

What is a Republican?

A Republican is a person who believes:

1. Cutting the taxes of the wealthy is the best first step to reducing our country's 16 trillion dollar deficit.
2. Increasing the tax rates of the poor and middle class is the best second step for reducing our deficit.
3. Expanding our military is vital. Serving as "world policeman" is the best way to protect the U.S.
4. Creationism should be taught in place of evolution in high school science classes.
5. A woman who has been raped has a minimal chance of becoming pregnant. Her body will not allow itself to be impregnated by unwanted sperm. Because of this, abortion must be banned 100%. There can be no exceptions.
6. The EPA should be dissolved. Jobs are more important than the environment.
7. Regulation of Wall Street and the banking industry should be reduced.
8. Global warming is a fallacy.
9. Prayer is the best way to cope with unfortunate events.
10. The world does not have a population problem.
11. Providing affordable health care to all citizens is not the responsibility of the U.S. government.
12. Stem cell research should be illegal.
13. Gerrymandering and poll taxes ("voter id") are acceptable ways to curb Democratic voting.
14. We should defer to lobbying from the NRA (National Rifle Association) on matters relating to gun control.
15. We should defer to lobbying from AIPAC (American Israel Public Affairs Committee) on matters relating to Israel.
16. We should defer to evangelical Christians on matters relating to science.
17. Homosexuality is aberrant behavior and partnerships between such people should not be condoned by government.
18. Barack Obama was not born in the United States, and therefore is illegally holding the office of President.
19. Barack Obama is a Muslim.

The net is that the Republican Party is hopelessly out of touch with reality. They deserve to be crushed in the November election.

-Ken Larsen
Chapel Hill, NC
August 27, 2012

December 22, 2017 update

In the time since I wrote the above words, Donald Trump became President and Republicans took control of both houses of Congress and recently passed an overhaul of the tax code. Their overhaul made it abundantly clear that Republicans only care about the wealthy. Screw lower income people. They will raise the taxes of low income people, eliminate any chance for universal healthcare, cut Medicare, cut Social security, and raise the national debt ... which currently stands at \$ 20.6 trillion

On the world front, last week Trump has thumbed his nose twice at the rest of the world: First he recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, and then he excoriated the United Nations when 128 nations voted to condemn his Jerusalem decision. He now threatens to end U.S. financial support for the

U.N. These are the kind of decisions that will dramatically increase the prospect for terrorism and war ... wars that will be fought by our youth ... not the wealthy Republicans who started them.

I give Trump an AA rating for his 2017 performance: Arrogant Asshole.

In my home state of North Carolina, Republicans used gerrymandering to take control of the North Carolina legislature. Then, they decimated funding for public schools. It's all about padding the wallets of the wealthy.

Unfortunately, gullible voters believe the con-artist Republicans and vote for them. Hillary Clinton got it right in 2016 when she characterized them as "deplorable".