

Charities for the Trump Era

By Alexander J. Rivest and Ronald L. Rivest

Want to stay active and engaged against the policies that are likely to be implemented by a Republican-controlled House and Senate, while Donald Trump is President? Fuming in private does little good; you need to do *something* to make the world a better place.

There are many ways to do so. Here we suggest some 501(c)(3) charities you may wish to support.

We list nine issues that may concern you in the Trump era, from climate change to voting and elections. For each, we suggest two charities to support, based on our own assessment of their effectiveness. We used [Charity Navigator](#) to assess the ratings, size and histories of the above charities and cross checked them with [Guidestar](#) and [CharityWatch](#). We tried to pick charities that would make effective use of your donations on the listed issues. Some of the charities listed address multiple issues on our list.

Whether or not Trump's individual cabinet nominees become confirmed, or specific policies become enacted, the ideologies they represent will continue, and the charities listed below will continue to be relevant during the Trump Era.

1. Climate and Environment

Donald Trump has explicitly stated that he thinks Global Warming is a Chinese [hoax](#), has [threatened](#) to try and pull the US out of the Paris Climate Agreement, and has nominated Scott Pruitt, a climate-change [denialist](#), to head the Environmental Protection Agency. The GOP ranks are full of climate-change deniers. Senator James Inhofe, of the Environment and Public Works committee, even wrote a book calling climate change "[The Greatest Hoax](#)."

A. [Sierra Club](#)

B. [Natural Resources Defense Council \(NRDC\)](#)

2. Women's Health Care

Donald Trump famously stated that women who have abortions should be [punished](#), and Mike Pence has led the GOP push to [defund](#) Planned Parenthood, which they have voted to defund [8 times](#). As of January 2017, Paul Ryan has announced that the GOP will vote to [defund](#) Planned Parenthood, which spends [97%](#) of their funds on cancer screening, STD prevention and treatment, and basic women's health issues (only 3% go to proving women with access to abortions).

- A. [Planned Parenthood](#)
- B. [Center for Reproductive Rights](#)

3. Science

Donald Trump thinks the National Institute of Health is [terrible](#) and believes that vaccinations cause [autism](#). Lamar Smith (R-TX), chair of the Science and Technology committee, has proposed to cut funding for basic research which he calls "[frivolous and wasteful](#)." For [years](#), the GOP has attacked scientific evidence and funding for issues that their political ideologies don't agree with.

- A. [American Association for the Advancement of Science](#)
- B. [Society for Science and the Public](#)

4. Equality / Justice

Donald Trump's campaign was championed by hate groups such as the [KKK](#) and leaders of the [alt-right](#) movement, groups that call for white supremacy. Since the election hate crimes towards minorities have been on the [rise](#).

- A. [Human Rights Campaign](#)
- B. [Southern Poverty Law Center](#)

5. Education

The nomination of Betsy DeVos as Education Secretary under a Trump administration means a shift in thinking about public school funding. DeVos has spent her life trying to influence government to allow a school-voucher programs. These programs seemingly allow for more parental choice, but often segregate lower income students into poorer performing [schools](#).

- A. [Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund](#)
- B. [FIRST \(For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology\)](#)

6. Immigration and Refugees

Donald Trump has threatened to deport all [11 million](#) undocumented immigrants ([DREAMERS](#) included), regardless of how long they have been in the country, and plans to [immediately](#) deport 3 million once he takes office. An [unpredictable](#) and potentially [aggressive](#) foreign military policy could accelerate the worldwide refugee crisis.

- A. [The United Nations Refugee Agency](#)

B. [American Civil Liberties Union \(ACLU\)](#)

7. Journalism

During the presidential campaign, Donald Trump continually [lambasted](#) the press, especially when unflattering things were revealed about him, a practice inspiring some of his followers to similarly [harass](#) journalists. Journalists need to cover his many potential conflicts of [interest](#) and have concerns about adequate press [access](#) to Trump.

A. [Committee to Protect Journalists](#)

B. [ProPublica](#)

8. Internet and Privacy

The proposed appointment of Jeff Sessions to the position of Attorney General is a big red flag to privacy and anti-surveillance advocates. The Daily Dot [reports](#), "Sessions has made it clear that he is incredibly hostile to Silicon Valley, the internet in general, and the First and Fourth Amendments," as the Electronic Frontier Foundation's [Nate Cardozo](#) told the Daily Dot in a phone interview. "He will be a big-government, anti-liberty attorney general."

A. [EFF \(Electronic Frontier Foundation\)](#)

B. [EPIC \(Electronic Privacy Information Center\)](#)

9. Voting and Elections

The 2016 election was particularly tumultuous, with numerous allegations of "[rigged elections](#)" and "[Russian hacking](#)." We need to ensure that our elections have rock-solid results, based on voter-verifiable paper records and routine post-election audits or recounts.

A. [Verified Voting](#)

B. [Common Cause](#)

Give generously

How can you make the biggest impact with your donations? We think generously supporting the charities listed above can have significant positive impact. We encourage you to do your own research and support organizations that are fighting for what you believe in.

Stay active and constantly fight for what you believe in. The void left by inactivity or "couch anger" simply allows opposing world views to take root and assume power.

(Bios of authors:)



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