

**November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Email**

Hello, Mr. DeCarlo,

My name is Emmy. I'm a sophomore at Mount Vernon High School in Alexandria. My government class is doing an assignment on candidates for Congress, and you were featured on the list of potential representatives.

I consider myself a libertarian but felt misrepresented by my party's candidate. Upon reading your beliefs and qualifications, I immediately knew whom I was going to support. Thank you for encompassing everything that America should be. You seem straight-to-the-point, honest, and absolutely incorruptible, and for that, you've got my family's votes.

Thank you so much for everything.

Sincerely, Emmy W.

Emmy:

Thank you for your generous comments. I have enjoyed going back to the schools and meeting a lot of high school seniors during the campaign. I am trying to be the voice of the independents because nobody ever asks us what we want which is really very simple. But then I realized that nobody asks because they can't deliver it anyway.

I will admit that I did learn about the "Iron Triangle" while I was talking with a government teacher at Woodbridge High School. It is the strong relationship that exists between Administrators, Lobbyists and Representatives. I hadn't even heard of the relationship in that context before and I checked to see if it is even mentioned in your government book and it isn't. I also checked to see if there is any mention of the term "corruption" in the book and it isn't mentioned either.

It is unfortunate that the government text books ignore both of these terms when it is these relationships that have caused us to have such a low confidence in Congress. Then again, if publishers did include the terms no political school system would want to purchase their books.

All of us want to believe in our system of government just like we are or were taught in school. And for all that I wanted to believe in it just like everybody else, it has taken me 30 years after graduation to see that our elected officials have become puppets to the administrations and the money and that the books need to be revised and the curriculum changed so the students will be better prepared.

I could say more but I have probably already said too much.

Chris

**Telephone calls:**

1) Voter called to say that other voter in line said "I am going to vote to some independent person this year because I am sick and tired of these parties. Excuse my language but these are all bastards."

2) "Chris, when you win tomorrow, I have never touched alcohol but I am going to have a drink tomorrow."

### **Email**

Thank you for taking the time to talk to me today. Here are my questions. If you don't win then what will you do? What would you do with the schools and "teaching the SOL's"? Will the winner accept any input from you and your ideas?

Eric

Hi Eric:

It was a pleasure talking with you this morning.

To answer to your questions:

1) If I don't win I will run next year in the local elections for probably either Chairman of the Board of Supervisors or for Supervisor, Providence District. I will run for Congress again in two years.

2) Schools are a tough question because it is more of a State issue than a Federal issue. But I can say that I believe we have created a bureaucratic mess of the schools for the teachers and the students. The only ones that aren't losing are the school administrations.

Students are expected to sit in plastic chairs in rooms with fluorescent lighting and memorize information so they can pass the standardized tests and teachers have been reduced to formula teaching which diminishes the profession and their job satisfaction. Adults would go crazy if they were subjected to such a poor ergonomic and intellectual environment. The schools have become complicated and structured at the expense of the human and social development, essential components for their future success. Was our education 30 or 40 years ago so bad? What has changed and why?

I do not support the SOL's. They are a waste of valuable time and effort for the students and the faculty. Everyone knows that the teachers are just teaching the test and the parents, students and teachers hate every minute of it.

3) The winner will probably not accept any input from me because the system is too driven by money. The showing will illustrate the amount of voter agreement with my message and to that degree representatives need to take heed. But more importantly, I hope that the results from this election will show all voters how much they actually do agree on something of major importance.

Then in the next election more voters will be willing to ignore the propaganda of the status quo and cast a vote that will get to the heart of solving the real problem which is getting the influence of money out of our system of self-government. We have to get the money out of the way before our representatives will can work together and begin restoring trust back in our government.

I realized in during the Healthcare and Financial reform proceedings that legislators feed on controversy. The more controversy the more money they receive. They have no incentive to solve problems because to do so would cut off their flow of funding. It is a poor state when Representatives in need of campaign contributions are placed on committees that are considering controversial legislation just so they can improve their

financial standing.

Sorry for the long answers, but you asked some good questions.

Chris

**Email**

Subject: Right idea, wrong on the issues.

I agree 100% that we need candidates that are not beholden to special interests for their campaign financing but I just disagree with you on too many fundamental issues.

That said, good on you for running your own campaign and being true to your beliefs.

We disagree but you're a good man.

Scott

**Propane customer:**

“After reading the Voters Guide, my wife said to me, “I am voting for this guy Chris DeCarlo. He is saying exactly what I am thinking.””

I responded, “Don’t vote for him, you are going to waste your vote. Vote for Fimian.”

She responded, “No, I am voting for DeCarlo.”

**Email encouragement:**

Hi!

First, I need to let you know that I'm in the 10th, and can't vote for you.

It's unfortunate that you couldn't get backing from a majority party. I have voted for Frank ever since he has been on the ticket. He listens. He's reachable. I have contacted him several times over the last 30 years, and he has always taken care of what I needed. While I really don't believe in the "Candidate for Life" philosophy, I will vote for him as long as he runs.

I just read your bio on the League of Women Voters site. I'm impressed! We need you in office! What a novel thought... running on morals and values! Ethics and politics are like oil and water.

I wish you well! Of the two major candidates, one is a crook, and the other comes across in public as totally whacked. Maybe you have given the voters of the 11th an option. I'd like to think the voters in the 11th can see what I see. If they do, you may be the first real citizen elected.

My entire family voted for Ken. He used his own money, and got the seat through a grass roots effort. He shook the good ole boys up down in Richmond. I don't recall, but I think Ken had Republican backing on the ticket.

My wife and I have both made comments about the lesser of two evils in the 11th. I'm sure you realize that you are the long shot. Without getting your message out there, which I didn't see until I looked for it, one of the major parties is going to take this one.

Maybe if you run for a Virginia House or Senate seat to start out... Get the high school kids behind you. They are awesome at networking. They have friends that vote. You have something of value for these young people. You can offer them a future. Talk to Ken. He believed he could make a difference, and convinced us that he could.

Good luck tomorrow! I'd like to wake up Wednesday and hear that you upset the apple cart!

Eric

Chantilly

Eric:

Thank you for your kind words and encouragement.

I have been approached by one party to run as their candidate, but I have told them that I can't for several reasons.

The reasons are:

- 1) that I don't want to sell my soul to the devil just to participate.
- 2) there are people in both parties that I don't want to associate.
- 3) I don't want to get washed out in a primary. I want to make it to the ballot in each election so I can say what needs to be said. As an independent I can always make it to the ballot.
- 4) being part of a party would require that I have to compromise my whole platform which is that the money is the problem.
- 5) the negative influence of money on our process of self-government is the one thing that all of us voters agree on and are against.
- 6) I don't want the label.
- 7) that I believe most of us are independents at heart and we can all get along just fine if it wasn't for all the polarizing by the parties.

When I was collecting signatures in my neighborhood to get on the ballot a neighbor introduced me to his friend by saying, "This is Chris, and he is the most independent person I know."

I was just telling someone else that being successful in business is about providing products and services that people want, not providing what you want to sell. When you have something everybody wants you don't even have to advertise. They will just find you.

I would argue that good government is no different and the reason the political parties spend so much money in campaigns is because they are trying to sell something that nobody wants. Thanks again. Chris

**Email question:**

Hi. I am heading out to vote today and as a Roman Catholic I am torn between voting for you or Keith Fimian, because I vote pro life. If I vote for you instead of Fimian and the democrat wins, we lose a pro life vote in congress.

It may sound crazy but as a business owner myself who does a lot of networking, i wish you had started a Facebook campaign. I searched for you there but came out blank. I only know about you because you are in the voters guide.

I hope if you do not win that you will continue to be involved in politics and that down the road. We need good candidates in this day and age.

I would be happy to support you. Just not sure what to do today.

Anyway, good luck!

Lisa

Hi Lisa:

Thanks for your email.

Personally, I lean more pro-choice then pro-life, but I hope voters will look beyond their specific issue and vote for better government overall. This is our country's number one problem. I believe that the majority of us can get along and that negative and issue based campaigns are a diversion from what should be our real issue which is character, money and power which are never discussed.

I was going to start a facebook page for the campaign but I wasn't sure if I could keep up with it. I have one facebook page but it is only with my friends from high school. I am sure I will have one for the next election. As you know, it is challenging to try and do everything by yourself. I spent most of my efforts trying to engage with high school students which was somewhat successful. I learn a little more with each campaign and

election and I try to throttle the campaign so it is an enjoyable experience.

Thanks for your words of encouragement.

I'll see you at the polls.

**Email question**

Hello Mr. DeCarlo! I just have a few questions I would like to ask you as I am considering voting for you in tomorrow's election.

Are you prolife or prochoice?

*More prochoice than prolife.*

Are you religious?

*I take my children to church.*

Are you against gays in the military?

*Yes.*

What is your standing on people owning guns?

*We need them. I have three.*

What are your thoughts on illegal immigration?

*To teach the immigrants about democracy so when they go home they can run for office and try and reduce the corruption in their country that caused them to leave their communities and families and come here.*

What are your thoughts in continued research and development in NASA?

*OK but don't get to carried away with it.*

I don't expect you to write me a book or anything. Short answers are just fine as I am sure you have many more to answer for others. Thanks for your time!

Good luck to you!

**Email question:**

As a member of the Virginia Citizens Defense League (VCDL) I have a specific interest in my congressman's views on the 2nd amendment and the right to bear arms.

While I have received many mailings to my home and canvassers from several candidates' campaign, I believe only one candidate has completed and submitted the VCDL survey showing us his views on this very important issue.

I would like to encourage Mr. DeCarlo to submit the VCDL survey so that we may give him our support on November 2nd. We have 9 voting members of our family and look forward to Mr. DeCarlo's survey submission.

Lori McGuin

The Cheyenne

703-303-5103

<http://dreamcastles.tripod.com>

Hi Lori:

I am a strong supporter of the 2nd amendment and I do own three guns. I did complete the survey with a "yes" for most of the questions Monday but then I decided to put it back in the drawer and not mail it.

While I am a 2nd amendment supporter, I am more focused as I say in my campaign announcement speech of trying,

"to restore trust in our government by offering a new standard of representation that consists of no campaign contributions and a common sense approach of government business decisions."

Please see my campaign announcement speech on my website,

[www.HonestyandEthics.com](http://www.HonestyandEthics.com).

I have not returned any of the candidate surveys I have received because I hope voters will look beyond their specific issue and vote for better government overall. This is our country's number one problem. I believe that the majority of us can get along and that negative and issue based campaigns are a diversion from what should be our real issue which is character, money and power which are never discussed.

I think your question is relevant for other voters and I would like to post your comments and my answer on my website.

Will you give me permission to use your name or part of your name or would you prefer to stay anonymous?

Thanks, Chris

Chris,

Thank you for your response.

It's nice to get what seems to be a sincere response from a candidate rather than a canned response from a staff member.

Absolutely, you can use my name and comments on your website. I believe a person should have the character to stand proud for the comments they make - and what comment would be taken seriously if you won't lend your name to it.

I am sure many of us are waiting for your responses to the survey. While it is not the ONLY issue we are interested in - it IS one that is important to us.

Thanks again, Lori McGuin, Springfield, VA

**Email:**

I know it is probably a very busy day for you. I'll be leaving work early to go vote around 3 p.m. in district 11. I've been going back and forth researching the five candidates for Congress in our district. Fimian and Connolly are out for sure, so I'm looking deeper today into the Green, Libertarian and independent (you) candidates. I notice that you did not complete the Political Courage Test and

therefore do not have answers available on Project Vote Smart's website, and I find very little on the issues on your site aside from the health care bill, don't ask, etc. I am wondering where you stand on the following:

What is your stance on climate change legislation and funding for renewable energy technologies?

*I am not in support climate change legislation because it will put our industries at a serious disadvantage. We do need alternative fuels and energy products that are market driven instead of taxpayer supported. I am all for clean alternative fuels just like when we had Earth Day's back in the 70's, but as a supplier of propane which is the most popular alternative motor fuel in the US, I have seen how government decisions are made based on political patronage instead of common sense. And that is why our country is in the mess it is. I would support limited funding for renewable energy technologies.*

What is your stance on the First Amendment case being heard in the U.S. Supreme Court this week regarding video game entertainment?

*Good question but I don't have an easy answer. As the father of five children I can say that the electronic devices and the violent games are posing a serious threat to our and our children's future and creating the possibility that we are going to have a lost generation. These games are destructive and more addictive than drugs. Society should recognize the problem for what it is becoming and get back to a less violent environment. But unfortunately all we hear about is fighting and money and all our leaders promote is fighting and money. Most of us just want a job and the ability to raise our families but instead our society is being polarized. My campaign is to try and get to the root of the problem and offer a solution that we can all agree on and as I say in my candidacy announcement speech on my website, set a new standard.*

What is your stance on gay marriage?

*Personally, I don't support it. But if that is what the majority of people believe in then it is fine with me.*

What is your stance on the Second Amendment?

*Support, I have three.*

I am very sorry that I waited so close to voting time to e-mail you, so if you do not have time to answer these questions, I will certainly understand. I feel that you are in the right place with what you are trying to do in terms of running a campaign without the influence of money and negative campaigning, and I wish more representatives were actually that - representatives of the people without their own agendas.

Have a great day, and best of luck. Josh

**October 30th**

**Parent of Robinson High student:**

“I haven't been able to decide which to vote for. They keep trashing each other.”

**Propane customer**

“As far as I am concerned the Democratic and Republican candidates don’t care about the electorate.”

**Propane customer**

I was going to vote for Keith because he is against the Democrats, but both parties are just as bad and the Republicans are only say 5% better then the Democrats.

**October 28<sup>th</sup>**

Voter called to request a yard sign to place in his yard. When he was told there were no signs available he responded, “That’s ok, I will make my own. I didn’t think he had any.”

Voter purchasing propane said, “I told my wife this morning I was going to vote for this guy. The Republicans and the Democrats have everything locked up to keep everybody else out.”

**Email message**

Hello Mr.Decarlo, my name is Joseph Bartram and I just wanted to let you know that I handed out about 150-200 flyers today October 27th. I talked to many people about your campaign and many people were happy to hear about a candidate that could not be bought and were happy to be able to vote for someone that is not Mr. Fimian or Mr. Connolly.

For the service hours my school is Robinson Secondary. Im a senior and I passed out flyers in my neighborhood for two hours and thirty minutes. My teacher is Mrs.Hicks im in her second period government class. She will most likely call and verify that I did the work. I promise that I did pass flyers for the whole time. Best of luck on getting elected, i really hope you win.

**Email message**

Fimian and Connolly have done an excellent job telling my why I shouldn't vote for either one of them. However, they haven't given me one reason to vote for either one of them. This is an excellent opportunity for you to jump in, but when I went to your site, there was no information on where you stand on issues. Is there a place you can direct me that summarize your agenda and view points?

Hi Mindy:

Thank you for your inquiry.

Please see my candidacy announcement speech at [www.HonestyandEthics.com](http://www.HonestyandEthics.com) for the gist of my candidacy and campaign platform. I have added some documents to the website to provide you with more information and some analysis.

I believe that fostering trust in our government is the most essential element for a Representative but we won't have the trust as long as they continue to accept campaign



contributions which influence their decisions and disenfranchise us the voters. I also believe that negative and issue based campaigns are a diversion from the real issue which is character, money and power which are never discussed.

I believe, as we were taught in school, that a Representative should strive to represent the will of the majority of their informed constituents. In that regard I believe that as a Representative my personal opinion should not carry any more weight then any other voter and that it is incumbent on a Representative to caucus with cross sections of their constituents so their interests can be properly represented to the Congress. Representation should not be about the Representative or the party, it should be about the voters.

Personally I am very suspect of what the government says and I feel deceived, manipulated, and powerless. This campaign is my effort to discuss the current problems and offer my solutions.

Since you asked, my personal views on the standard campaign issues of today are as follows:

- 1) Don't Ask, Don't Tell should not be repealed.
- 2) We should not have invaded Afghanistan and we should bring our troops home.
- 3) Education is a priority but its priorities have shifted towards more administration and testing to the detriment of the students and their teachers. The teachers are being forced to execute formula teaching which diminishes the personal satisfaction they receive from the profession and too narrowly channels student education.
- 4) I would not have supported TARP or the bank bailout. These programs were designed to redistribute wealth.
- 5) I do not agree with the 2,500 page Health Care Act and would vote to repeal it. As a nurse who supported President Obama told me, the health care system has problems, but the Act was not the solution.

Please write or call me at 703-973-8102 if you have any comments or questions and be sure to include your telephone number.

Chris