2/2/016

115th KZGN News Talking Points Editorial

By” Tom Wiknich

What is the difference between Clinton and Sanders?

Here I am, writing about Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders. The way the Iowa caucuses went yesterday, it makes me wonder how Democrats will vote in the next elections. There are differences between them on positions, and of course, there’s the women issue. I don’t mean that in a disrespectful way, but I can’t help but believe there will be a lot of Democrat women vote for Clinton, just because she is a woman, as they believe it is time for a woman to be president.

I have no problem with a woman being the president of the United States. First the Democrats get to decide their nominee. If she wins the nomination, then we all will get a chance to either vote for her or against her. For the primaries, how will Democrats decide which to vote for? Both are fighting for the far left position, but I think Sanders takes it much further left than Clinton. Don’t take me wrong here. Clinton is far left; however, Sanders is much further left.

For example, Sanders wants free college to the bachelor level. Clinton supports free college to the associate level. They both want to find a way to pay off all the current student loans people currently owe.

Another example is on health care: Clinton wants to keep Obama care completely, and “fix” the couple problems it has. I know one thing she wants to fix is to expand it to cover more people. If she has any real fixes, like getting rid of certain overhead and tax penalty problems, she says nothing. How about making plans available across state lines? This will increase the competitive nature of the service lowering the cost. She says nothing about that fix. On the other hand, Sanders wants to convert to a one complete health care system. He wants to do away with Obama care and replace it with a system like social security. No option for us. Under his plan we would have a paycheck deduction for health care every pay check.

Then we get to national security. Both of which think the NRA and global warming is more of a threat to us than ISIS and Islamic extremist terrorists, or Russia, North Korea, Iran, or China. On the NRA, Clinton wants to run them right into the ground. She wants to abolish the NRA and our second amendment rights. This is an area where she has flipped before. She was pushed into this extreme position by far-left supporters and the other candidates that were once in the race. I suspect, now that the other candidates are all gone, and it’s down to her and Sanders, she might once again start a slight softer position. But she’ll continue her tirade against the NRA. Sanders has not been quite so hard on the NRA. However, to react to Clinton’s push against the NRA, he has now moved to willing to consider some “common sense” gun control (catch phrase used by people that ultimately want all guns banned). What a mind game. If you don’t agree with their “common sense” for gun control position, then I guess you have no common sense. What about ISIS, since there are no Islamic terrorists in their thinking? They think that the only way to deal with them is to rally the other Middle Eastern nations to puts boot on the ground, while we provide intelligence and air support. On the Syrian refugee crisis, they have no problem letting all of them into the country. It makes no difference that Obama’s own heads of the FBI and Homeland Security has said under testimony that they do not have the means to adequately screen these people.

What about taxes? I really can’t figure out how Clinton actually will pay for her entitlement programs. She’ll have to raise taxes. I can’t find any definition of what that means with her. Sanders has already admitted that the middle class will get a tax increase. He really goes after the rich with a tax rate scale approaching 90% for the rich. So, if a rich person makes $2 million per year, they pay $1.8 million in taxes? They get to keep $200K. If a person makes $100K per year at a 25% rate, they pay $25K in taxes and get to keep $75K. I wonder who under his tax plan would ever be able to purchase all those multimillion dollar homes along the coasts and other upscale neighborhoods. Someone bringing home $200K per year would never be able to afford a $5 million dollar home. A tax rate as high as he’s proposing, would establish an extreme upper class and make a huge middle class.

Both subscribe to some miracle plan to get us off all fossil fuels by 2050. The only way to accomplish that goal would be to raise taxes on all fossil fuels to such a high level that clean energy is cost effective. They both have plans to do that, which would be a new tax on all of us. The people that still have the old gas fueled cars, would be paying more for that gas. Of course now they also want to attack Wall Street big banks. They trade back and forth on this one, both claiming they’ll be harder on these guys than the other. I’ve not heard either of them say what they plan on doing, except the rhetoric. Then to top it all off, we have Sanders proudly declaring himself a socialist Democrat. He said that during the last debate.

He says that he is proud to be called a socialist and will wear it with honor.

Of course, we still have the looming classified document email crisis to be handled yet. Let there be no mistake, as a former DOD employee that handled classified documents, there is no way either I or anyone I worked with would have done what she did. If we did, we would have been fired from our job and then prosecuted. There would have not been any months of investigation. Action would have been swift and harsh. There’s more I could get into, but that’s enough for now.

And finally, Sanders wants all the big corrupt money out of political campaigns. This is directed right at Clinton for all her huge speaking fees, she has received over the years. He points to her receiving $600,000 just last year in speaking fees from supporters and her huge multimillion dollar PACs used against him. While there are many similarities between them, there are also some big differences. So, there you have it.

In conclusion, there are differences between them. It will be interesting how the Democrats make their final choice for their nominee. I’m Tom Wiknich, and that’s what I think. I’d like to know what you think. If you have any comments about this editorial, or would like to discuss or recommend a topic, I’d like to hear from you. Please email them to info@kzgn.net.