



Sisters and Brothers,

If you are asking why you should vote for Barack Obama, simply look at the facts.

Obama Offers Middle-Class Tax Cuts That Are Three Times The Size Of McCain's. Obama's plan calls for reforming the tax code so that it rewards hard work. That's why the typical middle-class family will get three times more in tax cuts from the Obama plan than under the McCain plan.

No Tax Increases For Families Making Less Than \$250,000. If you are a family making less than \$250,000, Obama's tax plan will not raise your taxes – not your income taxes, not your payroll taxes, not your capital gains taxes, not any of your taxes. In fact, you are overwhelmingly likely to get a tax cut – one that is larger than what McCain is proposing.

McCain Offers Tax Plan That Ignores 101 Million Middle-Class Households But Not The Oil Industry, Which Would Receive A \$4 Billion Tax Break. McCain's economic platform rests on the premise that the nation's economic challenges are minor and primarily psychological. McCain has not even proposed a short-term stimulus to help working families. His tax cuts ignore middle-class workers — about 100 million households, including 37 million seniors, would get no relief. Instead, McCain would spend nearly \$2 trillion over a decade in tax breaks for corporations, including \$4 billion a year for the oil industry.

"Five Easy Pieces and Two Trillion Dollars

http://www.americanprogressaction.org/issues/2008/pdf/tax_agenda.pdf," Center for American Progress Action Fund, March 2008; "The McCain Plan to Cut Oil Company Taxes by Nearly \$4 Billion,"

http://www.americanprogressaction.org/issues/2008/pdf/oil_tax.pdf Center for American Progress Action Fund, 3/27/08]

McCain Wants To Continue Bush Tax Cuts For The Wealthy That He Once Criticized As Too Tilted To The Wealthy. Under the McCain plan, the wealthiest 0.1% of households – those making more than \$2.8 million per year – will get a tax cut of nearly \$600,000, while the average middle-class family would see a tax cut that is only one-third the size of Obama's plan. In 2001, McCain said that he couldn't vote for the Bush tax cuts in good conscience because they were too skewed to the wealthiest Americans.[MSNBC/FAU GOP Debate, 1/24/08; New York Times, 3/3/08; WSJ, 6/12/08; Nashua Telegraph, 6/12/08
<<http://www.nashuatelegraph.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080611/NEWSBLOG/244217910>> ; Congressional Record, 5/26/01]

Obama Would Provide \$1,000 Immediate Energy Rebates this Fall. Under Obama's plan, a windfall profits tax would be placed on the oil companies in order to fund emergency energy rebates of \$500 per worker and \$1,000 per family for 95% of American families. Obama will also crack down on oil market speculation and swap oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to help bring down prices.

Obama Will Invest \$150 Billion Over 10 Years And Create 5 Million New Green Jobs. Obama will invest \$150 billion over 10 years in renewable energy, energy efficiency and the next generation of clean vehicles. These investments will lower oil demand and prices in the long term, create 5 million new jobs, and improve our environment.

Obama Will Partner With Domestic Automakers To Fast-Track The Development Of Higher Mileage Cars And Produce Advanced Vehicles. As President, Obama will invest in putting one million plug-in hybrid vehicles on the road by 2015 and provide \$4 billion in retooling tax credits and loan guarantees for domestic auto plants and parts manufacturers, so that the new fuel-efficient cars can be built in the U.S. by American

workers rather than overseas. He will also provide tax credits for consumers to purchase advanced technology vehicles.

McCain Has Been Part Of The Problem in Washington. McCain said that our dependence on foreign oil has been "thirty years in the making, and was caused by the failure of politicians in Washington." However, McCain has been in Washington for 26 of those 30 years and has done little to solve the problem. He has since changed his mind. [McCain speech, 7/7/08
<<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/4c980d5b-dfd3-40a3-9663-7d14df1f1468.htm>>]

Obama Opposes Private Social Security Accounts and Will Protect Benefits. Obama is committed to ensuring Social Security is solvent and viable for the American people, now and in the future. Obama will be honest with the American people about the long-term solvency of Social Security and the ways we can address the shortfall. Obama is strongly opposed to privatizing Social Security. Obama will protect Social Security benefits for current and future beneficiaries alike. [Vote 68, 3/16/06; Quad City Times, 9/21/07]

Obama Opposes Raising The Retirement Age On Social Security. Obama opposes cutting benefits or raising the retirement age to keep Social Security solvent. [AP, 6/14/08]

Obama Will Work With Congress To Strengthen Social Security. Barack Obama will work with members of Congress from both parties to strengthen Social Security and prevent privatization while protecting middle class families from tax increases or benefit cuts. He will ask those making over \$250,000 to contribute a bit more to Social Security to keep it sound. McCain Supports Social Security Privatization "Along The Lines" Of The Bush Plan And Campaigned With Bush To Help Sell His Privatization Plan. McCain said that as part of Social Security reform, he wants private accounts "along the lines" of the Bush plan to privatize Social Security. McCain even campaigned with President Bush to help increase support for Bush's plan to privatize Social Security in 2005. [Wall Street Journal, 3/3/08; Associated Press, 3/22/05]

McCain Is Considering COLA Cuts & Increasing The Retirement Age For Social Security. Earlier this year, the McCain campaign said they were considering cost-of-living adjustment cuts and raising the retirement age as part of their Social Security plan. [Wall Street Journal, 3/3/08]

McCain Voted To Raise The Retirement Age. McCain voted to raise the Social Security retirement age from 65 to 67. [HR 1900, Vote 20, 3/9/1983, Passed 228-202: R 152-14; D 76-188; HR 1900, Vote 220, 3/9/1983, Passed 230-200: R 152-14; D 78-186] McCain Said The Way Social Security Was Funded Was "An Absolute Disgrace." [McCain Town Hall, Denver, CO, 7/7/08]

Obama Has Consistently Voted For Increases In VA Funding. Obama has voted for billions of dollars in funding increases for the Veterans Administration.

Obama Has Consistently Voted For Increased Funding for Veterans Health Care. Obama has consistently supported providing billions of dollars for veterans health care programs. [Vote 114, 3/23/07; Vote 181, 5/24/07; Vote 242, 9/22/05; Vote 114, 4/29/05; Vote 81, 3/17/05; Vote 89, 4/12/05; Vote 55, 3/16/05]

McCain Has Repeatedly Voted Against Increases For Veterans Programs. McCain has voted against billions of dollars in funding increases for the Veterans Administration.

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