

opinion & CAMPUS LIFE

A LOOK INTO THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

By Danielle Beck
Staff Writer

This election was a tremendous disappointment to the Republican Party. It was sad, and it was unbelievable how little Americans really know about the Republican Party. The Republican Party believes in many things that can help the people of our country live better lives.

Some of the beliefs which the Republican Party hold are low taxes, pro-life stance, small government, personal responsibility, and defending our country and traditional American values (<http://www.rightwingnews.com>). So, now that you know some of the things that the Republicans believe in, let me explain what they really mean.

Millions of Americans pay thousands of dollars in taxes every year, and many Americans cannot afford to pay their taxes each year. The Republican Party general believes in tax cuts instead of raising taxes to help those struggling Americans. The tax cuts are not just for the wealthy, because the wealthy do not have a problem paying their taxes, but they are for everybody who pays taxes. I mean, come on, do Americans honestly think that welfare and social programs, which are government run, get paid out of the President's pocket? No, everyone who pays taxes pays for those who do not.

When a lot of people think prolife, they think of no exceptions to abortions, but over the years, people have come to realize that things happen, and there should be exceptions. Most of the Republicans in our current government still are prolife but believe there are exceptions to abortion, mainly in cases of rape or incest. This has always been a hot button issue and probably always will be.

Another issue that has been getting more and more attention is the issue of jobs. The easiest thing to do with all of the unemployed Americans is to give them government jobs. This includes public school teachers, cops, government officials, etc., but the problem is that with big government comes big taxes, and that is why Republicans believe in minimizing government as much as possible.

Personal responsibility is something people preach about all the time, but the Republican Party truly believes in it. This does not mean that people should not help each other, but it essentially means that those who try to improve themselves deserve to get help. Here at Meredith College, we preach a lot about leadership and the responsibility that comes with leadership. As far as I know, everyone is a leader to some capacity, and it is about time that we stand up, take control, and be agents for change if we do not like what is going on.

Who remembers 9/11? I think that is a day no one will ever forget. As a

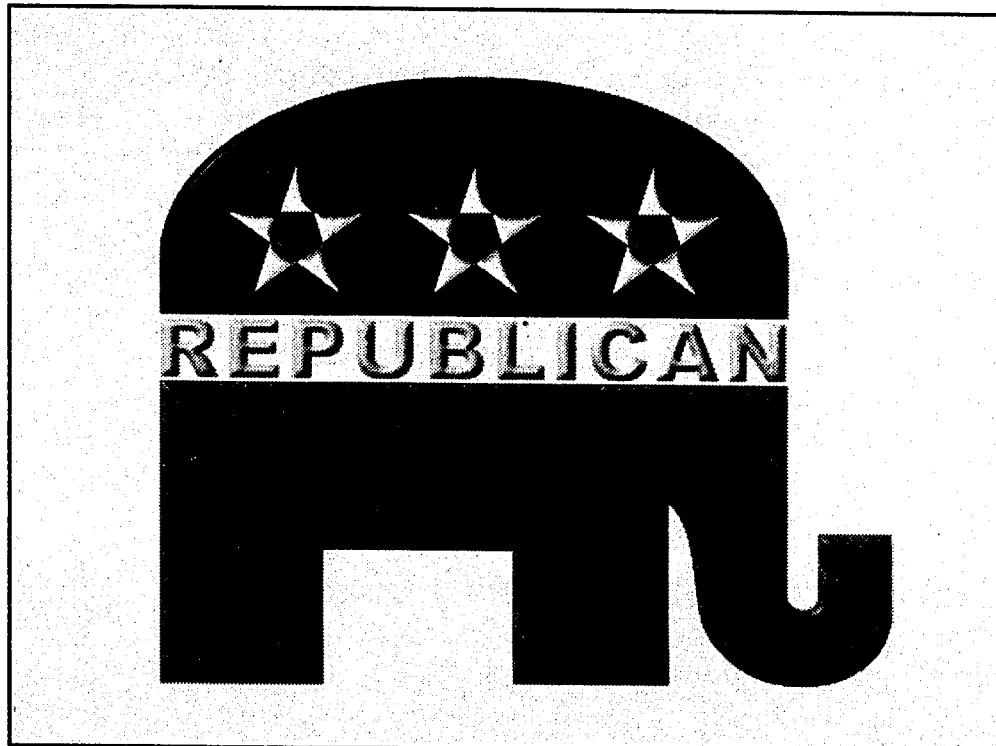


Photo Courtesy conservativereader.net

super power it was America's job to get involved in the war on terror. The terrorists aimed at and killed many innocent people on 9/11, and they had no reason other than they were jealous of us and wanted to try and bring us down. It is our responsibility to protect and defend our homeland. No one wants to go to war, but at that time, our country needed to send the message that we will not let other countries attack us and get away with it. That is why the Republicans believe in defending our country.

The Republicans are old school in many ways. They believe in the traditional American values. They believe in the way our grandparents were raised with strict morals and values and a love for your country and fellow man. It is a sad thing to see when you turn on the television or you are in Washington, DC, and you see parties, races, and people in general fighting over the petty things in life. What ever happened to doing things for the greater good of the country and putting all hurt feelings aside? These are only a few of the things that the Republican Party believes in, but they are major issues in today's society. ■

ON A HISTORIC NIGHT

By Amy Damone
Contributing Writer

This has been an incredibly long election cycle. Almost two years of candidates, debates, promises, interviews, wall-to-wall coverage, ads, signs, and discussion. Now it's over. After all of it, Barack Obama is the 44th President of the United States of America.

When the news broke across my television screen at 11 p.m. EST Nov. 4th, I jumped in my seat, gasped and threw my hands to my face. I couldn't believe it. I started to cry. At least I thought that was what it was. I was gasping, and it felt like

every other time in my life where I have cried. But no tears came down my face. Instead, I was uncontrollably smiling.

That night was historic and riddled with the echos of change to come. Obama is the first black man elected to the highest position in our country. How can you deny the historical factor behind that? He's a complete change from what our country knows. And yes, that is scary, but really after the last eight years, can't this change only be for the good? And even if it's not, don't

we have another chance for change in four years? That is the beauty of this country, and the beauty of our democracy. Really, every four years it's about change. We have that choice, we have the option to accept change.

On that note, while that election night was about a lot of change and lot of new ideas, it really all balanced in the grand scheme of things. This is how our democracy works. Rarely does our nation embrace one party's ideas for longer than 8

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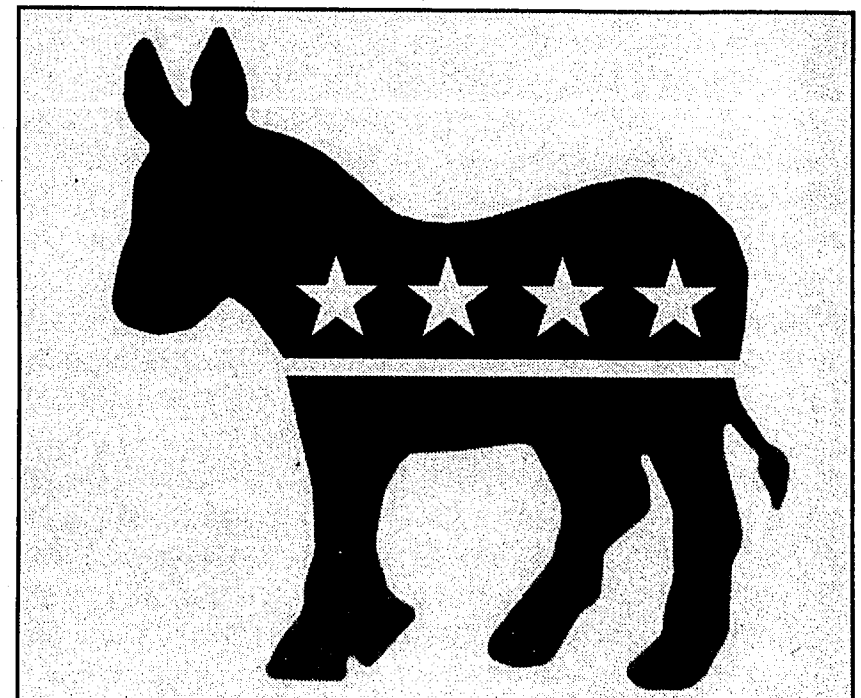


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