



The Tower reviews the presidential candidates in anticipation of the Indiana Primaries



INDIANA PRIMARY SPECIAL ISSUE

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### WE: THE POWER OF VOTING

Your vote has **POWER**, and it was denied to a majority of Americans for many years; don't take it for granted

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### THE TOWER PRIMARY POLL

A Tower poll shows student's opinions of the remaining candidates, and one democrat proves incredibly popular

# INDIANA PRIMARY OVERVIEW

KAITY RADDE • LOCAL EDITOR

In keeping with the spirit of unexpectedness that this election year has brought, Indiana's primary on May 3rd is shaping up to be much more interesting than usual. By the time that Indiana's primary rolls around in a typical election year, the candidate who will be the nominee has already been chosen (or as good as). But this year is anything but a typical election year. On the Republican side, Trump is having trouble getting the support of Indiana delegates beyond the first round of voting; on the Democratic side, an upstart Sanders continues to slow Clinton's momentum. Indiana's electoral voice is going to be much louder than usual.

The Republican and Democratic delegation processes are slightly different. 83 of the Democratic delegates are pledged to a candidate based on the percentage of votes they receive during the primary. They also have nine superdelegates that can vote for whomever they choose, meaning that the Democrats have 92 delegates total.

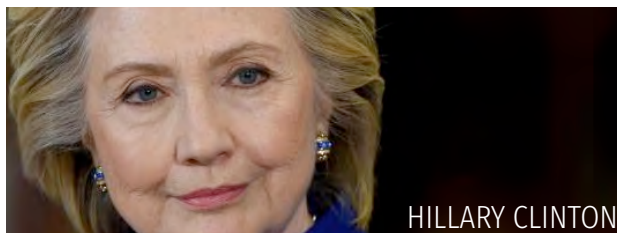
The Republican delegation process is a bit more complicated. They have 27 at-large delegates who are pledged to whomever wins the state, 27 district delegates (three for each of our nine congressional districts) who are pledged to whomever wins their district, and three from the RNC (Republican National Committee) who are pledged to whomever wins the state at large for a grand total of 57 delegates.

All of Indiana's pledged delegates on both sides of the aisle are bound to the primary election results for the first round of voting only. If no candidate wins enough delegates to receive their party's nomination after the first round, then the delegates are unbound and can vote for whomever they choose, including people who weren't on the Indiana primary ballot, which is the short explanation of a contested (or more accurately, brokered) convention.

Here are the candidates running, as of now, for both sides, and a description of them and their campaign status.

## DEMOCRATS

All Democratic polling data is from CBS News



HILLARY CLINTON

Hillary Clinton, former lawyer, First Lady, New York senator and Secretary of State, began her campaign as the clear frontrunner for the Democratic nomination, and is currently leading Sanders by more than 250 delegates (not to mention superdelegates). Her second presidential bid (first in 2008) had a rocky start with the now infamous email scandal, in which Clinton used a private server rather than a server provided by the State Department to monitor her emails. This led to a constant debate on whether or not Clinton should release those emails, now labeled as classified. She is currently under investigation by the FBI, with the case personally being handled by Director James Comey. She has also been criticized, especially among the Sanders bloc, for earning millions of dollars for paid speeches and promoting Wall Street's 'big business'. Although she struggles to gain the support of young voters, Clinton has strong support in African Americans, demonstrated in the South Carolina primary, in which 6 out of 7 African American Democrats voted for her. She also has focused on gaining the support of female voters, which has been successful for the older set. As for the major issues, Clinton focuses on raising middle class incomes, expanding women's rights, and improving the Affordable Care Act. Clinton has proposed a debt free public university plan, with free community college. She also is an advocate for strict gun control, calling for a reinstatement of the assault weapons ban and strict background checks. She is in favor of expanding Obamacare, opposed to Sanders' push for universal health care, calling universal health care politically impossible

right now and even detrimental to the economy. Although polling in Indiana is very minimal, it appears as if she has a slight lead over Sanders (49 percent to his 44 percent), but only the primaries on May 3rd will tell. If Clinton wins the Indiana primary, it could safely move the nomination out of her opponent's hands.



BERNIE SANDERS

At the start of his campaign, Bernie Sanders was only the self-proclaimed socialist underdog, campaigning on human rights and morals. Since then, the junior Senator from Vermont has proven himself to be a worthy rival to Clinton, especially among younger voters, who flock to Sanders' ideas of tuition free college and track record of protecting human rights. However, many of his ideas have been criticized by fellow Democrats for being impossible and irresponsible to accomplish. He has made wealth inequality, regulations on Wall Street, and universal health care a spotlight of his campaign. He cites raising the income tax rate of the wealthy to nearly 37 percent as his way of paying for his \$13.8 trillion "Medicare for all" plan. Sanders is also very vocally anti-war, and calls for an immediate troop withdrawal from Iraq as soon as possible. Another cornerstone of Sanders' campaign is that, unlike Clinton, he has negated the use of Super PACS to fund his campaign, instead relying on small donations from individual supporters. He advocates for breaking up big banks on Wall Street in order to stop government bailouts. As Clinton has said in numerous debates, both Sanders and her agree on most issues. However, in general Sanders leans left of Clinton's views. He has been described as one of the most progressive elected leaders in Washington. As for his status in Indiana, there is no clear winner at this point. However, being so late in the season, Indiana could have a major impact for Sanders' campaign if he manages a win.

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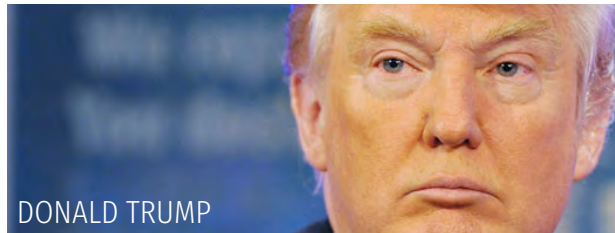
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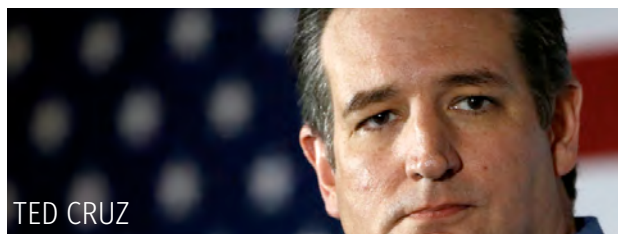
## REPUBLICANS

All Republican polling data is from the statistical analysis website  
*FiveThirtyEight*



DONALD TRUMP

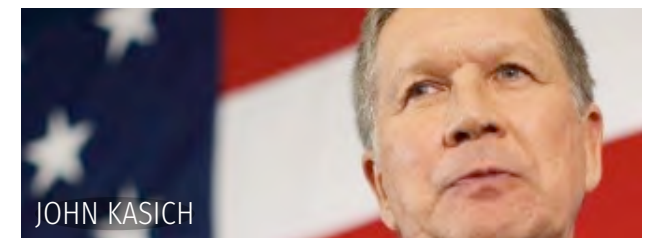
Donald Trump, the business mogul turned presidential candidate who was sorely underestimated, has remained at the top of the Republican polls for some time in spite of his infamous pitfalls that would have ended any other campaign. In Indiana polls, he is leading Ted Cruz by just over 5%, but to avoid losing in a brokered convention, he can't afford a major loss. The central issue of his campaign has been preventing illegal immigration and strengthening border security in the form of a "big, powerful wall" that Mexico will pay for. His other major issue has been jobs and the economy, and he cites his business success as evidence that he would be our "greatest jobs President" in history by cutting regulations that drove businesses overseas. He plans to reduce and control the national debt by scrapping the Department of Education and the EPA. Also, he has demonstrated a hatred for political correctness that has driven much of his support as well as many of his problems, as his supporters appreciate that he says whatever comes into his mind. His stance on energy is that oil is America's "lifeblood" and green energy is an "expensive feel-good for tree-huggers." As far as foreign policy, he claims that his business experience would allow him to not only be diplomatic and successful in Russian relations but also to negotiate a deal between Israel and Pakistan. Needless to say, his foreign policy is severely lacking in experience. His stances on terrorism have not been as pronounced as those of the GOP in general, but he believes that the U.S. should seize their oil to stifle their income, and he seems to think that would get the job done.



TED CRUZ

Ted Cruz is the establishment senator of Texas who managed to gain a relatively large amount of support despite the fact that most of his colleagues "despise him". He has an extremely slim margin of error; he can only afford to lose 55 of the 733 remaining delegates, so closing the 5% gap to

end with an Indiana win is crucial to his campaign. Cruz's major issues have been largely social issues to tap into the ultra-conservative and Evangelical base (i.e. strongly pro-life, strong gun supporter), but he also puts a major emphasis on fighting "radical Islamic terror," and calling it exactly that is very important to him. He recently claimed that in order to fight terrorism, the United States should be patrolling Muslim neighborhoods. His foreign policy is a stance of rebuilding our military and global leadership, and his plan of action would be whatever is best for America, "because what is best for America is best for the world." He claims that he would triple border security and stop amnesty. For the economy, he intends to implement a low, flat tax rate of 10% and pull back on regulations.



JOHN KASICH

John Kasich is the candidate, under normal circumstances, expected to be the Republican winner: he has practical ideas that could easily gain bipartisan respect, if not support, and an impressive track record as Ohio's governor. However, he is only polling at 19% nationally and has very little chance of winning any delegates at all. He contrasts his competitors on immigration, as he supports a path to citizenship for law-abiding illegal immigrants and believes that mass deportation is "ludicrous". As governor of Ohio, he was able to balance their budget, and he cites his success there to reinforce his economic plan to cut taxes and regulations while balancing the budget. His foreign policy is centered around fighting and defeating terrorism, but unlike his competitors, he clearly states that we are "not at war with Islam, we are at war with radical Islam." He does not deny or diminish climate change, but he is against action against climate change that would come at a cost to the economy.

Whether you plan to vote Democrat or Republican, Indiana voters are especially important this primary season. Many are calling Indiana the most important state left for the Republican candidates, besides the delegate haul in California. Indiana may determine if Trump will have enough delegates to win the party's nomination before the convention. Despite Clinton's delegate lead, Indiana is in play for Sanders as well. Now more than ever, Hoosier votes - your votes - matter. *Come out to vote May 3rd!*

# WE

## THE POWER OF VOTING

AIDAN REILLY • EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

May 3rd draws ever closer every day, increasing both my excitement and nervousness. It's always been something obscure, a right specifically reserved for television's pundits and people with grey hair – or none at all. We're about to enter an elite and privileged club, born on the foundations of egalitarianism. We're going to vote.

When I head to the ballot box on my inaugural election Tuesday, I and many of my classmates will partake in a practice and philosophy thousands of years old – the right to vote; the right to choose our elected leaders; the right to make our voice count. There are certainly some deplorable things about the American democratic system, i.e. the Electoral College, unbound delegates, and super delegates, or party bosses with the right to a vote at respective party conventions regardless of the plebs' voice.

Yet let there be no mistake, our vote is a privilege. Women were denied the right to vote until the 19th Amendment was passed in 1920. Though slavery was abolished in the 19th Century, African American women and men – especially in the Deep South – faced constructions like the Jim Crow laws, designed specifically to prevent black voting. In fact, until the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the black vote was anything but guaranteed. Today, millions of people, especially in the volatile Syria, lack the due process of an election. The latter half of the 20th Century, the era of the Iron Curtain,

stifled voices all across Eastern European USSR-controlled blocs. If history has taught us anything, it is that equality is anything but assured.

Thus the question must be asked: Why do so many Americans shirk not only their responsibility, but their right to vote? These are the statistics for percentage of voter turnout, or the number of eligible voters that actually voted, in the last 4 presidential elections. They come from the Center for the Study of the American Electorate.

1. 2012 – 57.5%
2. 2008 – 62.3%
3. 2004 – 60.4%
4. 2000 – 54.2%

It greatly upsets me that in a given presidential election, the voter turnout is only slightly above 50%. The numbers for state, local, and municipal elections are nothing short of abysmal.

As my first election approaches, I'm awed by the gravity of the situation. I have a voice. I can be heard. I am part of the governing body of my country, merely by voting. But it's time to stop using 'I' and start using 'we'.

I refuse to tell you whom to vote for, which side of the aisle to stand on, or how you should feel: that's for you to decide, in your own time, and for what you believe in, not others. But it's about time WE made a difference. Apathy towards voting stems from discord with the political system, especially the idea one vote means nothing. Well you're right – one vote means nothing.

But we need to remember the power WE have. The privilege WE have. The responsibility WE have.

Democracy is neither assured nor impeccable. But as American citizens, all of us, have not only the responsibility, but the ability to vote. Fight the apathy and come together. Because the power of WE, the power millions have fought and died for, is life's greatest privilege. WE have the capability to make change. WE possess the means to ensure equal rights. WE empower and fuel our country. And WE are going to be heard; we're going to vote. See you May 3rd, Indiana.

# THE TOWER PRIMARY POLL

ABIGAIL MYERS • REPORTER

In light of the upcoming Indiana primary on May 3rd, during lunch hours we conducted a Tower Primary Poll to determine who JA students would vote for in the election. After getting the results back from participating students, we have compiled them for all students to see.

Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders won by an overwhelming margin over all other candidates with 81 of the 161 votes. Sanders is running on the Democratic ticket for the presidency against former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Like Clinton, he has served as a congressman from Vermont in both the House of Representatives, from 1991-2007, and in the Senate, from 2007 until now. He is known for his support of democratic socialism and hopes of equality for all. The Vermont senator has long appealed to the younger generations, due in part to his advocacy for a free public college tuition. It is easy to see why he has become very popular with many JA high school students.

In our poll, the runner-up was fellow Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton. Clinton received 29 votes in our election, despite the fact that she is ahead of Bernie Sanders in the delegate count and in many polls. Her 2016 campaign is her second attempt to win the presidency since she lost to Barack Obama 2008. Many believe that having Clinton as president would be a continuation of the Obama administration since she did serve as Obama's Secretary of State from 2009-2013 and promises to continue his legacy. She also has plenty of other political experience after serving as the first lady from 1993-2001 and as a congresswoman for the state of New York from 2001-2009.

In a surprising upset, Ted Cruz came in third place overall and first place on the Republican side with 18 votes from John Adams students. Cruz is currently a senator from Texas and has been known for his strong belief in the Constitution and strong conservative values. In February, Cruz won the Iowa caucus, which came as a surprise to many Republican supporters who thought that Donald Trump would surely win. Currently, in the national race for the Republican nomination, Cruz comes in second place behind Trump. He has become the 'party favorite' and is more likely than Donald Trump to beat Hillary Clinton, the projected nominee for the Democratic nomination, in a head-to-head election (according to recent polls).

Despite his excess of media coverage and tremendous support on the campaign trail, businessman Donald Trump received only 10 of the 161 votes from our polling. He was not always a Republican; he has been very inconsistent with his party loyalties starting with an allegiance with the Democratic party and then the Reform party, he became an independent, and finally joined the Republican party in 2012. Originally deemed a "political outsider", Trump has gained a lot of support from Americans who are frustrated with the current state of the government and want to "make America great again" as his campaign slogan states.

Ohio Governor John Kasich received the least amount of votes in the JA primary with only 6 student supporters. This mirrors his current standing in the election, as Kasich is not very popular in the national polls and has only won the primary of his home state, Ohio. Before becoming the governor of Ohio, he served as a congressman in the House of Representatives from 1983-2001 which included membership of the House Budget Committee on which he served from 1995-2001. Despite his likable persona, he has not been able to garner significant support beyond his home state of Ohio.

In addition to votes for presidential candidates, many students wrote in a candidate or simply stated that they did not like any of them. Several voted for "the Zodiac Killer" (referring to Ted Cruz) and Kanye West 2020. Notably almost as many votes as Trump himself, 9 cast their votes voicing their disapproval of the controversial Republican candidate by writing "f— Trump".

