

Things You Need to Know About John McCain – MoveOn.org

There are some surprising things here that you probably did not know. Sources are noted beneath each item. Click on the title to read the entire article associated with it.

- 1) McCain voted against the bill to establish a federal holiday in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He says that his position has "evolved" but he continued to oppose civil rights laws.
 - a) "[The Complicated History of John McCain and MLK Day](#)," ABC News, April 3, 2008; and,
 - b) "[McCain Facts](#)," ColorOfChange.org, April 4, 2008
- 2) According to Bloomberg News, McCain is more hawkish on Iraq, Russia and China than Bush. Conservative Columnist Pat Buchanan said McCain makes Cheney look like Gandhi.
 - a) "<http://www.alternet.org/blogs/environment/77913/>," Bloomberg News, March 12, 2008; and,
 - b) "[Buchanan: John McCain 'Will Make Cheney Look Like Gandhi'](#)," ThinkProgress, February 6, 2008
- 3) His reputation is built on his opposition to torture, but McCain voted against a bill to ban waterboarding that passed and then applauded the Bush veto of the ban.
 - a) "[McCain Sides With Bush On Torture Again, Supports Veto Of Anti-Waterboarding Bill](#)," ThinkProgress, February 20, 2008
- 4) McCain is opposed to a woman's right to choose. He said, "I do not support Roe versus Wade. It should be overturned."
 - a) "[McCain says Roe v. Wade should be overturned](#)," MSNBC, February 18, 2007
- 5) The Children's Defense Fund rated McCain as the worst senator in Congress for children. He voted against the children's health care bill last year, then defended Bush's veto of the bill.
 - a) "[2007 Children's Defense Fund Action Council@ Nonpartisan Congressional Scorecard](#)," February 2008; and,
 - b) "[McCain: Bush right to veto kids health insurance expansion](#)," CNN, October 3, 2007
- 6) He's one of the richest people in a Senate filled with millionaires. The Associated Press reports he and his wife own at least eight homes. Yet McCain says the solution to the housing crisis is for people facing foreclosure to get a "second job" and skip their vacations.
 - a) "[Beer Executive Could Be Next First Lady](#)," Associated Press, April 3, 2008 and,
 - b) "[McCain Says Bank Bailout Should End 'Systemic Risk'](#)," Bloomberg News, March 25, 2008
- 7) Many of McCain's fellow Republican senators say he's too reckless to be commander-in-chief. One Republican senator said: "The thought of his being president sends a cold shill down my spine. He's erratic. He's hotheaded. He loses his temper and he worries me."
 - a) "[Will McCain's Temper Be a Liability?](#)," Associated Press, February 16, 2008; and,
 - b) "[Famed McCain Temper Is Tamed](#)," Boston Globe, January 27, 2008
- 8) McCain talks a lot about taking on special interests, but his campaign manager and top advisers are actually lobbyists. The government watchdog group Public Citizen says McCain has 59 lobbyists raising money for his campaign, more than any of the other presidential candidate.
 - a) "[Black Claims McCain's Campaign Is Above Lobbyist Influence: 'I Don't Know What the Criticism Is'](#)," ThinkProgress, April 2, 2008; and,
 - b) "[McCain's Lobbyist Friends Rally 'Round Their Man'](#)," ABC News, January 29, 2008
- 9) McCain has sought closer ties to the extreme religious right in recent years. The pastor McCain calls his "spiritual guide," Rod Parsley, believes American's founding mission is to destroy Islam,

which he calls a “false religion.” McCain sought the political support of right-wing preacher John Hagee, who believes Hurricane Katrina was God’s punishment for gay rights and called the Catholic Church “the Antichrist” and a “false cult.”

- a) [“McCain’s Spiritual Guide: Destroy Islam,”](#) Mother Jones Magazine, March 12, 2008, and,
- b) [“Will McCain Specifically ‘Repudiate’ Hagee’s Anti-Gay Comments?,”](#) ThinkProgress, March 12, 2008; and,
- c) [“McCain ‘Very Honored’ By Support of Pastor Preaching ‘End-Time Confrontation With Iran,’”](#) ThinkProgress, February 28, 2008

10) He positions himself as pro-environment, but he scored a 0 – yes, a zero – from the League of Conservation Voters last year.

- a) [“John McCain Gets a Zero Rating for His Environmental Record,”](#) Sierra Club, February 28, 2008

Many thanks to Vickie Vogel for forwarding this information from Former Representative Debra Danburg, Galveston.