

MITT ROMNEY

left this country with a solid conservative judiciary (unlike his father).

In this race, every candidate is trying to make the case to conservatives, including Rudy Giuliani, who never even tried to pretend he was a conservative in the past. In my view, the race for conservatives will come down to two people, Fred Thompson and Mitt Romney. Thompson, whose conservative record in Congress is not sterling, has the support of a lot of the Washington conservative organizations. The question for Thompson is: will he be the passionate defender of conservative values, a key Bush weakness, that the movement truly needs to complete the Reagan Revolution? As a Senator, he was less than passionate, and less willing to upset the apple cart than, say, a Tom Coburn or George Allen. He is also late, and *not raising the kind of money he needs to catch up to the rest of the crowd*. Indeed, the key problem for conservatives in this race at the primary stage is the defeat of Rudy Giuliani, whose pretend conservatism will ultimately be disastrous to whatever shreds of the movement still exist.

THAT IS why I am supporting Mitt Romney. Romney has the money, leads in the polls in the early states, and has spent the time and the effort to establish organizations in the states that matter. He has clearly run a smart campaign to this point. No, he is *not* ahead in the national polls, but national polls are irrelevant at this point. No presidential campaign is run nationally; they are run state by state. Winning in the early states can create a momentum that will build national name recognition and popularity.

More important than that, Romney has been a passionate defender of conservative values. He is not afraid to talk about the issues important to conservatives. He is not afraid to speak his mind. More importantly, he has made an effort at every turn to look to conservatives for

support (not to dwell on Romney's faith, but it is a fact that Mormons and the Mormon Church have been key players in the political fight over social issues, on the side of families and life). At each turn, Romney has been fighting for conservatives and conservative values.

The only knock on Romney has been that he did not govern as a conservative while governor of Massachusetts. The statement is not true. He kept a *very* liberal, out-of-control Legislature from spinning completely off the deep end — no mean feat, considering that the Massachusetts Legislature included enough liberals to override any governor's veto. To balance a budget, and get some reforms in that situation is miraculous. (Compare that with the governing style of Arnold Schwarzenegger, who is about to find out what happens when a Republican governs from the middle: he gets caught in the budget vise caused by his and the Legislature's spendthrift ways.) Romney took a worse situation than Schwarzenegger faces in California, fought for the values in which he believed, and *changed* the Legislature. He did not let the Legislature change him.

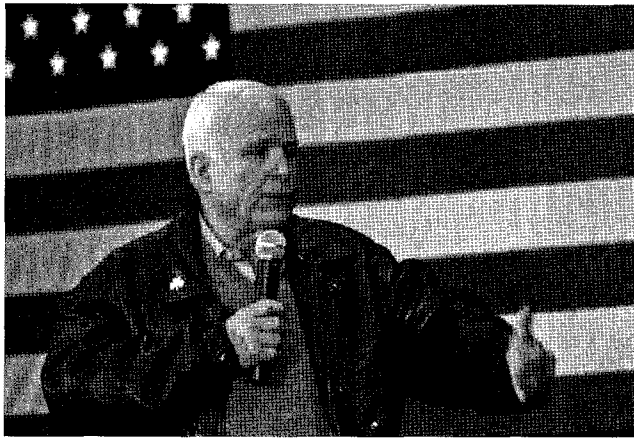
Yes, he supported *Roe v. Wade* in his run for the U.S. Senate. He is now unashamedly pro-life. Do we punish someone for changing his mind our way? He has not backed down, he has been fiscally responsible, he has fought for the family, leading the fight against homosexual marriage in a wildly liberal state, and stood tall for our values. He deserves conservative support.

JOHN ALLAN PESCHONG

JOHN McCAIN: LEADERSHIP FOR
A SECURE FUTURE

JOHn McCAIN is best prepared to lead and defend the United States and its global allies in the transcendent struggle of our time — the war against radical Islamic extremists. Having spent a lifetime in national service, John McCain has a proven record of protecting the security of our great nation. His courageous service in the Navy, including a five and a half year struggle in a North Vietnamese prisoner of war camp, distinguishes him as the only major presidential candidate with military experience — experience that steeled him to continue his leadership in the U.S. Senate. This election is about who is best prepared to lead and defend our nation, and John McCain is undeniably the best prepared candidate to serve as commander-in-chief from day one. Defeating radical Is-

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JOHN MCCAIN

lamist extremists is the national security challenge of our time. Iraq is this war's central front, according to our commander there, General David Petraeus, and according to our enemies, including al Qaeda's leadership.

The recent years of mismanagement and failure in Iraq demonstrate that America should go to war only with sufficient troop levels and with a realistic and comprehensive plan for success. We did not do so in Iraq, and our country and the people of Iraq have paid a heavy price. The American people have grown sick and tired of it. John McCain understands this frustration and has been made sick at heart by the many mistakes made by civilian and military commanders and the terrible price we have paid for them. But John McCain knows that we cannot react to these mistakes by embracing a course of action that will be an even greater mistake, a mistake of colossal historical proportions, which will seriously endanger our nation. John McCain wants our troops to come home too, but he wants them to come home with honor — the honor of victory that is due all of those who have paid with the ultimate sacrifice, so that sacrifice is not in vain.

IN 2003 John McCain told us, "The simple truth is that we do not have sufficient forces in Iraq to meet our military objectives." A year later he reminded us that "I was there last August and have said since then that we needed more troops; we need them very badly. We may be paying a price for not having had more troops there." We have new commanders in Iraq, and they are following a counterinsurgency strategy that John McCain has called for from the beginning, which makes the most effective use of our strength and doesn't strengthen the tactics of our enemy. This new battle plan is succeeding where our previous tactics failed.

However, leading Democrat presidential candidates

vote against funding for our troops engaged in war in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Leading Democrat presidential candidates question even whether there is a war on terror, offer to enter into unconditional negotiations with our enemies, and talk about countering the forces of radicalism by advocating surrender to them in Iraq. Choosing to lose in Iraq would hand a victory to the radicals in control of Iran. As Iran's president recently crowed, "soon, we will see a huge power vacuum in the region [and] we are prepared to fill the gap" Iran has been engaged in a proxy war against our forces in Iraq for years. They are actively aiding radicals with advanced weapons and on-the-ground training.

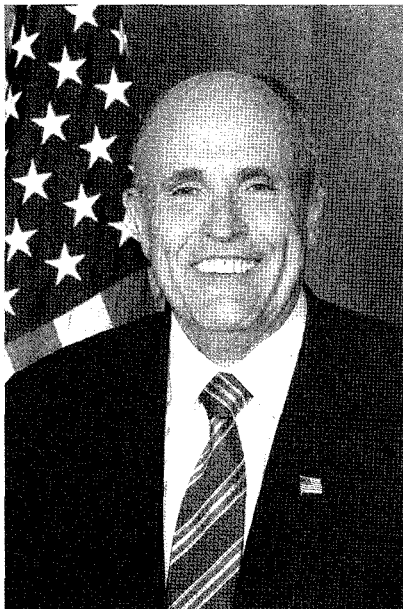
John McCain recognizes the threat that Iran poses to stability in the Middle East. Protected by a nuclear arsenal, Iran would be even more willing and able to sponsor terrorist attacks against any perceived enemy, including the United States and Israel, or even to pass nuclear materials to one of its allied terrorist networks. John McCain has made clear that a nuclear armed Iran is unacceptable. He knows the next president must confront this threat directly, and has argued that effort must begin with tougher political and economic sanctions. If the United Nations is unwilling to act, as president, John McCain has pledged to lead a group of like-minded countries to impose effective multilateral sanctions, such as restrictions on exports of refined gasoline, outside the UN framework. John McCain knows from personal experience that war is a terrible thing, but not the worst thing. And he has made clear, that although it is the last resort, a military option with respect to Iran must remain on the table.

This election is about making sure we have the experienced leadership to guide us to victory in this war, protect the nation against future terrorist attacks, and support our troops and first responders who are on the front lines of the war. This election will decide whether we choose to fight or announce surrender. It will decide whether we have a president who dangerously weakens U.S. security or strengthens it; whether we will flinch and retreat or fully engage the enemy on multiple fronts. We need decisive leadership with the vision and experience to guide our country and the world through this challenge. Having a courageous commander-in-chief who is willing to lead us in this war, rally our democratic allies, and defeat our enemy to secure a broader peace is what's at stake in this election. John McCain is best prepared to lead and defend our nation and its global allies as commander-in-chief from day one. He has the experience and leadership to defeat our enemy and secure a broader peace.

RUDY GIULIANI is the kind of leader who should appeal to conservatives in search of a candidate with executive leadership experience and a proven record of results. The stakes for the upcoming presidential election are incredibly high. We need a president who will keep our country safe and keep our economy moving forward. As we move through the presidential nominating process with the California primary on February 5, it is critical that Republicans select a candidate whom we trust to deliver results and who can win the race against the Democrats in November.

Mayor Giuliani is the only candidate in this cycle I've seen with the executive experience needed to step in on day one and be ready to lead this country. Not only did Rudy lead one of the nation's largest governments while he was mayor of New York City, but he was an effective common sense executive who found solutions to problems that others said were unsolvable.

Rudy is the true fiscal conservative candidate in the



RUDY GIULIANI

race. In fact, George Will has called Rudy's time as mayor of New York "the most successful episode of conservative governance in this country in the last 50 years." That testimonial is not simply a recognition of his unmatched fiscal record, but is a statement borne of the understanding that Rudy, for years, fought on the front

lines of the culture war — in the very heart of American liberalism.

If you look at each candidate's accomplishments, it is clear that Rudy Giuliani is the true fiscal conservative. Like Ronald Reagan, a fiscal conservative is someone

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John McCain knows from personal experience that war is a terrible thing, but not the worst thing.

— *John Allan Peschong*

who can lower taxes, limit government spending, and grow the economy in the face of difficult challenges. With Democrat control of Congress, it would seem to be a nearly impossible task in Washington, D.C., these days, but one man did it in a place that it may have been even tougher: New York City.

Americans across the nation are looking for a leader committed to ending runaway government spending. Rudy Giuliani is the only proven conservative leader running for president who can reform our budget process. He knows that our country needs strong fiscal management and his remarkable record as the reform-minded, two-term mayor of America's largest city backs up his commitment.

Mayor Giuliani has committed to the American people to budget like a business and make government more honest, accountable, and transparent. He will demand cost estimates for all legislation before it is voted on so taxpayers know how Congress is spending their money. Rudy also pledges to replace only half of the federal workers scheduled to retire over the next 10 years. This dramatic reduction will bring about a more efficient, effective workforce and save taxpayers an estimated \$21 billion each year.

Rudy will bring transparency to the federal government by supporting an end to congressional earmarks that drive up the cost and size of government. By cutting taxes, controlling spending, and limiting the size of government, Rudy turned a deficit into a surplus, all while balancing the city's budget.

THOSE WHO remember New York City prior to Rudy's tenure recall its depraved conditions. Prostitutes and porn shops lined Times Square, the heart of the city. Violent criminals ran roughshod over defenseless tourists and residents alike, turning America's most recognizable city into what some called the crime capital of the Western world. Drug dealers, beggars, the infamous "squeegee men" — they all contributed to the moral decay of what was once a proud, vibrant, and dynamic American city. And more than one million New Yorkers — one of every seven residents — was on welfare.