

Sarah Palin on Issues Important to the Jewish Community

Palin Has a Paper-Thin Record on Israel:

- Governor Palin has **never visited Israel** and has no history of fighting for issues critical to Israelis, Jewish Americans, and the pro-Israel community. She has **zero foreign policy experience** and has never made any public statements on her views about Israel or the threats posed by Iran, Hezbollah, and Hamas. “She’s totally out of step with the American Jewish community...” [*Politico*, 9/2/08]

Palin Opposes Reproductive Choice, Even in Extreme Circumstances:

- According to the *Anchorage Daily News*, Governor Palin **opposes reproductive choice even in the extreme cases of rape and incest**. When asked if she would force her teenage daughter, had she been raped, to bear her rapist’s child, Palin replied: “I would choose life.” [*Anchorage Daily News*, 11/8/06]
- When term limits forced Palin from office as Mayor of Wasilla in 2002, her mother-in-law, Faye Palin, ran to succeed her. **Palin endorsed her mother-in-law’s opponent due to Faye’s support for reproductive rights**. Faye lost the race. [*TIME*, 9/2/08]

Palin Curtails Freedom of Speech:

- After her election as Wasilla mayor, Palin initiated discussions about **banning books from the public library** that she deemed controversial. One City Council member said: “They were somehow morally or socially objectionable to her.” When the city librarian refused to participate in this effort, she was fired. Though Palin backed down, and the librarian was rehired, she eventually quit the job and moved away from Wasilla. [*The New York Times*, 9/2/08]

Palin Would Promote Teaching Creationism in Public Schools:

- When Governor Palin was asked if Creationism should be taught alongside the science of evolution in public schools, she replied: “**Teach both.**” [*Anchorage Daily News*, 10/27/2006]

Palin Opposes Potentially Lifesaving Stem Cell Research:

- Governor Palin **opposes potentially lifesaving stem cell research**, which could herald breakthroughs to the treatment of cancer, Parkinson’s Disease, Tay-Sachs, and other serious illnesses. When asked if she could back federal or state funding for this research, Palin answered “No.” [2006 Alaska Gubernatorial Debate, 11/2/06]

Palin Favors Abstinence-Only Sex Education:

- A 2006 questionnaire asked Governor Palin if she supports **funding for abstinence-only education**, and not for comprehensive sex-education and the distribution of contraceptives. She said: “Yes, the explicit sex-ed programs will not find my support.” [*MSNBC*, 9/1/08]

Palin Believes Climate Change is Not Caused by Human Activity:

- When asked in an interview how climate change is affecting our country, Palin replied: “A changing environment will affect Alaska more than any other state, because of our location. **I’m not one, though, who would attribute it to being man-made.**” [*San Diego Union-Tribune*, 9/10/08]

Palin Mixes Religion and Politics:

- When she ran for mayor in Wasilla, Alaska, in 1996, **Palin ran on a platform that attacked the incumbent mayor, John Stein, on abortion, gun-rights, and religion**. Her campaign claimed she would be the town’s “first Christian mayor.” Stein, who lost the race, reflected: “I thought: ‘...what’s happening here? Does that mean she thinks I’m Jewish or Islamic?’” [*The New York Times*, 9/2/08]

Judgment matters.

When Barack Obama selected Joe Biden to be his running mate, he chose a leader with a solid record of over 35 years as a supporter of Israel and friend to the Jewish community.

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