

Democracy Corps Transcripts

Name: Group 1
Location: Cincinnati, OH
Group Specs: Women, 45-64, non-college grads, household income under \$50K, undecided in Congressional vote, recruited from OH CD 1
Date: September 19, 2006
Time: 5:30 PM

MODERATOR – (INSTRUCTIONS/INTRODUCTION)

My name is Alexis and I have two grown children and just became a grandmother.

Hi, I'm Beulah and I've just retired from school bus driving because of a disability in my spine. That's it. I haven't started anything else yet.

My name is Connie I have two children 21 and 17 and I am a homemaker.

My name Denise. I have three children, all grown. My baby is 21, she's still home but I still do childcare in the home.

I'm Eden. I have one child and two grandchildren.

I'm Fran. I am going to turn 50 in about two weeks.

It doesn't hurt at all.

I have one daughter. She is 23, got married about a year ago on our anniversary.

My name is Gail. I'm an office manager. I have two children, 21 and 17 and my 21-year-old he is doing an exchange student program in Japan right now so he left about a week and a half ago so mom is still teary eyed for that one but he'll be home for Christmas so that is good.

My name is Holly. I have been married 30 years. We have two children a 19-year-old and a 16-year-old and our 19-year-old is handicap so I work with the Board of MRDD and do a lot of my volunteer time with kids with special needs.

Very nice. I'm Isabel and my son is 28 and my daughter is 11.

MODERATOR - WELL THANK YOU EVERYBODY FOR COMING TONIGHT. WE ARE GOING TO START THE DISCUSSION WITH JUST A VERY OPEN ENDED QUESTION. WHEN YOU THINK GENERALLY WHAT IS GOING AROUND IN THE COUNTRY, DO YOU THINK THINGS ARE GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION OR WRONG DIRECTION AND WHY?

Well, in my opinion without security in our country nothing else matters so even if I don't agree with some of the way things are going, I agree with how Bush is handling our international security.

MODERATOR - OTHERS, RIGHT DIRECTION, WRONG DIRECTION.

I would agree with what Jean says. I have two half brothers who are currently probably heading to Iraq with one before Christmas and one after so that plays in how I agree with it but I agree, you know, without security what else do we have, you know.

Internationally I kind of agree but domestically like our gas prices and so-forth I think are way out of control. Why should the gas corporations be making billions of dollars or profits and a middle income person, I'm struggling to make ends meet. I just don't think it is being allocated correctly.

I agree with that one.

(Lots of laughter).

Yes we do.

If I'm not mistaken, I thought they were investigating that.

I thought it was because they were expecting it to be a bad hurricane season and it wasn't and that is why it is going back down again but they have an excuse on (interrupted)

Well, and they are repairing the Alaskan pipeline, which was suppose to decrease our oil supply but yet in Ohio the gas rates have dropped, so how does that supply and demand work? I'm confused.

I pretty much agree with the international but domestically what concerns me being in a school setting, I am very much concerned with how out of touch the people in Washington and the state government seem to be with the No Child Left Behind and the funding with education and the healthcare because I deal with a lot of kids who are on Medicaid and Medicare and the amount of paperwork that we have to do and the things that the state requires us, you know they just don't understand what we do or what these kids need.

MODERATOR - OTHERS, RIGHT DIRECTION, WRONG DIRECTION?

I just don't agree with the war.

I think we couldn't protect our country without having [a war.]

I just don't agree with it.

MODERATOR – WHAT IN THE WAR IS BOTHERING YOU?

I don't think we should be over there, period. We proved our point now bring our men back. I just don't agree, and the gas prices, I just think that is a way they get money from us. They know we're going to use it. They know we are going to pay for it.

I think we tend to go to war to do something but then we tend to stick around a lot longer supporting other governments and I don't see that it is really benefiting us and it doesn't seem to be benefiting them judging by the amount of violence that is still going on over there. It really hasn't cleared up anything.

Well, I think that is their way of life. That's the way they live.

Maybe I watch too many movies but I kind of have this conception of like we supposedly have these special forces that if it is bin Laden that they are after why can't they go get him? Why do they have to destroy everything, all these cities in the process when they are supposedly after one guy?

A friend of my son's had him in his sights and he wasn't allowed he said. He did two tours over in Afghanistan. I'm not really for the war. I mean nobody should be for killing but we need to stop him. Look how many times they have come after us as Americans. I mean it is not just the one incident and there is no sense going in there and getting the job half way done because then the insurgents or whatever you want to call them, anybody that they see was cooperating with the U.S. or whatever, they are just going annihilate them, which doesn't mean we should annihilate them but, maybe I'm wishy-washy.

We should surprise them like they surprised us.

We are sticking to these rules like you know, like there he was right there in Afghanistan and they couldn't get him. So, they're not sticking to rules, why do we have to stick to the rules. We should have just gotten him and then it would have been over it.

We're suppose to be civilized but.

(Many people talking).

I don't believe everything they say because Oliver North warned us about Osama bin Ladin a lot longer than 9/11.

My children learned about him in school.

If he is still out and running something, somebody is protecting him for some reason.

Yeah.

There are reasons that it is not being stopped.

MODERATOR - CAROL, WHAT DO YOU THINK, ARE THINGS GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION?

Well, I agree with many of them and I would only be repeating myself but once we're there, I agree we have to go through with it and also support our president whether it was going to be Clinton or somebody else but we took that step, were there and we have to support our boys too and I have feelings what's right and wrong with different politicians, why is it we vote on them and they make promises to us and then they end up going to Washington and all of a sudden they are not working for us.

They're working for somebody else.

Memory loss.

Right.

I think they tell us what we want to hear and see how many of us they can fade in and then it is like, well, I'm here now so now you have to deal with me for a few years.

Yeah because of the salaries that you read that they get (inaudible) and I'm like you, then you scratch to make ends meet when they are making so much. That is hard to take.

MODERATOR - KAREN WHAT DO YOU THINK? DO YOU THINK THE COUNTRY IS GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION OR THE WRONG DIRECTION?

I think with politics it is real disappointing because you hear one thing on TV like where they down each other, it is like all of a sudden you feel like well neither one of them is worth voting for. I think it is real disappointing the two party system. It is like if there isn't a party in charge they really can't anything done because they are arguing all the time so nothing really get finished or accomplished.

I agree with that one.

Mm-hm.

Yeah, there needs to be more unity.

It is like whoever is in charge why does the other one fight them. It is like a football game or something or rather than working together.

That's right.

Two kids on a playground.

(Many people talking).

Right. And all the red tape and how long it takes, yeah.

They don't care if something gets put through because it is a good idea. They only care if it says the democratic party put it through or the republican part put it through. It

doesn't matter, oh, this is something we can compromise on. It has to be something that comes down to partisan.

MODERATOR – WHAT ABOUT THE ECONOMY? PEOPLE MENTIONED GAS PRICES, BUT WHAT BEYOND GAS PRICES, WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE ECONOMY? HOW IS IT GOING?

The gas prices make the costs of all goods go up because everything is transported from one place another so all goods, the cost of things have gone up. Transportation, I mean (interrupted)

Well, I know for myself that if I'm spending more in gas I am going to do without some other things.

Right.

I think everybody is in that boat though.

My husband is in the grocery busy and this time is always difficult because you got back school fees and clothes and all that stuff. People are eating what is in the closet and what is in the freezer, they're not, and it affects everybody. Like you said, trucks use gas.

It is not just that, I mean working with teachers and things, I haven't had a raise in five years. If my husband gets a raise it is 2% and like you said, that is what is hard when you see that these people, when it list that [Chabbot] and certain people live on this side of town in a \$450,000.00 home and I am struggling to make payments on a three bedroom house and keep two kids in public schools, so.

I think a lot of people are cutting back on everything. The only thing that I am cutting back on are like trips to the grocery store or trips to buy something. I try to do it all at one time and I never use to do that. I use to run out whenever I wanted to and just can't be running around all the time.

MODERATOR – DO PEOPLE FEEL GAS PRICES DROPPING AT ALL? IS THERE A CHANGE IN THE GAS PRICES THAT IS AFFECTING YOU IN ONE WAY OR THE OTHER?

Well, I feel it is just dropping temporarily and I think after we vote it is going to go back up high again. This is just to keep us kind of quiet.

And if they drop the gas prices at the pump, they're going to hit us with heating oil prices in the winter.

Right.

Well, the gasoline for cars and trucks have come down but diesel fuel has remained the same. That has not moved so any commodity that moves using diesel fuel, there has been no change and since we live in the tri-state here I'm hearing too that Indiana and Kentucky prices haven't dropped. It has only been in Ohio. (Interrupted).

Right.

...So I kind of agree with what you guys were saying that as soon as the election is over, yeah, they are going to jump back up and on that note with gas prices, when it comes down it comes down in pennies. When it jumps, it jumps by 20, 40 cents a gallon so where is the rational there?

MODERATOR – WHAT ABOUT THE ECONOMY OUTSIDE OF GAS PRICES, IS THAT THE ONLY REASON OR DO YOU THINK THERE ARE OTHER REASONS WHY WE ARE HAVING WHAT YOU DESCRIBE AS DIFFICULTY WITH THE ECONOMY IN MAKING ENDS MEET?

Well I think medical is outrageous. My husband owns his own business and we have to pay for our own medical and it is ridiculous. We could make another house payment for what we pay for that. Prescriptions, they're outrageous and whoever is out there they always say they are going to work on that but nothing every gets done and somebody mentioned paperwork, the paperwork you got to go through.

There is a lot of people lost in the shuffle to that don't fix any criteria to be on a different program and stuff.

And that is one thing that I go for when they talk about medical and they are going to help out there, my backs get going towards voting for that person and nothing ever gets done.

Well, I work for a hospital and there is a state funded program that helps self-paid patients, those that cannot afford insurance or are not eligible for Medicaid. Those are basically the working poor, so Ohio does have a state funded program.

What about the middle class then. There is always something for the poor-poor, the rich-rich but what about the middle class.

Well, I know that some of the hospitals in town do have a financial aid program for those with insurance that take, that consider them like a discount, like the balance after insurance payment, so there are programs out there you just have to ask or they (interrupted)

It is not just hospital care though.

...Yeah. Doctors are different. Doctors don't offer any discounts usually. If they are kindhearted they do.

MODERATOR – WERE YOU GOING TO SAY SOMETHING [KAREN]?

Yes, with talking about the hospitals, how they will help out. The only problem with that is they tell you that you fill out all your forms and they tell you, oh, you are going to get all this paid for. You don't have to worry about anything well then they say, we're going to try to put you on Medicaid or whatever, so then the bills are rolling in and they are saying, oh well Medicaid might pay it so we're going to wait and see if they are going to pay any and in the meantime they have the collection agency after you. So, I mean, obviously we have to do something about the healthcare so that everyone can get, no

matter if you are rich, poor or whatever so that everyone can get the care, get the medicine that they need. I mean, you know, you hear where they say, the senior citizens you know they can't hardly eat because they can't afford their medicine. It's true. My dad has like three different insurance things through the Medicaid and this, that and the other and still some of his medicine he ends up paying close to \$500.00 a month.

Which is nothing when you take into consideration that he is on like twenty different medicines so actually that's not a lot but if this one and that one and that one wasn't taken care of he wouldn't have the medicine because he wouldn't be able to afford it.

I know what you're saying.

MODERATOR – WHAT ABOUT THE NEW PRESCRIPTION BENEFIT THAT IS ADMINISTERED THROUGH MEDICARE, DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY IMPRESSIONS OF THAT?

My dad applied for that and actually he gets his medication out of Canada. It is cheaper.

There is a cap on that, isn't there.

Mm-hm.

We do too.

MODERATOR – YOU DO WHAT?

We get our medicine out of Canada. The prices are (interrupted)

My mom applied and the cap thing kicked in and she, supposedly they add, like you have so much you are allowed to spend. Well, the thing is, if your prescription is \$110.00, see my mom pays \$40.00 and they pay the balance but they charge the whole \$110.00 to her account so she runs out of her \$3,000.00 limit like in September so the rest of the year she has to pay full price for all the rest of her drugs.

It was very confusing and I don't think it works.

Yeah, I don't understand how even a lot of the seniors can decide, if they don't have family members or someone to help them how they can decide what to do with those things because it takes an act of God just to get through some of those instructions. I feel sorry for a lot of those people.

I'll tell you something else, we have families that are, I'll be honest, usually they're low income and sometimes the parents are what they call functional illiterate or they themselves have mental retardation issues, some of the families that we do work with and I know the social worker has to fill out just reams and reams of paperwork because they're just lost in the maze but what do you do when you have a child that has seizures? Somehow there is a flux in the system and for some reason you don't get picked up on something or you don't qualify for something, that seizure medication, that emergency seizure medication is \$249.00 a dose. Okay, if a child has seizures twice in a week that is \$500.00 and the school says, they can't be in school unless you have that

medicine in the nurse's office available, so what happens, the family disappears. We don't see them because they get tired of banging their heads against the wall. I don't have \$500.00 that I could come up with out of my pocket just on the spare of the moment.

MODERATOR – LET ME JUST ASK (INTERRUPTED)

Yeah, I was just going to say my dad is real lucky, he's 84 but he's got the VA Hospital because he was in World War II and if he needs a prescription it cost him \$7.00 or \$8.00 and that is all he has to pay and then I take care of my mother-in-law's finances also but she is on disability so she is lucky that she has more, that she gets taken care of for her medicine too.

Does your dad have any trouble going through the VA though?

Well, right now he is in a nursing home and he is recovering from a fall, so Medicare is taking care of everything and he doesn't even have to go with his other insurance.

I just wonder because I have heard other seniors say, yeah, you got something from the VA but you can only see their doctors and you have to sit for hours and hours.
(Interrupted)

That is right, you do.

...And if you don't like that doctor and don't feel confident (interrupted)

Then you can go somewhere else and pay a lot of money.

Yeah.

MODERATOR – LET ME ASK ABOUT SOMETHING DIFFERENT THAT HAS BEEN IN THE NEWS A LITTLE BIT. HAS ANYBODY HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT THESE STORIES WITH THESE MILITARY TRIBUNALS AND THE CIA PRISONS?

A little bit.

A little bit, yeah.

MODERATOR – WHAT HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT IT?

Are you talking about the secrete prisons?

MODERATOR – RIGHT AND THIS DEBATE THAT IS HAPPENING IN WASHINGTON RIGHT NOW OVER HOW WE, HOW AMERICANS INTERROGATE PEOPLE?

Well, if they can beat, hit us, we can. Not that I would poke them with a cattle (inaudible) or anything but I mean, wasn't that, as we were growing up, wasn't that what you saw in the army movies or whatever, the interrogation, it was suppose to scare the prisoner or whatever you want to call them and they would speak.

MODERATOR – HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THIS IN THE NEWS AT ALL, ANYBODY?

The only thing that I read is that they were saying we did have secrete prisons outside the country and (interrupted)

I think there were fourteen that they moved to Guantanamo but the only other, the thing that I wasn't hearing was so much about the torture was that we caught people that are higher up and that little deck of card thing like the #1 and #2, we caught them months ago but they are just now letting people know they have them because it is right before the election and they want to say, okay, we captured the #2 guy, of course he has been sitting in a jail in Afghanistan for the last 8 months but we didn't want you to know that.

MODERATOR – ANYBODY ELSE HEAR ANYTHING ABOUT THIS?

I heard that same thing.

And Bush wants them to get interrogated the old way and I think the newer people that are coming up are saying, you can't do that, you know that's not humane.

So, they weren't following the Geneva Convention and (interrupted)

Right.

...as far as (interrupted)

Exactly.

...that's what I heard.

I don't think Iraq and Iran know what the Geneva Convention means. They certainly don't seem to (interrupted)

I guess you have to find the definition of torture.

Yeah.

It is beheading you on camera so that your family can see it (interrupted)

Yeah, I think so, I think they consider that.

MODERATOR – WE ARE GOING TO DO A DIFFERENT EXERCISE NOW. I AM GOING TO SAY THE NAME OF A PERSON AND I JUST WANT YOU TO SAY THE FIRST THING THAT COMES TO MIND WHEN YOU HEAR THAT PERSONS NAME. IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT IS NICE.... THE FIRST NAME IS MIKE DEWINE?

I'm tired of all the commercials already. (Laughter).

Yeah but you know what, he seems to be on an awful lot of committees and seems to be well respected in Washington.

(Inaudible) name in the press right now.

Yeah.

MODERATOR – HIS NAME IS IN THE PRESS.

Mm-hm.

MODERATOR – IS IT POSITIVE, NEGATIVE OR JUST OUT THERE?

Print wise I would say it is positive but like the commercials on TV he is downgrading his opponent.

What confuses me is how they attack each other and how they did in and to find, it makes you say, oh, I don't want him, oh, he is really good and then all of a sudden, well he did this and I'm going, oh I don't know what I'm doing. It really (interrupted)

Confusing.

...Yeah.

And how much of it is true.

That is it. You don't know if it, at the moment I don't want either one of them.

(Lots of laughter).

MODERATOR – THE NEXT NAME I AM GOING TO THROUGH OUT AND THE FIRST THING THAT COMES TO MIND. [SHARIF BROWN]?

Shifty.

He just doesn't seem honest, dishonest, whatever you want to call it.

Not enough personal information on how he feels about issues.

There seems to be a lot of double speak.

MODERATOR – ANYBODY ELSE? FIRST THING WHEN YOU HEAR THE NAME [SHARIF BROWN]?

[Sharif Brown] let us down. (Many people laughing – inaudible). Sorry. (Interrupted)

(Many people talking) DeWine's campaign.

...My daughter keeps saying, I'm tired of hearing that.

MODERATOR – THE NEXT NAME IS KEN BLACKWELL?

Mayor.

He didn't do his job.

Well, he has changed a lot from what he was and now all of a sudden you hear, well, see that is still (interrupted)

That's what happens.

Right. They are turning around and attacking him but you're wondering, is this true and should I vote for him. At this point, no.

MODERATOR – WHAT ELSE?

Big business.

I think he just wants to go up the ranks and be a big shot and not stay, you know, in the city, just wants to go on.

Higher position.

Yeah, I when I say big business, it is like he is being backed and that is whose words you're hearing and whose putting out because like you said there is not a lot of personal stuff being said.

MODERATOR – TED STRICKLAND?

I don't know much about him.

A lot of commercials.

I haven't really heard of him until the television (many people talking).

MODERATOR – ANY IMPRESSIONS OF HIM?

Is he the one that dropped out (interrupted)

MODERATOR – THE NEXT NAME IS STEVE CHABOT?

West side home boy.

He needs to fix his head.

I've met him, talked to him because I am from the west side. He seems genuine to me.

I was going to say, I meant him a couple of times too and had some opportunities to talk to him and I think what he does in Washington, I think he plays the game but I think he still keeps some of that west side honesty. I mean, I think he's got enough connections here and is deep rooted enough that he really does know that he has people here that he needs to watch out for.

I think he cares but I just hope he doesn't get jaded like the others.

MODERATOR – WHO ELSE? KAREN WHAT DO YOU THINK OF STEVE CHABOT?

I think he's doing a good job and like she said, he has enough influence here, I think it would be, you know he would be the good choice. If you choose someone that doesn't have enough influence, to me, it seems that you just threw your vote out the window, so you kind of have to weigh if they do have that kind of influence or not.

MODERATOR – JEAN?

I agree. I think he cares. I think he really works for the people.

MODERATOR – IS THERE ANYTHING THAT HE HAS DONE THAT MAKES YOU FEEL THAT WAY?

Um, (laughter), I read up him because I am trying to decide who I want to vote for and I'm trying to think, is he the one that did, I can't remember which one it was, was he the one that is pro-senior, I don't know if he is the one or not, where he was a part of the Act where the senior can work, they don't have a limit on the amount of money that they can make, the amount of Social Security. I don't know if he is the one or not.

I think he is.

That sounds right. Yeah, I think he is.

I've seen him interact with a lot of the hospital students and places like the [Kuwanas] and things and he really wants to know those kids on some sort of personal level to know what their hopes for the future are and what he can do to help them.

Yeah, he is not a hand pumper. He stops and talks.

My daughter met him a Diamond Oaks and she was like, it was really weird mom. You hear all this garbage about the politicians but it was like he was just a person talking to me, not a big wig, which says a lot.

MODERATOR – THE NEXT NAME IS JOHN [CRANLEY]?

He is the guy that helped the veterans, is that the one? He has the commercial that he helped the veterans that didn't have the HumV's or didn't have the equipment of something.

That was Jeff Davis.

Oh that was Jeff Davis.

I can't think of anything that Cranley has done, anything.

I'm drawing a blank.

MODERATOR – YOU'RE DRAWING A BLANK?

Yeah, it is like he is a no name.

MODERATOR – BARBARA, YOU WERE GOING TO SAY SOMETHING?

I said I know what he looks like. I can just picture his face from a television commercial but I really don't know anything about him.

MODERATOR – ANYBODY ELSE ON JOHN CRANLEY? KAREN?

No, I don't know anything about him.

MODERATOR – TINA?

That name sounds familiar but I can't place him.

MODERATOR – THE NEXT THING IS CONGRESS, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF WHEN YOU HEAR THE WORD CONGRESS?

It is a mess. All they do is just sit there, taking it back to the school kids. It is like you have a bunch of little kids on the playground that don't know how to play nice. It is like they always feel that they have to one up each other and you know, well, the democrats are control, so we're better, well now the republicans are so, and it is like, it is not helping the country when they scrap and fight like that.

MODERATOR – OTHERS?

Yeah, they're flexing their muscles rather than digging into issues and making commitments and getting things done.

I think congress tries a little harder to hear what the people have to say and I think maybe they work a little bit closer to our needs but when it gets passed up to the senators, that's where it really has a power breakdown.

MODERATOR – CAROL, YOU WERE NODDING BEFORE. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF WHEN YOU THINK OF CONGRESS?

Well, pretty much what they, they don't seem to complete what they set out to do and like she said, it ends up in the senate and then before you know it, it gets whipped around and it goes nowhere.

It is totally different.

Yeah.

MODERATOR – DO YOU THINK IT IS WORSE THAN IN THE PAST OR THE SAME AS ALWAYS?

I think it is worse. They just can't get nothing going.

I just wish they'd play nice.

(Laughter).

Yeah.

Quit horsing around. You know you got a three day week.

I think they start out with good intentions like the medication thing for senior citizens. The idea (inaudible) was there but by the time it went through all the processes, now it is such a red tape bureaucratic thing for the seniors to have to deal with that it started with a good idea but by the time it passed everybody's hands and everybody put their two cents in and now the seniors have all these hoops to jump through and it has made it more complicated.

You can't have a simple bill for one purpose. Everybody has to put something on it and in order for it to pass it is like well you got to scratch my back if, my vote for this is because you got to but this amendment on it.

MODERATOR – THE NEXT THING WAS ARE GOING TO DO IS PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH BUT INSTEAD OF JUST SAYING IT WRITE AWAY, I WANT YOU TO WRITE DOWN ON THE FIRST PAGE THE GOOD THINGS THAT COME TO MIND WHEN YOU THINK OF PRESIDENT BUSH AND THEN TURN TO THE SECOND PAGE AND WRITE DOWN THE DOUBTS THAT YOU HAVE ABOUT PRESIDENT BUSH. TAKE A COUPLE OF MINUTES TO DO THAT AND THEN WE WILL DISCUSS IT. STOP AFTER PAGE TWO AND JUST WRITE YOUR FIRST NAME AND LAST INITIAL ON THE FRONT PAGE.... (DOING HANDOUT QUIETLY). WE'LL START TALKING FOR THOSE WHO HAVE FINISHED. START WITH THE POSITIVE THINGS THAT COME TO MIND WHEN YOU THINK OF PRESIDENT BUSH? WHAT DID YOU PUT?

I put that, I don't know if he did this prior to but I know after 9/11 he looked into how security and communication with security works in our country. He is the one who implemented Homeland Security and which I thought was spectacular. If anything needed to be done, that needed to be done. He needed to have the CIA and the FBI come together in communication and I believe he has done that as well or maybe even still working on it.

MODERATOR – OKAY, OTHERS, GOOD THING THAT COME TO MIND WHEN YOU THINK OF PRESIDENT BUSH.

I wrote just that his wife was working with literacy and education, kind of indirectly through him.

I wrote that because he is junior and is [doing his] second office that he has the affiliations that the Bush family has, connections and so-forth from when his father was in office and it has trickled down to himself.

I wrote, I guess more personal stuff. I feel that he is God fearing, loves his family, cares deeply about the country. I read and heard that he is very much aware when a soldier is killed and he definitely contacts the families and so-forth, the personal heart things I think.

I feel that he is trying very hard to do a good job and he has protect us because we don't know what goes on in Washington and the CIA and the FBI but there have been things that have almost happen and we still don't know about it and neither does the media. I'm not saying it and I can't say for truth but I happen to know the brother of Judge (Tenant] and it is hush, hush, it really is. There is a lot more than we'll know later on in the history books but not today and Bush is doing the best he can on the information he has.

I like the way he went to war right away than drag his feet than consider the money. He put us first and stood up for the Americans.

Mm-hm.

Mm-hm.

MODERATOR – OKAY. TURN TO THE SECOND PAGE. WHAT DOUBTS DO YOU HAVE ABOUT PRESIDENT BRUSH?

I have, I think he was a little bit too late on the securing of the borders on immigration. I don't think he has handled that well at all and there is not enough to date either.

I don't think that is a good thing.

I don't think we should be that hard on him because the past presidents having done a thing about it.

Exactly.

And there are how many, 20 million all ready in this country and if you heard the radio program that I heard that this one woman, we have to be very careful, there is one woman that she tried with her social security there is about 80 people who have her social security number.

I believe that. That is how they stay.

Yeah.

MODERATOR – WHAT OTHER DOUBTS?

I say too many corporate ties like with Enron and, not Enron, Haliburton, that type of thing.

I put down that I doubt he is respected enough to truly be in control, that he seems to desperately want to separate from his dad's legacy that people respect the senior Bush and that he wants to do something that will kind of, you know, like that is why he wants the war to go well at all cost is to say, you know, I took care of this problem.

He seems to have trouble picking people, appointing people for jobs and then those people staying with the job.

That's true.

I think he is focused too much on the war and has let other things slide.

I put down too, that as far as decision making and not having enough power to get things done like when Katrina happened, why didn't he have those FEMA people there? Why did those people have to wait a week before they got help?

MODERATOR – IN LESS THAN TWO MONTHS THERE IS GOING TO BE AN ELECTION FOR CONGRESS. LET'S TALK A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THESE ELECTIONS. FOR YOU PERSONALLY, WHAT IS THIS ELECTION ABOUT? WHAT IS GOING TO DETERMINE YOUR VOTE IN THE ELECTION FOR CONGRESS?

The lesser of two evils.

(Laughter).

What kind of information they get out to me.

Mm-hm.

Yeah.

The positive, the negative and just (interrupted)

MODERATOR – ARE THERE CERTAIN ISSUES? IS THERE SOMETHING AT STAKE IN THIS ELECTION THAT IS GOING TO TURN YOUR VOTE?

Yeah, I am going to look at their stand on medical care, on the economy, on education.

Right.

I mean that is the three things that affects just about everybody.

MODERATOR – OTHERS?

I think there is a big problem with letting these jobs go to other countries just like all the cars. I bought a Toyota. I got a lot of bad crap at work about it but Toyota was made in Kentucky but now it is like the American made cars are made in Mexico and Canada. Does that makes sense? Why are we losing, why can Honda and all these companies build here and hire people and General Motors and Ford are doing just the opposite? Why is that happening? Is it because of the pensions or what? What is the problem?

I like to look at how they run their campaigns too. I want to know more about their stance on issues versus digging up dirt on their opponent and usually the one that finds the most awful thing about the opponent, I am going to vote the other way be (interrupted)

Mudslinging.

...Yeah, right. That doesn't interest me. I want to know about your issues.

MODERATOR – BUT ARE THERE CERTAIN ISSUE THAT YOU THINK ARE REALLY AT STAKE IN THIS ELECTION THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO (INTERRUPTED)

The economy, Homeland Security, medical.

Yep.

Immigration.

Yeah.

I want to know where their money for their campaign comes from too. I look to see who supports them.

MODERATOR – ANITA YOU WERE AGREEING. WHAT IS THE ELECTION, WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR YOU?

Well, my in-laws are on fixed income and you know what they think they can do to help like the elderly we were talking about, somebody's dad, I think, you know, help them out and if they seem to really do it or are they just pretty talk.

Yeah.

Everybody has parents though and I think deep down most of them are pro-senior in someway or another.

Because they're getting to be older too.

Yeah.

(Laughter).

MODERATOR – YOU TALK A LOT ABOUT SECURITY, HOMELAND SECURITY BUT I THINK DEBRA IS THE ONLY WHO MENTIONED THAT THAT IS AN ISSUE IN THE ELECTION. DO YOU NOT SEE THAT AS A CONGRESSIONAL ISSUE OR DO YOU SEE THAT AS AN ISSUE FOR CONGRESS?

Very much so. I mean they make decisions too and they are part of the decision making, however you want to put it and if they're not going to, if I don't like their stand on it and not just that but on something, it is going to be a deciding factor on if they feel that we need more or less, which I think we need more homeland security.

If I'm not mistaken, during 9/11 the communication was very poor in Manhattan and it would seem to me that they would want, I don't know if that is a local level position or if that should be higher and presented down but everybody needs to be on their guard and we need to have, things need to be implemented and make sure that this is what we are going to do if this happens. We need to know (interrupted)

A plan.

...Exactly. Everybody needs to have a plan. All cities need to have a plan and without that plan he can be, Bush can be doing his thing, congress can be doing their thing but it needs to come on down to the local level and everybody needs to be in place and we need to be aware and we need to be educated on what that is.

MODERATOR – SO YOU SAID WHAT THINGS ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU IN THE ELECTION. WHAT ARE YOU HEARING FROM THE CANDIDATES SO FAR IN THE ELECTION?

How much they hate each other.

Yep.

Sharid Brown let us down.

(Laughter).

I don't think I'll every forget that.

MODERATOR – IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE THAT YOU'VE HEARD FROM THEM THAT STANDS OUT?

They're just picking on each other. That is all they're doing is the mudslinging and like I said, you want to pick the lesser or two evils. Well, this guy didn't talk about this guy's divorce and this guy talked about all his stuff so I'm going, you know, it's not suppose to be about what the other guy did wrong. It is suppose to be about what you're planning on doing for this that or the other, not on well, he did this and he did that.

MODERATOR – LET'S TALK ABOUT THE REPUBLICANS GOING INTO THE ELECTION IN NOVEMBER. WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT THE REPUBLICANS, WHAT REASONS ARE THERE TO VOTE FOR A REPUBLICAN?

Business.

MODERATOR – THAT THEY ARE GOOD WITH BUSINESS OR, WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

Large corporate affiliations.

MODERATOR – OTHER REASONS TO VOTE FOR A REPUBLICAN?

This may sound stupid but I grew up in West Virginia and the running joke in West Virginia is that you can dress a cow up and send it Washington and if it ran on the democratic ticket they were elect it, so were the oddballs in our family because we mostly vote republican. Most of the time what I've seen is that the economy seems to either stabilize or do a little better when the republicans are in offer that right now it is such a mess, that is why I am so undecided. I mean that has always been my thing is I would choose a republican sometimes over a democrat simply because of the economy. It just seemed to fair better, like she said with big business.

I think you're right about that because when Bush took over that was really from the Clinton administration (interrupted)

Mm-hm.

...and he had some cleaning up to do but then he didn't plan on you know 9/11 either, so he had to spend a lot of money on that so they can turn it around all they want but that is the fact.

Sometimes the democratic party scares me because like she said, the republicans have affiliation with big business. The democrats scare me because they seem to have more affiliation with the labor units.

MODERATOR – WE ARE GOING TO TALK ABOUT THE DEMOCRATS IN A MINUTE BUT ANYTHING ELSE, REASONS TO VOTE FOR A REPUBLICAN?

Well, I came from Cambridge, Massachusetts and I was really a strong democrat but living here for so many years I figured it would be best to select a republican because actually he'll work for us better because this is a republican state otherwise my vote would mean absolutely nothing and I changed over to a republican but an independent really, truthfully, but I really go for the man but actually they work harder for you if the state is strong as a republican state. In Massachusetts it's democrat.

MODERATOR – SUSAN?

I don't pay attention to who they are with and I usually have to say is Bush a republican or a democrat. I don't pay attention to what party they are with. I try to pay attention to what their stands on the issues are.

So do I.

MODERATOR – WHAT WOULD HOLD YOU BACK FROM VOTING FOR A REPUBLICAN? I KNOW EVERYONE SAYS THEY VOTE FOR THE INDIVIDUAL AND ALL THIS BUT WE ALSO KNOW THAT AS EVERYONE SAID, THERE IS A LOT OF PARTISANSHIP OUT THERE, A LOT OF BICKERING, AND WE KIND OF KNOW WHAT THE TWO SIDES OR YOU KIND OF HAVE A SENSE IN YOUR HEAD ABOUT WHAT THE TWO SIDES MEAN TO YOU. WHAT WOULD HOLD YOU BACK FROM VOTING FOR A REPUBLICAN?

Well, right now, if congress is predominantly republican and I don't think that they are doing a good job then I am going to vote opposite to get somebody else in there, the democrats in or vice versa.

I wouldn't know, like I said if they are a republican or a democrat but if they were basically a person that said, well, I don't go to church, I don't need God, then they don't get my vote.

But even on the west side the abortion issue is a big thing.

MODERATOR – BUT WOULD THAT HOLD YOU BACK FROM SUPPORTING (INTERRUPTED)

Me personally, probably would.

Yeah.

MODERATOR – OTHERS, KAREN WHAT WOULD HOLD YOU BACK?

Abortion, I'm not for that and if the president thought that was the way we should go, I wouldn't vote for him, I mean a politician.

But then they might change their mind anyway when they get up there and vote. They might not do what they said they were going to do anyway.

MODERATOR – LET'S CHECK OUT THE DEMOCRATS FOR A SECOND. WHAT ARE THE REASONS TO VOTE FOR A DEMOCRAT?

They seem like they are for the lower guy and so sometimes when you hear what they are saying, you know like the unions and all that, you are kind of like, yeah, they're right and maybe big businesses is all the republicans and they're not looking out for the little guy.

I see democrats more as the party for the people versus corporate world.

MODERATOR – IS THERE ANYTHING THAT THEY DO THAT MAKES YOU FEEL THAT WAY?

Just like what she said, because I guess they are more for the working class people, more ties with the unions.

MODERATOR – OTHERS?

That is probably the same reason I think of democrats is the lower and the republicans for the richer but that wouldn't make me vote one way or the other.

MODERATOR – IS THERE SOMETHING THAT HOLDS YOU BACK FOR VOTING FOR DEMOCRATS?

If I like somebody I am going to vote for them.

MODERATOR – ANYBODY, WHAT WOULD HOLD YOU BACK FROM VOTING FOR A DEMOCRAT, ANYBODY ELSE?

Religion and abortion stand.

(Inaudible).

Taxes.

Taxes would be one.

MODERATOR – ANYBODY ELSE THINK TAXES?

I think so, yeah.

Oh yeah.

Mm-hm.

MODERATOR – WHAT IS YOUR CONCERN?

I have always voted for more taxes. I just always seem to, I just think they need it.

Sometimes I don't think that is the way to do it though. (Lots of laughter – seem in agreement). There are other ways rather than higher taxes (interrupted)

I agree.

...Yeah, that's not the way.

Well, if it is school levy or something like that I always do that.

MODERATOR – YOU SAID THAT WOULD HOLD YOU BACK FROM VOTING BUT NOW YOU'RE SAYING THAT WOULD HOLD YOU BACK FROM VOTING FOR A DEMOCRAT?

No, I don't think it would. I said it the opposite way.

MODERATOR – OKAY. IF THE DEMOCRATS TAKE CONTROL OF CONGRESS IN THIS ELECTION DO YOU THINK ANYTHING WILL CHANGE?

You know what, if they do, I just don't think that we're going to have, if we have a democratic president and a congress and, I don't think we're going to have the strong person like we have in George Bush today if we have a democratic congress because they just seem to be pussyfooting around when it was under Clinton. It just didn't seem to work and obviously it didn't work because they had a chance and they didn't do it but it seems like we have a stronger party with the republican party or something. I'm not sure.

I think if the democrat would take over the house and the congress, if you know we had that division with a republican president and a democratic congress I think we would see heading into a recession because I think when that happens with the fighting between them, it slows the economy because they are pushing for small business in different things and taxes and then republicans tend to support bigger business, like [foreign] and companies and things would bring in more jobs where the democrats seem to focus more on jobs at the local level and it always seems like the economy just bottoms out if the democrats were in charged there.

MODERATOR – ANYBODY ELSE ON CHANGE? WOULD ANYTHING CHANGE IF THE DEMOCRATS WERE IN CONTROL OF CONGRESS AFTER THIS ELECTION?

I can't think of anything in particular. I'm sure there would be all kinds of (interrupted)

Interest rates would go up for some reason.

(Many people talking).

I think there would be a few moral issues too because I think they tend to run a little bit more toward the liberal side and get into a lot of things with the kids who are saying, why can't I go to Planned Parenthood without telling my mom and dad. Why can't, you know, I do things just because (inaudible – interrupted)

Well Clinton kind of changed that whole thing too with oral sex is not sex, so.

(Laughter).

I lived in Memphis for 10 years. I know rumors about Clinton that I don't even want to think about. It scares me. I lived in Memphis for 10 years, can't you tell.

Just a wee bit.

Take West Virginia and mix it with Memphis and you get that twang.

MODERATOR – WE'RE GOING TO DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT NOW. I KNOW YOU GUYS HAVE SAID THAT YOU DON'T LIKE THE POLITICAL ADS THAT YOU SEE ON TV (INTERRUPTED)

Oh no!!!

MODERATOR - ...WE ARE GOING TO WATCH POLITIC ADS. (INTERRUPTED)

Oh boy.

MODERATOR - ...WE ARE GOING TO SHOW A BUNCH OF ADS AND IF YOU TURN TO HANDOUT 3, YOU ARE GOING TO SEE THERE IS A SCALE. ON THE LEFT THERE IS A 5 AND IT SAYS, MORE LIKELY...MORE LIKELY FOR CHABOT. WHEN YOU SEE EACH OF THESE ADS I WANT YOU TO CIRCLE WHERE ON THAT SCALE YOU FALL BASED ON WHAT YOU SEE IN THAT AD. THAT AD MAKES YOU MORE LIKELY TO VOTE FOR CRANLEY, YOU GO SOMEWHERE ON THAT SCALE FROM 0-5 (INTERRUPTED – INAUDIBLE)...YES, AND WE ARE GOING TO DO THIS ONE AT A TIME AND AFTER YOU SEE THE AD, I AM GOING TO ASK YOU TO WRITE DOWN SOME WORDS OR PHRASES, YOU KNOW WHAT YOU TOOK AWAY FROM THAT AD THAT MADE YOU GIVE IT THAT SCORE.

Are these true ads or stuff you made up?

MODERATOR – THESE ARE ADS THAT ARE ON TELEVISION. (SHOWING AD) CIRCLE ON THIS SCALE BASED ON THIS AD IF IT MAKES YOU VOTE MORE LIKELY TO VOTE FOR CRANLEY OR CHABOT AND THEN WRITE WHY UNDERNEATH AND WE WILL TALK ABOUT IT. OKAY, I'M JUST GOING TO GO AROUND AND GET YOUR SCORE AND THEN WE WILL TALK ABOUT IT. JEAN?

4 for Cranley.

MODERATOR – KAREN?

2 for Cranley.

4.

2 for Cranley.

3.

2 for Chabot.

1 for Cranley.

2 for Chabot.

2 for Cranley.

MODERATOR – OKAY. LET'S START BY TALKING THOSE WHO GAVE IT A 3 OR 4 FOR CRANLEY, WHY?

He said he wasn't going to vote for higher oil prices. (Inaudible) gas cheaper.

Same thing, but I can't help to think that that is a Cranley dig to Chabot, like it's Cranley's advertisement against Chabot.

MODERATOR – DID YOU FIND WHAT HE SAID ABOUT CHABOT TO BE CREDIBLE ON WHERE HE GOT MONEY AND HOW HE VOTED?

You know, I don't know but I would like to know that. I would like to know if that statement is true.

MODERATOR – OKAY. OTHERS WHO GAVE IT A POSITIVE SCORE FOR CRANLEY, 1, 2, 3 OR 4, WHY?

I put down the energy independent, if we could break out ties at least for that oil and become energy independent as a nation ourselves, I think it would eliminate a lot of our problems.

Same thing with oil, yeah.

MODERATOR – THE ENERGY.

The oil companies make enough money now. They don't need anymore.

That is what I wrote also, save energy and lower oil prices.

MODERATOR – SO IS IT MORE WHAT CRANLEY SAID HE WAS GOING TO DO OR WHAT HE SAID THAT CHABOT HAD ALREADY DONE OR IS IT BOTH?

What he **(Side A Ends, B Begins)**

I think it is what he is willing to do.

MODERATOR – OKAY. BUT YOU ARE SAYING BOTH, WHY?

Well, he is saying he did this wrong. I'm not going to do it wrong. I'm going to do it this way.

MODERATOR – KAREN, WHY DID YOU?

What I got from it was that Chabot supports the big oil companies and that he wouldn't, is what I took from it.

MODERATOR – DID YOU FIND THAT BELIEVABLE?

I'm more a skeptic. I only gave it a 2.

MODERATOR – ANYBODY ELSE ON THAT?

Well, how do you know if they are telling the truth?

Exactly.

I mean can they get in trouble if they do lie or say something about the other opponent that is not true or can they say whatever they want?

MODERATOR – [I'LL LET THAT BE RHETORICAL]

(Lots of laughter).

MODERATOR – WE ARE GOING TO GO TO THE NEXT AD, HANDOUT #4.
(PLAYING AD). JEANIE, WHAT DID YOU GIVE IT?

I gave it a 1 because (interrupted)

MODERATOR – WE'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT WHY IN A SECOND.

Sorry.

MODERATOR – THAT'S OKAY.

3 for Chabot.

0.

3 for Chabot.

3.

2 for Chabot.

No difference.

4 for Chabot.

3 for Chabot.

MODERATOR – OKAY. WHY DON'T YOU GO AHEAD SINCE YOU STARTED.

Um, it was very general, the ad in wasteful spending. I do know that he is one, like a watchdog for spending but as far as the ad goes and that is what I was evaluating, it didn't tell me a lot.

MODERATOR – IT DIDN'T TELL YOU A LOT ABOUT (INTERRUPTED)

I didn't think so.

MODERATOR – HOW ABOUT THOSE WHO GAVE IT 3'S AND 4'S, WHY?

It reaffirmed what I already, I felt like I knew.

MODERATOR – WHICH IS?

That he cares more for local people. He doesn't agree with government waste and he votes the way he feels he needs to, not the way they are kind of swinging.

That is what I wrote also, that he is a family man and he has a lot of friends and connections around Cincinnati.

MODERATOR – OTHERS WHO GAVE IT A STRONG (INTERRUPTED)

Well, I feel, even the last time that he ran, he tries, he really tries to fulfill his promises but when he gets to Washington, he can be quite (inaudible – speaking to softly).

MODERATOR – WHAT IN THE ADS STOOD OUT FOR YOU?

Well, um, he gave me the impression that he is truthful and a good man.

MODERATOR – WHAT ABOUT YOU?

I thought he voted for what he believed in, the people.

MODERATOR – OKAY. WHO SAID NO DIFFERENCE? WHY?

I didn't like the ad at all. It didn't tell me anything and just kind of gave me the impression that I don't like the guy.

MODERATOR – ANY PARTICULAR REASON? WHAT STOOD OUT?

I guess it is just the way the guy looks. I don't know.

(Laughter).

I put the same old, same old. There were no new ideas, nothing new and he is kind of content where Ohio is at right now. That is kind of what I got from him.

I picked up on all of the groups that they mentioned that supported him and that to me kind of meant something, if a group will back him, say like the sheriff's department or whatever, I just think that means something when a whole group will back a politician.

MODERATOR – OKAY, LET'S WATCH ANOTHER AD, HANDOUT #5. ON THIS ONE, THIS IS GOING TO BE AN AD BY SHARID BROWN AND WHEN YOU RATE IT, I WANT YOU TO RATE IT AS THOUGH SHARID BROWN WAS JOHN CRANLEY, YOU KNOW THEY ARE BOTH DEMOCRATS, SO ON YOUR SCALE WHERE IT SAYS CRANLEY, THIS IS BY SHARID BROWN, YOU ARE GOING TO SUBSTITUTE BROWN FOR CRANLEY. IF YOU LIKE WHAT SHARID BROWN IS SAYING AND IT MAKES YOU MORE LIKELY TO VOTE FOR HIM, IMAGINE THAT IT IS JOHN CRANLEY SO IT WOULD MAKE YOU MORE LIKELY TO VOTE FOR JOHN CRANLEY. YOU HAVE TO USE YOUR IMAGINATION A LITTLE BIT HERE.

So it should be, so it is Brown against Chabot but democrat versus republican basically.

MODERATOR – RIGHT. FOR THE PURPOSES OF YOUR SCALE, BROWN EQUAL CRANLEY, OKAY?

Okay.

(Playing ad).

MODERATOR – SAY THAT IS JOHN CRANLEY, WOULD THAT MESSAGE AND COMMERCIAL MAKE YOU MORE LIKELY TO VOTE FOR CRANLEY?

Yes.

MODERATOR – SCORE IT, WHERE WOULD YOU FALL ON THE SCALE? JEANIE WHERE DID YOU SCORE IT?

4.

MODERATOR – FOR CRANLEY?

Mm-hm.

MODERATOR – KAREN?

2 for Cranley.

3.

[3]

(Inaudible – speaking softly).

1.

MODERATOR – FOR CRANLEY.

Cranley.

1 for Cranley.

1 for Cranley.

2 for Cranley.

MODERATOR – OKAY. LET'S START WITH THE 3'S AND 4'S. WHAT WERE THE REASONS? WHAT DID YOU TAKE AWAY FROM THAT THAT MADE YOU THAT MUCH MORE LIKELY?

He is going to make our scripts more affordable and our healthcare more affordable.

That was it.

MODERATOR – AND WHY WAS THAT CREDIBLE?

It is what's hurting us right now.

That is what I write checks out every month for.

MODERATOR – WHY WAS WHAT HE SAID IN THERE CREDIBLE?

He said he was going to try to lower everything so maybe our \$50.00 prescription might be \$20.00 after he is in.

MODERATOR – OKAY. OTHERS WHO GAVE IT A 3 OR 4.

He said something about Canada and prescriptions (interrupted)

Mm-hm.

...and I believe he is the gentleman that took busloads to Canada, seniors, so it sounds like he, I'm pro-senior and I'm and anybody that is willing to look at that program and help seniors whether it be all of us with healthcare or Medicare, Medicaid and prescriptions, I have a real interest in that.

MODERATOR – OKAY, OTHERS WHO GAVE IT A POSITIVE SCORE.

I have some pretty strong issues with this medical thing. I gave him a 1. I don't think that we should have to go to Canada to buy affordable prescriptions, okay, and I don't agree with but that is the way it is of having a good, better and best drug. Why can't pharmaceutical companies here for us, our people, give us one pill that we all can take. Why is it if you have more money you can afford better medication? I think it is wrong, so I just have some deep-seeded medical issues there.

The one thing that made me give it a positive was that it said his dad was a doctor and that he had obviously, there is ongoing dialogue about healthcare you know, so I felt like he understands that healthcare is a huge issue and that it is very important to me.

MODERATOR – SO FOR MOST PEOPLE IT SEEMS LIKE IT WAS JUST THE VERY FACT THAT HE JUST SAID SOMETHING ON HEALTHCARE.

Yeah.

Mm-hm.

Exactly.

MODERATOR – DO YOU FEEL THAT IS NOT GETTING ENOUGH ATTENTION?

I like that he made a point that Chabot took money from the large drug companies.

MODERATOR – THAT STOOD OUT TO YOU?

Mm-hm.

He didn't say Chabot, he said DeWine.

We're pretending it, yeah.

MODERATOR – OKAY, SO THAT PIECE IS IMPORTANT TO YOU?

Mm-hm.

I know, someone in my family works for a drug company and it is unbelievable what they do for doctors who write certain scripts and the more expensive medicine they make more money on, so necessarily that is not better for you, it is just the newest and the latest and the greatest because this person in my family are really upset with me that that I choose a generic but if I can save \$80.00 (interrupted)

Exactly.

Sure.

Well, most insurance plans want you to do that.

Yeah, you have to.

They require you to do that.

(Many people talking).

MODERATOR - THIS NEXT AD AGAIN, I HAVE TO ASK YOU TO USE YOUR IMAGINATION. AND AGAIN [NEW] NAMES. THIS IS AN AD THAT IS NOT AIRING IN OHIO, IT IS ONE THAT IS ACTUALLY AIRING IN CONNECTICUT BUT THE ISSUES THAT WE ARE TALKING ABOUT HERE ARE THE ISSUES THAT YOU GUYS WILL

SEE IN THE AD, ARE ISSUES THAT YOU'VE RAISED ON YOUR OWN AND AS YOU KNOW THESE COMMERCIALS ARE ALL OVER THE COUNTY. IN THIS ONE, THE DEMOCRAT IS MURPHY SO YOU ARE GOING TO EQUATE MURPHY WITH CRANLEY AND THE REPUBLICAN IS JOHNSON AND YOU WILL EQUATE JOHNSON WITH CHABOT. (AD PLAYING). OKAY, RATE THAT ONE AND THEN WE WILL DISCUSS IT.

I had no different.

2 for Cranley.

4 for Johnson/Chabot.

MODERATOR - CAROL?

3 for Johnson.

4 for Johnson.

1 for Johnson.

1 for Johnson.

I'm going to say no difference.

MODERATOR - WE'LL START WITH 3'S AND 4'S MORE LIKELY FOR CHABOT. WHO SAID 3 AND 4 AND WHY?

We got to keep them outside and I don't have a problem with (inaudible – speaking softly). If there is a possible bomb threat don't (inaudible). They already have proven that they have intricate ways of getting around it. I mean we talked about 9/11 a lot but there are probably so many more things that have gone on that has been stopped by something [like this].

MODERATOR - OTHERS?

Yeah, Murphy is wanting to make sure that all his I's are dotted and his T's are crossed and everything else and Johnson wants to get it done and we need to get it done.

MODERATOR - AND WHAT SHE SAID IN THERE DO YOU THINK THAT IS BELIEVABLE OR CREDIBLE THAT THAT IS WHAT A DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESS, WHAT HIS POSITION WOULD BE?

Yeah, some of them because they are wanting to make sure that our personal rights aren't being stepped on but step on our rights if it means savings our lives.

It just wasn't favorable to me.

MODERATOR - OKAY. WHY?

It just wasn't. (Interrupted)

Me neither. I had a hard time with it.

...it just didn't sit down right. Just to get your vote. That is what it reminded me of.

That Johnson was attacking Murphy. That is what I got out of it and I really didn't like that.

Well and what Karen said about protecting our rights. The thing is, even if they went to congress and want to change that there are tons of things in place in law enforcement and Bill of Rights and stuff like that. It would take eons to get through all the red tape to change something like that before they could just eavesdrop on any conversation at any time. I think it was just something to say, oh look, he's not going to do anything to protect and we are.

I don't think the democrats are behind Bush in any of this and they don't seem to be get her done people as you said.

MODERATOR - BUT YOU SAY THAT AND YOU STILL SAID THAT THIS DIDN'T
(INTERRUPTED)

That was the ad. The ad didn't do anything for me. I thought that Johnson was attacking Murphy in the end. That's all I got out of that, just pure attack.

I felt Johnson was attacking Murphy so it swayed my vote to Murphy because I don't like scare tactics and that is what it was to me, scare tactics.

I thought about Watergate. That was the first thing that came to my mind.

Mm-hm.

(Inaudible).

MODERATOR - KAREN?

I thought it said that Johnson would act more quickly on security and Murphy would [tie it all] in paperwork. That is what it said to me.

MODERATOR - YOU FOUND IT CONVINCING?

Mm-hm.

MODERATOR - ANY REASON WHY?

Because lately all this security stuff and prisoner of war and wanting to go through what is right and what is wrong. We are war, we should act on it. I don't think we should have hearings and backtrack and question. We should do it.

MODERATOR - OKAY, TURN TO HANDOUT #7. WE HAVE ANOTHER ONE THAT IS GOING TO REQUIRE YOUR IMAGINATION. FOR THIS ONE, THIS IS GOING TO BE AN AD THAT A MAN NAMED HERALD FORD IS TALKING. FORD IS A DEMOCRAT

SO FORD IS GOING TO EQUAL CRANLEY. (PLAYING AD). OKAY, JEANIE WHAT DID YOU GIVE IT?

I gave it a 5. I thought it was good.

MODERATOR - KAREN?

1 for Ford.

3 for Ford.

2 for Ford.

(Inaudible).

2 for Ford.

1 for Ford.

I didn't score this. I have a personal (inaudible).

MODERATOR - OKAY, WHY?

I wouldn't vote for him no matter what.

MODERATOR - WE ARE TALKING ABOUT THE MESSAGE OVER HERE.

The message was good so I would put it on the Ford side, a 2.

I have 1 for Ford.

MODERATOR - LET'S START WITH THE STRONGEST ONES, THE 3'S, 4'S, AND 5'S. WHAT DID YOU TAKE AWAY FROM THAT?

He seemed to be a very take charge person when it comes to terrorism and that is important.

MODERATOR - WHY DO YOU FEEL HE IS A TAKE CHARGE?

41 issues he mentioned and he came across as just being a strong, let's work on the (inaudible – coughing), work on the 41 issues and just everything that he mentioned in there. He mentioned five years after 9/11 that we still are not secure and we really need to work on that and of course the borders, the immigration and all that and that's a top issue for me and I really, that hit me.

MODERATOR - OKAY, OTHER'S WHO GAVE IT A 3 OR 4.

Um, I like what he said, the need to protect our borders, to get tough, just came on strong. He was going to do a good job.

MODERATOR - SO HIS PRESENTATION?

Mm-hm.

It is very good, very good.

MODERATOR - OTHERS WHO GAVE IT A, I MEAN EVERYONE GAVE IT A POSITIVE SCORE. WHAT WERE THE REASONS?

I wrote down the 41 recommendations, what is this? So, I would have to go back and do research to find out what it is they were talking about in the end.

The 911 Commission came up with 41 recommendations of things that we could do to protect ourselves.

MODERATOR - SO SHERRY, DID THAT STAND OUT TO YOU, THE 911 COMMISSION PIECE AND THE 41?

No, I mean I just knew what it was.

Thanks, I'll have to look it up to see what it is.

He would get my vote because it is everything that we want, protection, the borders, etc. I mean it is not happening and we all and we keep on saying, well who is going to do it. Who is going to stop it?

How hard are they working on that as 41 recommendations? I mean that is my fault. I don't keep up with that enough but it is important with what they came up with. I mean if those are all F's, D's and F's or whatever on their report card, those things definitely need to be first on the table before anything else.

MODERATOR - WHEN YOU THINK OF THE 911 COMMISSION DOES IT, (INTERRUPTED)

We don't know too much about what it is. It is not documented so we can read it so we know what the (inaudible).

MODERATOR - BUT DOES THE 911 COMMISSION MEAN SOMETHING TO YOU, IS IT A CREDIBLE RESOURCE, A CREDIBLE (INTERRUPTED)

I think anything that they mention 911 gets your attention.

And it will (inaudible) as long as it is legitimate, what it was held in.

I just wonder if it was a scare tactic, showing him on a plane with the bombing, you know how much of that was just to, you know all of us have been on an airplane.

And you know, a lot of people have forgotten about 911. (Interrupted).

Yeah, that is true.

They have.

...I mean they really have. You know we're here and it was you know.

But it can happen anywhere.

Oh yeah, oh yeah.

MODERATOR - OKAY, WHAT DOES IT SAY ABOUT HERALD FORD, THE PERSON DELIVERING IT, WHAT DO YOU TAKE AWAY FROM IT?

He feels like the security and the border patrol are the key issues that need to be addressed.

But it is something that people are worried about.

MODERATOR - NOBODY MENTIONED, HE MENTIONED THERE ABOUT WORKING IN A PARTISAN WAY. NOBODY MENTIONED THAT, THAT KIND OF GOT LOST, IT DIDN'T STAND OUT TO ANYBODY?

The what?

He said it was time to stop doing something. Didn't it say the 911 Commission was a bipartisan commission and it was time to stop (inaudible) political.

That is very true.

MODERATOR - DO YOU HOLD ONE PARTY RESPONSIBLE OVER THE OTHER FOR THE PARTISANSHIP?

(Laughter).

(Many people talking).

When it comes to terrorism, I firmly believe that democrats are not as strong as republicans when it comes to that.

MODERATOR - OKAY. IS THERE SOMETHING IN PARTICULAR THAT THEY HAVE DONE THAT SENDS THAT MESSAGE TO YOU?

(Laughter). This is being recorded.

(Lots of laughter).

That says it all.

MODERATOR - WE ARE GOING TO DO ANOTHER AND AGAIN THE NAME OF ANOTHER PERSON. THIS IS A (INAUDIBLE – PAPERS RUSTLING) CANDIDATE AGAINST A MEMBER OF CONGRESS WHO IS IN INDIANA. HIS NAME JOHN HOSTETTLER HE IS REPUBLICAN AND HE IS GOING TO BE CALLED CHABOT. SO ASSUME WHAT THIS AD IS ABOUT JOHN HOSTETTLER IS TRUE ABOUT STEVE CHABOT AND THEN YOU'LL RATE IT. (PLAYING AD). ASSUME THAT IS

STEVE CHABOT, HOW DOES THAT SCORE AND THEN WE WILL DISCUSS?
JEAN?

1 for Chabot/Hostettler.

MODERATOR - KAREN?

1 for the other fellow.

MODERATOR - TINA?

4 for Cranley.

3 for Cranley.

3 for Cranley.

2 for Cranley.

0.

1 for Cranley.

1 for Cranley.

MODERATOR - LET'S START WITH THE 3'S AND 4'S FOR CRANLEY?

I have a son in the military so anybody who is going to be helping out the military I am for it, unless they are just a Bill Clinton or something, a real jerk.

We won't go there.

Well I didn't think he was so bad until he was caught with his draws down so to speak.

Unfortunately, there are a lot of men in congress.

MODERATOR - SO WHAT STOOD OUT TO YOU HERE WAS PURELY THE
MILITARY PIECE AND NOT SUPPORTING THE TROOPS?

Right, that he wasn't supporting the troops on giving them a bonus or a raise but he was willing to take one himself.

MODERATOR - OTHERS?

Same.

Same.

Support are troops first.

MODERATOR - THIS IS ABOUT, DID YOU FIND THIS BELIEVABLE IN TERMS THAT A MEMBER OF CONGRESS HAS DONE THIS?

No.

MODERATOR - YOU DON'T BELIEVE THE VOTE TO BELIEVABLE?

I don't believe that ad.

MODERATOR - WHY?

Because I can't imagine that that would happen. That seems so farfetched to me. I really didn't know where to rank it. I should have probably put no, no difference, because it just seemed like, again, another attack on your opponent and I just can't imagine no money going towards the troops versus a congressman, I just, it's (interrupted)

I think sometimes they take how they voted and word it just right because maybe he voted no to something that yeah, maybe it was a \$1,500.00 bonus, but maybe it was for them staying for another two years or something beyond the tour of duty or something like that, so maybe he actually voted no on something that in the long-run it was a better thing to vote no for.

MODERATOR - WHAT ABOUT ON THE PAY RAISE, DO YOU BELIEVE THAT HE GAVE HIMSELF A PAY RAISE?

Yeah, I think they all vote for pay raises every chance they get.

MODERATOR - AND WHAT ABOUT YOU JEAN, TO YOU THINK THAT IS BELIEVABLE?

I (nervous laugh), I find it hard to believe versus the troops or just (interrupted)

MODERATOR - NO, NO, THAT THEY VOTED ON THE PAY RAISE?

I think they do do that, yes, but I think when you're, the difference, pay raise versus troops, I think that is a lie.

MODERATOR - ANYBODY ELSE WANT TO?

I'm very confused. I wrote possible mudslinging, told how his opponent voted but again it was the wordage. It never really never came out and said how he voted. (Interrupted)

That is what I wrote too.

Yeah and he may have voted no too.

It was confusing.

Mudslinging ad.

Yep.

Didn't give any benefits to his election, only derogative stuff about (interrupted)

Try to get at the heart of the people that [have it].

MODERATOR - WE ARE GOING TO GO TO ANOTHER AD. TURN TO HANDOUT #9. (PLAYING AD).

What kind of cards were those, I couldn't understand that? I mean Cranley, what kind of cards did he (interrupted)

For immigrants, for illegal immigrants.

ID cards.

Just regular ID cards?

From another country, an ID from another country. Like if they have a Mexican ID they come here with.

No, no, no. A State of Ohio ID. My daughter has one.

Well, but you have to have the Mexican one if you are from Mexico to get that.

MODERATOR - DO YOU NEED TO SEE THE AD AGAIN BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T HEAR IT.

Yes.

Yes.

Yes.

We couldn't hear it.

(Playing ad).

MODERATOR - OKAY.

That is like (interrupted).

MODERATOR - WAIT, WAIT, WAIT, BEFORE WE DISCUSS.

...no I mean that is what the ID's were. I couldn't understand it at first.

MODERATOR - OKAY, THIS ONE IS AN EASY ONE TO TRANSLATE, HOSTETTLER, CRANLEY AND CHABOT. JEAN WHAT DID YOU SCORE IT?

I scored Chabot 5.

MODERATOR - KAREN?

3 for Chabot because he seemed like the good guy.

No difference.

3 for Chabot.

(Inaudible – speaking too softly).

2 for Chabot.

3 for Chabot.

4 for Chabot.

1 for Chabot.

MODERATOR - 3'S, 4'S, AND 5'S FOR CHABOT, WHY?

Wars at home are important to me. (Interrupted)

Mm-hm.

...Although I didn't particularly care for the ad. I don't like that black and white, you know with the technology that we have today, it could have been something a little more (inaudible – speaking softly).

It is something that I don't think they should be able to use foreign ID to access services or use it as ID here and if Cranley is allowing them to do that I think he is opening a mess up here to terrorists threats.

MODERATOR - YOU FOUND IT BELIEVABLE THAT CRANLEY HAS DONE THIS?

Mm-hm. Because I was in the Department of Motor Vehicle's when somebody took their little Mexican thing and said, I need a state ID, this is who I am. You know, I don't know if they took it or not but obviously there is some truth to it.

MODERATOR - OTHERS THAT GAVE THIS A 3, 4, OR 5 FOR CHABOT, WHY?

He wants the stricter foreign ID card thing so that we are safer.

I think they need to have one before they even enter the country.

Who will catch them? They are here before anybody can give them any kind of identification and they steal it.

They need to come in just like everybody else that came, to Ellis Island and they need to come in the proper way and they need to have something like Ellis Island for these people if we want security in this country. What did I hear on the news last night, 1 in 12 are criminals. (Interrupted)

Oh my heaven.

...Not a good thing.

MODERATOR - OTHERS, 3, 4, OR 5'S, DID YOU FIND THIS BELIEVABLE THAT CRANLEY DID THIS?

Absolutely not.

MODERATOR - YOU DID NOT FIND IT CREDIBLE. ANY REASON WHY?

An ID is an important thing so I don't know why they, I mean if I got pulled over without my driver's license they are going to hold me a little longer so if I was a Mexican, I just (interrupted)

(Inaudible).

I would think using the Mexican identification form as a form of ID here wouldn't pass. I mean who would except it, the police department, a federal agency, a state agency. They would say, okay now get me the proper form.

(Many people talking)...military ID is accepted. A lot of times they won't even accept a military ID because the birth date is on the back.

MODERATOR - OKAY, THIS WILL BE HANDOUT #10. (PLAYING AD). JEAN WHAT DID YOU GIVE IT?

I gave Cranley 4.

MODERATOR - KAREN?

3 for Cranley.

Cranley 4.

Cranley 1.

MODERATOR - CAROL?

2.

No difference.

1 for Cranley.

No difference.

1 for Cranley.

MODERATOR - OKAY. THE 3'S AND 4'S FOR CRANLEY, WHY?

Oil companies don't need a tax break, we do.

I do think that congress does change people. That was believable to me that he has changed, that he is for the big, (inaudible) the little people.

Well, I think actually that it takes more than one person to change that law so it had to be others that also voted from them to give more, tax relief.

MODERATOR - MM-HM, BUT THIS NOTION THAT WASHINGTON HAS CHANGED CHABOT, DID THAT RESONATE, DID THAT MEAN ANYTHING TO YOU?

Yes it did. It has changed him a little bit but I think he has helped more.

MODERATOR - OTHERS, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS IDEA THAT WASHINGTON HAS CHANGED CHABOT, IS THAT CONVINCING TO YOU?

I believe it.

MODERATOR - KAREN?

Yeah.

Mm-hm.

That is what I thought. It said he started out against big oil companies and now he is on their side helping them.

But how true is that?

Well, we don't know the truth.

(Laughter).

MODERATOR – WHAT ABOUT YOU BARBARA?

I just wrote talking badly about his opponent. I only gave him a 1 because I just don't think that is the right kind of ad, not speaking about yourself and just putting down somebody else.

MODERATOR - BUT DID IT RAISE DOUBTS ABOUT CHABOT FOR YOU?

Mm-hm.

MODERATOR - WHY?

Um, I just don't like the mudslinging. I'm not really sure if it is true.

MODERATOR - I PROMISE, I AM NOT GOING TO SHOW YOU ANYMORE ADS BUT AFTER SEEING THESE WHAT ARE THE THINGS THAT YOU CONCLUDE OR TAKE

AWAY ABOUT CHABOT AND THE THINGS THAT YOU CONCLUDE AND TAKE AWAY ABOUT CRANLEY?

Well actually, I don't listen to those ads.

MODERATOR - FOR THIS DISCUSSION (LOTS OF LAUGHTER)...I MEAN I UNDERSTAND THAT BUT WE ARE OBVIOUSLY ALL HERE WATCHING IT SO WHAT IMPACT HAS THIS MADE ON YOUR (INTERRUPTED)

(Inaudible – two people talking at once).

Well, the ads, she says she doesn't listen to them but I do because I don't know them and they do confuse me and there is a lot of mudslinging but how am I to learn about them?

Well, I went on the internet and they have all their issues listed there and hopefully those are true and I guess what you read in the paper but that is all that is, is mudslinging and that to me, that's all I get out of that is mudslinging. I don't think it is worth their money actually.

It seems like they are basically saying that Chabot is giving the oil companies the big tax break and Cranley is going to try to help us with our medical prices that we pay for our scripts.

I just tallied mined and I would end up, if I went strictly by what we saw here tonight I have 5 for Cranley and 1 for Chabot, which I came in here saying that I didn't know how I was going to vote but just strictly looking at the ads.

MODERATOR - AND WHAT ABOUT THOSE ADS REALLY MOVED YOU? I MEAN GO THROUGH YOUR MEMORY, SEE WHAT STOOD OUT.

Um, being definite about issues. That is one thing that I was going to comment about that I don't like about the political ads is that when you are in business and you do advertising, you have to abide by rules and regulations and if you don't, I mean if he puts false advertising out there, the better business comes after you, that type of thing, so why aren't there like that type of thing for political ads too, that they can't put false information (interrupted)

So, it has to be the truth.

Righ.

Mm.

Well, do you think their ads can they be sued for going against another person?

Slander.

(Many people talking).

(Many people talking)...had to come back and apologize to somebody else because they made an ad or something, it wasn't completely truthful and they [pulled] him on it.

The one thing, it is almost like they are saying the republicans have been congress, they've been in control, they haven't made things better, elect a democrat and we're going to change it all.

Well, I think they do that after every term.

Yeah, and there was nothing that I heard in these ads. I mean the last one where it said, you know, he did, it is almost like when they have nothing else to say they say the same things. He has voted against everything that you needed and I'm not going to do that, I'm going to vote the other way. They don't really get down and say, this is how I really feel about an issue, they just say, he did this and I'm not going to do that.

Right and they should maybe, maybe they should be listing their issues and what their priority is.

Quit wasting time on the other guy.

Exactly.

Pay for a debate rather than an ad.

Exactly.

That would be nice.

That would be good.

And don't give them your questions ahead of time.

(Lots of laughter).

MODERATOR - FLIP TO HANDOUT 11. YOU KNOW WE SAW SOME OF THE ADS ON NATIONAL SECURITY AND YOU GUYS TALKED ABOUT THAT AT THE BEGINNING AS SOMETHING THAT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO YOU. I AM GOING TO READ YOU A STATEMENT BY A DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESS AND CRANLEY IS THE DEMOCRAT, CHABOT IS THE REPUBLICAN HERE. I WANT YOU TO RATE IT ON THE SAME SCALE. YOU DON'T HAVE TO WRITE ABOUT IT THIS TIME BUT I'LL READ IT OUT LOUD AND AS WE READ ALONG UNDERLINE ANYTHING THAT REALLY STANDS OUT TO YOU AND THEN YOU'RE RATE IT AND WE'LL DISCUSS.

THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE SAYS, FIVE YEARS AFTER 9/11 THE THREAT OF TERRORISM IS AS GREAT AS EVER. PRESIDENT BUSH HAS WEAKENED OUR SECURITY BY GETTING AMERICA BOGGED DOWN ON AN IRAQI CIVIL WAR AS WE SPEND BILLIONS OF DOLLARS AND LOSE THOUSANDS OF AMERICAN LIVES. WE NEED A NEW DIRECTION IN IRAQ AND CONGRESS MUST START HOLDING THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNTABLE FOR ITS MISMANAGEMENT OF THE IRAQ WAR INCLUDING AN END TO OVER SPENDING AND NO BID CONTRACTS

FOR HALIBURTON. BEYOND IRAQ WE MUST DO A BETTER JOB ON WAGING THE WAR ON TERRORISM. THIS MEANS INVESTING TO MAKE IRAQ ENERGY INDEPENDENT, IMPLEMENTING 100% OF THE 9/11 COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS AND BUILDING OUR ALLIANCES WITH NATO AND OTHER ALLIES WHOSE COOPERATION IS REQUIRED TO DEFEAT TERRORISM THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

RATE THAT AND THEN WE WILL DISCUSS IT AND WE'LL MOVE QUICKLY BECAUSE WE ARE RUNNING A LITTLE LATE. OKAY, JEANIE WHAT DID YOU HAVE?

I gave it a 4 for Chabot.

MODERATOR - KAREN?

2 for Chabot.

MODERATOR - TINA?

3 for Cranley.

No difference.

MODERATOR - CAROL?

3 for Cranley.

2 for Chabot.

2 for Cranley.

3 for Chabot.

No difference.

MODERATOR - OKAY. A LITTLE MIXTURE HERE. WE WILL START WITH THOSE ON THE CRANLEY SIDE OF THE EQUATION, WHY?

For me the first statement, the first line. *The threat of terrorism is as great as ever.* I mean do we have to have another 9/11 again, so that first line hit me right in the face.

MODERATOR - WHO ELSE FOR CRANLEY, WHY?

Spending the billions of dollars and losing lives.

Well I should have put no difference on it really. I'll pass right now.

MODERATOR - NOW MOST OF YOU SAID NO DIFFERENCE OR FOR CHABOT, WHY? WHAT DIDN'T YOU LIKE ABOUT THIS STATEMENT?

It just sounded to me like you know Chabot or the republican party is running the war one way, well they are going to come in and keep running the war, they are just going to run it in their direction for their benefit.

MODERATOR - BARBARA?

Well, I didn't really right anything down. They're just trying to find all the worse things about republicans that they can say. That is what it seems like to me.

MODERATOR - OKAY. WHAT DOES THIS STATEMENT SAY ABOUT THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE OVERALL?

They don't like to spend money.

(Laughter).

MODERATOR - OKAY.

And lose American lives.

If you don't like the way it is going now then change and vote (interrupted)

But if they don't spend the money then we aren't going to have the protection. That is the only reason we are in a deficit, well, not the only reason but one of the major reasons that we are in a deficit is because of the Iraqi war and in my eye it is not Bush, it is the intelligence that he was given. Wether there was or was not, um (interrupted)

Weapons of mass destruction.

...Thank you. It is getting late.

MODERATOR - OKAY, TURN TO HANDOUT 12, I AM GOING TO READ THIS NEXT STATEMENT.

THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE SAYS WE NEED TO CHART A NEW COURSE IN IRAQ. OUR MILITARY HAS DONE ITS JOB IN IRAQ AND IT IS NOW TIME FOR IRAQIS TO TAKE CONTROL OF THEIR OWN FUTURE BUT MY OPPONENT AND PRESIDENT BUSH OFFER NO STRATEGY TO END THE WAR AND ARE SENDING EVEN MORE TROOPS TO AN [URBAN] WAR ZONE IN BAGHDAD. WITH OVER 2,500 AMERICANS DEAD AND OVER \$3 BILLION GOING TO WAR THAT HAS NO END IN SITE, WE NEED A CHANGE IN POLICY. AMERICA MUST GET THE IRAQI POLITICIANS TO STOP DRAGGING THEIR FEET AND GIVE US A TIMETABLE FOR WHEN THEY WILL BE ABLE TO GOVERN THEMSELVES SO WE CAN BRING OUR TROOPS HOME. WE WON'T WITHDRAW PRECIPITOUSLY OR ALLOW TERRORIST ELEMENTS TO SEIZE CONTROL BUT I WILL DEMAND THAT IRAQ LIVES UP TO ITS RESPONSIBILITIES SO THAT WE CAN BEGIN A PHASE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. FORCES.

JEANIE?

4 for Chabot.

MODERATOR - KAREN?

No difference.

MODERATOR - TINA?

Cranley 5.

2 for Chabot.

4 for Chabot.

No difference.

2 for Chabot.

I must be confused. I had 4 for Cranley.

MODERATOR - THIS IS CRANLEY'S STATEMENT. DO YOU AGREE WITH THIS STATEMENT.

No difference.

MODERATOR - MOST OF YOU DID NOT LIKE THIS STATEMENT, WHY?

It is easy to point out what is wrong with something but it is still like mudslinging. They did it wrong and we're going to do it better, dah, dah, dah, dah, dah. Well, we can't pull out. They are saying it is going to be a phased pullout but I don't know, I just.

MODERATOR - OKAY, OTHERS, WHY [DIDN'T] YOU LIKE THIS?

Because our military has done its job in Iraq? I don't think so.

MODERATOR - DO YOU THINK THERE IS MORE TO DO OR THEY FAILED TO DO THE JOB?

Um, there is still more to do.

Um, we say that this is a democrat saying this but um, President Bush and his administration, they, they do have, they do want to put in place a timetable for a withdrawal of troops.

MODERATOR - WHAT ABOUT THIS LINE ABOUT PUTTING, THAT THE IRAQI POLITICIANS ARE DRAGGING THEIR FEET AND THEY NEED TO GIVE US A TIMETABLE OF WHEN THEY WILL BE ABLE TO GOVERN THEMSELVES SO THAT WE CAN BRING OUR TROOPS HOME? WHAT DO PEOPLE THINK OF THAT LINE?

I think initially that is what made me circle the 4 on the Cranley side but the more I look at it, the more I think, how realistic is that? How do they know when they are going to be ready to govern themselves when they have never governed themselves?

I didn't know there were any Iraqi politicians left. I thought the insurgents were killing them all, so.

The thing is, no one knows the timetable of and how things turned around. They have no idea, so once we're there, we have to finish it.

But is it ever going to be finished.

MODERATOR - TURN TO HANDOUT #13. WE WILL DO THIS ONE AND I PROMISE YOU WE ARE ALMOST DONE. THIS IS IN RESPONSE TO THE ATTACKS ON THE DEMOCRATS FOR THE, REMEMBER THE AD THAT NANCY JOHNSON HAD WHERE THE LIBERAL CHRIS MURPHY WASN'T RESPONDING, WANTED TO DO THE PAPERWORK..., SO THIS IS A STATEMENT THAT IS ADDRESSING THAT ARGUMENT.

THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE SAYS WE MUST USE EVERY RESOURCE AT OUR DISPOSAL TO PREVENT TERRORIST ATTACKS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES. I SUPPORT NEW LAWS THAT HELP US MONITOR, HUNT DOWN AND GET THE TERRORISTS BEFORE THEY GET US. THESE FALSE REPUBLICAN ATTACKS DO NOTHING BUT TRY TO DIVIDE OUR COUNTRY FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES ON AN ISSUE WHERE AMERICA IS UNITED. I WANT TO USE EVERY TOOL THAT WE CAN TO DEAL WITH THE TERRORISTS BUT PRESIDENT BUSH'S PROGRAM OF WIRE TAPPING WITHOUT WARRANTS LACKS ANY OVERSIGHT OF OUR ACCOUNTABILITY. THAT IS A BIG PART OF HOW WE GOT OFF ON THE WRONG TRACK IN IRAQ. I WILL WORK IN A BIPARTISAN WAY TO GET TOUGHER MEASURES THAT ENABLE US TO IMMEDIATELY TAP TERRORISTS PHONE CALLS AND THEN GET JUDICIAL APPROVAL AFTERWARDS.

YOU CAN RATE THAT. THAT IS A STATEMENT BY THE DEMOCRAT, WHICH IS CRANLEY.

(Laughter) – I'm sorry.

MODERATOR - JEANIE?

4 for Chabot.

MODERATOR - KAREN?

0.

0.

2 for Cranley.

3 for Chabot.

3 for Chabot.

0.

3 for Chabot.

1 for Cranley.

MODERATOR - AGAIN, MOST PEOPLE DID NOT LIKE THIS STATEMENT, WHY?

It is nasty.

I think if they wanted to listen to somebody they would. I don't think they would go out and get all the paperwork.

(Lots of laughter).

What kind of paperwork would they get?

They tell us that is what they have to do.

You're talking about the government. They can do what the hell they want to do.

Mm-hm.

The last sentence where it says: *will enable to immediately tap terrorists' phone calls*, well how do you know that they are terrorists unless you listen in.

Right.

I mean that doesn't make any sense to me.

Well, if they know that this person is in a terror or one of the cell groups or whatever you want to call it, that would be one that they would listen to versus Joe Blow or [Umi Ama] or whatever.

I didn't like where it said: *that's a big part of how we got off on the wrong track in Iraq*.

I agree.

Mm-hm.

I don't like *the oversight in accountability*.

It sounds like they screwed up everything.

Yeah, it does.

False republican attack.

But they are turning around and attacking them and they are saying (interrupted).

Yeah.

MODERATOR - OKAY, ANYBODY ELSE ON THAT ONE BEFORE WE MOVE ON? (NO RESPONSE). WE JUST GOT ONE LAST THING TO DO AND BEFORE WE DO IT, I JUST WANT TO LET YOU KNOW THAT WELL, FIRST OF ALL THANKS FOR COMING AND SORRY WE WENT A FEW MINUTES LONGER BUT YOUR COMPENSATION IS AT THE FRONT DESK SO ON THE WAY OUT MAKE SURE TO GET THAT AND THE ONLY THING THAT I ASK IS THAT THERE IS A GROUP OF **(TAPE 2 SIDE A)**...IN FRONT OF THEM, WAIT TO YOU GET OUTSIDE.

I wondered why you had all women. I thought oh my gosh, are they thinking that we can't make up our minds for ourselves or what.

MODERATOR - NO THE NEXT GROUP IS MEN. SO ON THIS LAST EXERCISE CIRCLE WHO YOU'D VOTE FOR IF THE ELECTION WAS TODAY, STEVE CHABOT OR JOHN CRANLEY AND THEN WRITE UNDERNEATH ALL THE REASONS WHY YOU MADE THAT DECISION. IF YOU ARE REALLY UNDECIDED YOU STILL HAVE TO CHOOSE SOMEBODY. CHOOSE THE PERSON THAT YOU ARE LEANING TO AND THEN WAY AND WHEN YOU ARE DONE YOU CAN JUST LEAVE....

(end of focus group)