



THE COMMON VALUES PARTY

A Radical Centrist Movement
for the American Majority

**Our Governing Philosophy:
A Strong Floor and an Unlimited Ceiling**



Introduction

In a political climate defined by extremes and division, the Common Values Party emerges as a centrist movement built to represent the vast majority of Americans: the tens of millions who identify as center-left or center-right and who have been left without a political home. Our mission is to restore the lost art of compromise, deliver effective governance, and ensure that the United States remains strong, secure, and prosperous. The Common Values Party is more than a collection of policies and principles. It is a movement to reshape the political landscape around unity, pragmatic solutions, and the shared ideals that bind Americans together. What follows is a deeper account of what we stand for and how we intend to make an impact.

Our Governing Philosophy: A Strong Floor and an Unlimited Ceiling¹

Every policy in our Common Values platform flows from the concept of our country having a strong floor and an unlimited ceiling to ensure that no American is left behind or held back. The foundational floor is strong to ensure that no American who works hard and plays by the rules should fall into destitution. Basic needs, including food, shelter, healthcare, safety, and a quality education, form the foundation on which a free people build their lives. The unlimited ceiling provides opportunity that once that floor is secure, there is no cap on how high any American can climb. We do not punish achievement, profit, ambition, or success. We celebrate them.

This is the synthesis that has eluded both major parties. One side too often defends the floor while resenting the ceiling. The other too often defends the ceiling while neglecting the floor. The Common Values Party rejects that false choice. We are unapologetically pro-worker and unapologetically pro-business, because a nation that protects the dignity of labor and rewards the risk taking of enterprise is a nation that grows for everyone. Security and opportunity are not opposites. They are partners. The firm foundation under them is exactly what gives every American the confidence to reach for the stars.

Vision Statement

The Common Values Party envisions a future where governance is guided by shared values, where compromise is the rule rather than the exception, and where the United States stands as a beacon of strength and stability on the global stage. We are committed to protecting the rights and well-being of all Americans, and especially the American family, while advancing policies that secure the nation, expand economic opportunity, embrace smart technology, and protect the environment. We seek to bridge the divide between the political extremes by reminding Americans that they share fundamental values that run far deeper than party lines. By focusing on what we hold in common rather than on what divides us, we aim to build a spirit of cooperation that can drive real and lasting change.

¹ The concept of a strong floor and unlimited ceiling was inspired in part by the work of Oliver B. Libby, including *Strong Floor, No Ceiling: Building a New Foundation for the American Dream* (Advantage Media, 2025).

Core Principles



1. Compromise and Collaboration

We believe in the power of multi-partisan dialogue to achieve effective governance. Our leaders will engage every political affiliation to find common ground, ensuring that legislation reflects the needs of the centrist majority. We will establish a biannual summit that invites representatives from all parties to confront the nation's most pressing issues, creating an environment where compromise is prized over partisanship.

- **Public Engagement:** We will create forums where citizens can voice their views directly to their representatives, ensuring that the voices of moderates are heard throughout the legislative process.



2. Fair Representation and Election Integrity

The party advocates for the elimination of gerrymandering and supports independent redistricting commissions that produce fair electoral maps and representatives who genuinely reflect their constituents. Gerrymandering is a scourge on our democracy. It rewards the extremes of both parties and silences the moderate majority that the Common Values Party speaks for. We support every reasonable measure to protect the integrity of our elections and remove even the appearance of impropriety, including voter identification, additional voting locations in densely populated areas, an end to ballot harvesting, the submission of all vote counts on election night, a verifiable paper ballot behind every vote, the guarantee that only citizens vote, mandatory public debates between candidates, and neutral, independent fact checking of campaign claims.



3. Comprehensive Immigration Reform

The Common Values Party supports a sensible pathway to citizenship for those who contribute to our economy, hold work visas, and pay their taxes. People who come to America to strengthen our economy and enrich the intellectual life of our citizens deserve a place in a country that should be competing to attract the best and brightest from around the world. We will prioritize the deportation of individuals with criminal records. Undocumented immigrants who have lived in the United States, hold a job, support a family, and have committed no crimes will have a pathway to citizenship if they clear meaningful requirements, including the payment of substantial fines and back taxes. We advocate for secure borders alongside the humane treatment of immigrants. We will create strong incentives to enter the country legally and give priority to those who follow the law. We support robust border security that uses every available tool, including physical barriers, drones, cameras, sensors, and emerging technology, to protect both our southern and northern borders.



4. National Security and Defense

We are committed to keeping the United States the strongest nation on earth through a capable military and unmatched technological superiority. Our approach includes:

- **Peace Through Strength:** A strong military is the foundation of deterrence. A well-funded and well-equipped force is the surest way to prevent terrorism and aggression before they begin.
- **Advanced Defense Technologies:** We will invest in next-generation capabilities, including modern missile defense and space-based defense initiatives, to protect our homeland from any threat.
- **Pro-Military Posture:** We will ensure that our armed forces are always prepared to respond to danger and to maintain global stability.
- **Technology Investment:** We will invest in cybersecurity and intelligence technologies that protect critical infrastructure and national security without sacrificing the civil liberties of Americans.
- **International Cooperation:** We will strengthen alliances with our partners to combat terrorism through intelligence sharing and joint operations.



5. Responsible Energy Policy

We recognize that energy independence is a pillar of national security, and we support safe domestic production as a bridge toward cleaner technology. Our initiatives include:

- **Reducing Dependence on Foreign Oil:** We will work to end our reliance on oil from Russia and hostile regimes while responsibly expanding domestic production.
- **Investment in Green Technology:** As we develop our own resources, we will incentivize advances in clean energy, striking a balance between energy security and environmental stewardship.



6. Family, Education, and Local Control

The Common Values Party believes the family is the foundation of a healthy society and that every child deserves an excellent education. Our education policies include:

- **Core Curriculum Focus:** Schools will prioritize the foundational subjects of reading, writing, mathematics, and science, with engineering offered at every level.
- **Education Governed by Families:** We support a rich and varied curriculum, governed by the families of each community, recognizing that values differ across a diverse nation.
- **Inclusive Historical Education:** History will be taught in full, honoring every culture woven into the American story and ensuring that pivotal figures such as George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Franklin Roosevelt, Christopher Columbus, and Martin Luther King Jr. are part of every student's education.
- **Capitalism, Liberty, and Democracy:** Education will convey a genuine understanding of free enterprise and the founding principles of our democratic republic.

- **Parental Involvement:** Parents, school boards, teachers, and educators will all have a voice in shaping what our children learn.
- **Age-Appropriate Sex and Gender Education:** Sex education will be introduced only in the later years of high school and will require parental consent. Discussion of gender will not be included for students under the age of sixteen, and parental consent will be required for any such discussion.
- **Protecting Students from Coercion and Campus Disorder:** Our classrooms must educate, never indoctrinate. We will stand firmly against any effort to teach children to hate their country or its police officers, to celebrate terrorist organizations, or to incite civil unrest. We will recruit the best and brightest educators to teach the next generation the centrist values of reason, tolerance, and civic responsibility. We will condition federal funding on a university's willingness to protect every student from harassment and intimidation and to keep its campus safe and open for the entire student body.



7. Responsible Social Policy

We support a woman's fundamental right to make her own decisions about her body and her pregnancy, including the right to choose an abortion, while advocating a ban on late-term abortions. We support the fundamental right to bear arms, paired with rigorous background checks, mental health screening, and a ban on assault weapons. We defend free speech as the bedrock of a free society. At the same time, we will not allow the First Amendment to be used as a shield for those who threaten, harass, or target people because of their race, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnicity, and we support strong penalties for true threats, targeted harassment, and cyberstalking. Free assembly is a sacred right, but it does not include the right to seize public sidewalks or shut down streets at the expense of everyone else's freedom of movement. And we will fight for the humane treatment of our elderly, ensuring that the generation that gave so much to this country can live and age with dignity.



8. Criminal Justice and Public Safety

The party seeks to repeal blanket no-bail laws and restore fair, individualized bail decisions made by qualified judges. We will establish clear guidelines that let judges weigh the full range of relevant factors, including criminal history, and offer alternatives such as electronic monitoring for genuinely low-risk defendants. No jurisdiction should be forced to release dangerous offenders automatically. Both the defendant and the prosecution will have the right to appeal a bail determination. The Common Values Party will support only those candidates who stand with law enforcement and who will work alongside every agency to fight crime, gangs, terrorism, fraud, and the wave of theft devastating small retail businesses, always placing law-abiding citizens first. We will embrace every technological innovation that helps bring criminals to justice while fiercely protecting the rights of the accused, including the presumption of innocence, the right to a jury, and every constitutional defense our system guarantees.



9. Economic Empowerment: Pro Worker and Pro Business

This is where our governing philosophy becomes policy. We are pro-worker and pro-business at the same time, because in a healthy economy the two rise together. We will strengthen the footing of working families and small businesses through a simpler and fairer tax code, the repeal of rules that unfairly burden small enterprise, and a responsible path to a balanced federal budget.

We propose a simplified flat tax of seventeen percent, paired with a generous standard exemption so that working families at the bottom of the income scale owe nothing and keep more of what they earn. A simpler code means lower compliance costs for ordinary people, fewer loopholes for the powerful, and a more honest relationship between citizens and their government.

The dignity of work sits at the center of our economy. We believe a full day's work deserves a fair day's pay, and that no American working full time should live in poverty. We support the right of workers to organize and bargain collectively, while protecting the right of every individual worker to choose for themselves. We will reward the businesses that invest in their people through training, fair wages, and profit sharing, and we will champion the entrepreneurs and risk takers who create those jobs in the first place. Profit is not a dirty word. It is the engine that funds wages, innovation, and opportunity. Our task is to make certain that engine lifts the many, not only the few.



10. Health and Environmental Policy

The Common Values Party will be relentless in confronting the crisis of unaffordable healthcare that puts vital medicine and treatment out of reach for ordinary families. We will work to lower the cost of care and prescription drugs, expand price transparency so that patients know what they owe before they are billed, and protect coverage for those with pre-existing conditions. We will also lead a serious effort to remove harmful chemicals from our food and environment, expand access to healthy and natural foods, and invest in the preventive care and mental health services that keep Americans well in the first place.



11. Transportation and Infrastructure

Our infrastructure plan invests in high-speed rail, modern public transit, and the roads, bridges, and broadband that connect communities and power the economy, all while reducing our environmental footprint and creating good jobs at home.



12. Global Engagement

The party supports a strong and principled foreign policy that confronts terrorism and protects American interests around the world. We will negotiate fair trade agreements that defend American workers and industries, and we will direct foreign aid toward education, healthcare, and economic development that advances both our values and our interests.

Conclusion

The Common Values Party is dedicated to redefining American politics through compromise, accountability, and strength. By championing a secure foundation and unlimited opportunity, by standing with both the worker and the business owner, by protecting the family, securing the nation, and restoring common sense to government, we offer Americans a real alternative to the exhausting partisanship of our time. Join us in building a movement grounded in common values, common sense, and a common future, and let us prove that the things that unite us will always be greater than the things that divide us.



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