our nation. That inspired the world. That here, in this country, anything is possible. Nothing is out of reach.

An America, where we care for one another, look out for one another, and recognize that we have so much more in common than what separates us. That none of us has to fail for all of us to succeed. And that, in unity, there is strength.

Our opponents in this race are out there, every day, denigrating America. Talking about how terrible everything is. Well, my mother had another lesson she used to teach. Never let anyone tell you who you are. You show them who you are.



Dr Neville Buch

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America, let us show each other—and the world—who we are. And what we stand for. Freedom. Opportunity. Compassion. Dignity. Fairness. And endless possibilities.

We are the heirs to the greatest democracy in the history of the world. And on behalf of our children and grandchildren, and all those who sacrificed so dearly for our freedom and liberty, we must be worthy of this moment. It is now our turn to do what generations before us have done. Guided by optimism and faith, to fight for this country we love.

To fight for the ideals we cherish.

And to uphold the awesome responsibility that comes with the greatest privilege on Earth. The privilege and pride of being an American.

So, let's get out there and let's fight for it.

Let's get out there and let's vote for it.

And together, let us write the next great chapter in the most extraordinary story ever told.

Thank you. God bless you. May God bless the United States of America.

Source: <https://nymag.com/intelligencer/article/read-kamala-harriss-speech-at-the-dnc-in-chicago.html>

WHAT IS COMMON SENSE PROGRESSIVISM?

Progressivism is a political philosophy and movement that seeks to advance the human condition through social reform – primarily based on purported advancements in social organization, science, and technology. Adherents hold that progressivism has universal application and endeavor to spread this idea to human societies everywhere

Common sense is "knowledge, judgement, and taste which is more or less universal and which is held more or less without reflection or argument".



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The Benefits and Risks of Common-Sense Progressivism

Advantages

- Clear thinking in practice;
- Reform in the full semantics, and fits as the epistemological diverse worldviews;
- The Best of Politics, as evidenced-based social and individual change for the better.

Disadvantages

- “Common-Sense” which is not common nor sense;
- Captive to Progressivist propaganda, not reflecting upon and question frameworks of thought, e.g. nationalism;
- An excuse **not** to understand the details of the Progressive trajectory in History, and knowing how to value the past.

FURTHER READING

Blake, Aaron (2024). ‘Tampon Tim’ is looking more like Teflon Tim. [The Washington Post](#), August 22, 2024 at 6:13 p.m. EDT.

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Kelley, Lora (2024). Donald Trump’s Stock Is Sinking. [The Atlantic Daily](#), August 22, 2024, 7:51 PM ET.

Wootson Jr., Cleve R. (2024). The reinvention of Kamala Harris. [The Washington Post](#), August 22, 2024 at 5:00 a.m. EDT.



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