

Military Culture Coalition

2012 Presidential Candidate Survey

1. Repeal of the 1993 Law Regarding Gays in the Military (Sec. 654, Title 10, USC)

After failing twice in the U.S. Senate in the fall of 2010, LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual transgender) activists and the Obama administration succeeded in their drive to repeal the 1993 law regarding homosexuals in the military, usually called "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." Legislation to repeal the law with delayed implementation was rushed through the lame-duck session on December 18, 2010, following only superficial hearings in the Senate and none in the House.

If you had been a member of the 111th Congress in 2010, how would you have voted on the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" Repeal Act?

- I would have voted: Yes
 No

Note: In 2010 Rep. Ron Paul voted twice in favor of the repeal legislation; Rep. Michele Bachmann voted twice against.

2. LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) Law in the Military

The Department of Defense has refused to comply with the repeal legislation's mandate that it send to Congress specific regulations on how the new LGBT law and related policies would be implemented in the military. Failure to do so has left a host of issues unresolved, including concerns about personal privacy and elevated risks of sexual tension in close quarters, rights of conscience and religious liberty, the status of same-sex marriages and benefits, and many others.

As Commander-in-Chief, will you order full and specific reviews of the consequences of LGBT Law and related policies in the military, and take administrative or legislative steps to restore sound policies regarding homosexual conduct that improve the All-Volunteer Force?

- Yes
 No

3. The Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) in the Military

House versions of the Defense Authorization and Appropriations bills include two amendments in each bill that would reaffirm congressional intent that the Defense of Marriage Act, which defines marriage as the legal union of a man and woman, be respected and enforced in the military.

Will your administration instruct the Department of Defense and Department of Justice to respect, enforce, and defend in court the Defense of Marriage Act in the military?

- Yes
 No

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4. Religious Liberty and "Zero Tolerance" of Dissent

LGBT activists who demanded repeal of the 1993 law see their cause as a matter of "diversity" or civil rights. The analogy is flawed, since military women are not required to share private quarters with men. Gay activists nevertheless argue that repeal justifies zero tolerance and career penalties for anyone who expresses dissent for any reason. "Zero tolerance" could end the careers of chaplains who provide counseling outside of worship services, and personnel who are concerned about privacy and other issues.

As Commander-in-Chief, would you order the Defense Department to impose career penalties on military chaplains and personnel who express sincere concern or disagreement with the LGBT law and related policies in the military?

- Yes
- No

5. LGBT Celebrations

Since 2009, the Obama Administration has celebrated "LGBT Equality Month" in the White House and various government agencies. These events have increased pressure to accommodate transgender personnel in the military, and to conduct "gay pride" events on military bases.

Will your administration continue "LGBT Equality" observances, permit "gay pride" events on military bases, and expand the current policy to accommodate transgendered personnel?

- Yes
- No

6. Women in or Near Direct Ground Combat

The mission of direct ground combat (DGC) troops such as the infantry, armor, and Special Operations Forces is to attack the enemy with deliberate offensive action under fire—a mission that involves more than the experience of being in danger in a combat zone. As with male personnel once they join the military, such assignments would not be voluntary. The Supreme Court has upheld young women's exemption from Selective Service obligations because they are not assigned to direct ground combat units that directly engage the enemy.

As Commander-in-Chief, would you assign female soldiers and Marines to direct ground combat units that attack the enemy with deliberate offensive action; i.e., infantry, armor, and Special Operations Forces?

- Yes
- No

Responses to MCC 2012 Presidential Candidate Survey

To: Elaine Donnelly, President, Center for Military Readiness

Re: **Submission of Responses to MCC 2012 Presidential Candidate Survey**

Date:

Candidate Name:

Campaign Official Contact:

Telephone:

E-Mail:

Additional Comments on Survey Questions:

Please return answers to survey questions by **November 18, 2011**. Immediately upon submission of your completed survey we will send you a Form Submission Receipt via e-mail confirming each of your survey responses.

MCC will forward results of the survey to all campaigns by **November 28, 2011**.

For questions, call Elaine Donnelly at (734) 464-9430, or write to *info@cmrlink.org*.

Thank you for your cooperation in responding to the Military Culture Coalition 2012 Presidential Candidate Survey, and for your willingness to serve our country as President of the United States.

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