# TOPLINE

***Foreign policy:***

*Nearly all 2016 Republicans have attacked Hillary Clinton on her foreign policy record and perceived failures during her tenure as Secretary of State. Probably the most salient attack that has emerged as part of the 2016 campaign has been GOP candidates linking Clinton to unpopular elements of President Obama’s foreign policy. Some of these criticisms don’t even specify failures, like Rubio calling Clinton the “chief architect of the failed Obama foreign policy” or Jeb Bush saying Clinton will “have to answer” for the President’s foreign policy mistakes. Others, such as Jindal, point to “neglected allies” in Europe and Israel as well as the rise of ISIL. Noting that Secretary Clinton has expressed differences of opinion with the President’s policies since leaving office, Rubio criticized her for only airing them after the fact and not, for instance, forcefully arguing for intervention in Syria.*

*The most frequently cited failure under Secretary Clinton is the attack on the diplomatic compound in Benghazi, with GOP candidates citing: the State Department’s stonewalling of investigators; the political messaging during the State Department’s response to the attack; the inadequacy of diplomatic security in Benghazi; and the wisdom of the decision to set up a facility in Benghazi in the first place. Several candidates pledged to continue the search for “the truth,” and otherwise made it clear they plan to make Benghazi an issue in the 2016 campaign.*

*GOP candidates make many general attacks on Secretary Clinton’s record, accusing her of having no singular foreign policy accomplishment and emphasizing that various unspecified failures make her a vulnerable candidate. Some attacks are contradictory—for example, in the same two-week period, Rubio accused Clinton of letting America become too isolationist while Rand Paul called her a “war hawk” who was “gung-ho” about starting another war in the Middle East.*

*Rand Paul has been the most outspoken critic of Hillary Clinton’s foreign policy, accusing her of rushing into war in Libya and then quickly abandoning the country after the fall of Gadhafi—a development he claims helped facilitate security issues like the attack on Benghazi and the rise of ISIL. He has also accused her of being overly dismissive of security threats like ISIL and the Taliban Five while declaring climate change one of the biggest national security challenges of our time.*

*Carly Fiorina has been especially critical of Clinton’s “reset” policy with Russia, while Jindal has blamed her for Russia’s recent takeover of Crimea.*

***Economy:***

*2016 Republican candidates have also sought to link Secretary Clinton’s agenda to President Obama’s economic policies. Cruz, for example, cited low labor force participation as a failure of “her policies.” Others hit Clinton for the comment she made in October 2014 that “businesses don’t create jobs,” which she has since called a misstatement.*

***Healthcare:***

*2016 Republican candidates, including Cruz, Pence, and Rubio, have brought up HillaryCare, which Rubio called “a disaster,” to make the argument that Obamacare would be a piece of Hillary Clinton’s agenda.*

***Ideas of the past:***

*2016 Republican candidates have portrayed Hillary Clinton as committed to ideas of the past. Without actually citing examples, Jeb Bush called it “‘90s nostalgia,” Rubio referred to “outdated and broken institutions,” and Walker attacked her “old, tired” approach.*

***Inauthenticity / out of touch:***

*2016 Republican candidates have portrayed Hillary Clinton as committed to ideas of the past. Without actually citing examples, Jeb Bush called it “‘90s nostalgia,” Rubio referred to “outdated and broken institutions,” and Walker attacked her “old, tired” approach.*

***Age:***

*Paul, Perry, Rubio, and Walker have all made explicit or implicit references to Secretary Clinton’s age as an issue in 2016.*

***Bill Clinton and women’s issues:***

*Rand Paul has been especially critical of Bill Clinton, calling him a “sexual predator” and Democratic messaging on women hypocritical in light of Bill Clinton’s affairs.*

# FOREIGN POLICY

***Nearly all 2016 Republicans have attacked Hillary Clinton on her foreign policy record and perceived failures during her tenure as Secretary of State. Probably the most salient attack that has emerged as part of the 2016 campaign has been GOP candidates linking Clinton to unpopular elements of President Obama’s foreign policy. Some of these criticisms don’t even specify failures, like Rubio calling Clinton the “chief architect of the failed Obama foreign policy” or Jeb Bush saying Clinton will “have to answer” for the President’s foreign policy mistakes. Others, such as Jindal, point to “neglected allies” in Europe and Israel as well as the rise of ISIL. Noting that Secretary Clinton has expressed differences of opinion with the President’s policies since leaving office, Rubio criticized her for only airing them after the fact and not, for instance, forcefully arguing for intervention in Syria.***

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***Carly Fiorina has been especially critical of Clinton’s “reset” policy with Russia, while Jindal has blamed her for Russia’s recent takeover of Crimea.***

## OBAMA’S THIRD TERM

**Politico: Jeb Bush “Suggested To Potential Donors That The Former Secretary Of State Would Have To Explain President Barack Obama’s Foreign Policy Mistakes.”** “Speaking at a closed-press fundraiser in Connecticut on Wednesday night, Bush suggested to potential donors that the former secretary of state would have to explain President Barack Obama’s foreign policy mistakes.” [Politico, [1/8/15](http://www.politico.com/story/2015/01/jeb-bush-jabs-hillary-clinton-114073.html)]

**ABC News: Ted Cruz Said That The “Obama-Clinton” Foreign Policy Was A Failure And Said President Obama’s Economic Policies Are A Reason Not To Vote For Hillary Clinton.** “The senator pointedly tied Clinton to what he said were the failures of the Obama administration, referring to an ‘Obama-Clinton’ foreign policy and saying that the low labor-force participation rate under Obama is a reason not to vote for Hillary.” [ABC News, [6/1/14](http://abcnews.go.com/blogs/politics/2014/06/ted-cruz-says-hillary-clinton-deliberately-stonewalled-benghazi/)]

**Ted Cruz Described Hillary Clinton As “Misguided.”** “When asked later in the interview about former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Cruz described her as ‘misguided’ before blaming her for Obama's foreign policy. ‘I think she has been consistently wrong on domestic policy and foreign policy,’ he said. ‘I think if you look at the foreign policy disaster under President Obama, a great deal of that lands on her doorstep and she was directly responsible for it.’” [Washington Examiner, [2/27/14](http://washingtonexaminer.com/ted-cruz-fears-massive-loss-of-life-as-result-of-obama-and-hillary-clintons-foreign-policy/article/2544790)]

**Post And Courier: Bobby Jindal Blamed The Obama White House Including Former Secretary Of State Hillary Clinton For “Fumbling Foreign Policy**.**”** “Otherwise, Jindal's remark were heavy on blaming the Obama White House, including former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, for fumbling foreign policy. ‘Today, we see a world in which the Obama administration has neglected or abandoned America's long-standing allies. Our “special relationship” with Britain is gone, NATO is drifting, Eastern Europe is disaffected, and Israel has been purposefully alienated from the United States,’ he said. He went on to say the last months has sparked the rise of ISIS, Russia's incursion into Crimea and Ukraine, and other flare-ups around the world.” [The Post And Courier, [10/7/14](http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141007/PC1603/141009474/1031/louisiana-gov-bobby-jindal-takes-on-president-obama-at-the-citadel)]

**The Atlantic: Bobby “Jindal Painted A Gloomy Portrait Of America’s Domestic And Global Standing In The Obama Era” And Made Sure Link To Hillary Clinton To The Policies Of The President She Served**. “Jindal painted a gloomy portrait of America's domestic and global standing in the Obama era, and in a nod to the upcoming race for the White House, he made sure to link Hillary Clinton to the policies of the president she served as secretary of state. ‘Today, we are living with the consequences of the Obama-Clinton ideas when it comes to foreign, domestic, and defense policy. And those ideas have set America on a path that will create more chaos, more conflict, and more wars.’” [The Atlantic, [10/6/14](http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2014/10/bobby-jindal-joins-the-gop-hawks/381142/)]

**Rubio: “Hillary Clinton Is The Chief Architect Of The Failed Obama Foreign Policy.”** “Hillary Clinton is the chief architect of the failed Obama foreign policy. She wasn’t some junior staffer, or Senator voting on behalf of his agenda, she was thee Secretary of State, the singular individual in his (Obama’s) cabinet responsible for designing and implementing the foreign policy of Barack Obama, and there is no way to look at Barack Obama’s foreign policy and take from it that it’s been successful virtually anywhere.” [Shark Tank, [12/7/14](http://shark-tank.com/2014/12/07/rubio-hillary-clinton-chief-architect-failed-obama-foreign-policy/); [VIDEO](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KM4vnQWYyXo)]

## BENGHAZI

### State Department Stonewalling

**Ted Cruz On Hillary Clinton And Benghazi: “She Has Deliberately Stonewalled.”** “‘What I think is that she has deliberately stonewalled,’ Cruz said in an interview with George Stephanopoulos on ‘This Week.’ ‘The American people deserve the truth; our men and women in harm’s way deserve the truth,’ the Texas Republican added.” [ABC News, [6/1/14](http://abcnews.go.com/blogs/politics/2014/06/ted-cruz-says-hillary-clinton-deliberately-stonewalled-benghazi/); Ted Cruz Interview, This Week, ABC, 6/1/14]

### Political messaging in Benghazi response

**Ted Cruz Said Hillary Clinton Had “Stonewalled” On Benghazi And Said Her Chief Political Aide Instructed Foreign Services Officers Not To Talk To Members Of The Press Or Congress.”** “MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: Rand Paul said her handling of Benghazi's disqualifying her from the presidency. Do you agree? SEN. CRUZ: What I think is that she has deliberately stonewalled. We know, for example, that her chief political aide, Cheryl Mills, went to senior foreign services officers and told them, don't talk to the press, don't talk to members of Congress.” [Ted Cruz Interview, “This Week with George Stephanopoulos”, ABC, 6/1/14]

### Inadequate diplomatic security and preparation

**Rand Paul Said That Hillary Clinton Admitted She Had Not Read The Cables From Benghazi And If He Had Been President, He Would Have Fired Her.** “Paul also commented on what he said was the current administration’s failure in the handling the 2012 attack on the American consulate in Benghazi, Libya. ‘Six months in advance, possibly nine months in advance, Hillary Clinton was asked for more security and it was denied,’ Paul said. ‘At the same time, $100,000 was spent for a charging station at the Vienna embassy for their cars, $5 million was spent on crystal wear for the embassies, $100,000 was spent to send three comedians to India. I asked Hillary one question, ‘Did you read the cables?’ She said, ‘No.’ I said frankly, ‘If I had been president you would have been relieved of your duties.’’” [The Lima News, [10/21/14](http://www.limaohio.com/news/home_top-news/50536144/Rand-Paul-visits-Lima)]

**Rand Paul: “Had I Been President At The Time” Of Benghazi, “I Would Have Relieved You Of Your Post.”** “Ultimately, with your leaving, you accept the culpability for the worst tragedy since 9/11, and I really mean that. Had I been President at the time, and I found that you did not read the cables from Benghazi, you did not read the cables from Ambassador Stevens, I would have relieved you of your post.” [Senate Hearing on Benghazi Consulate Attack, C-SPAN, [1/23/13](http://www.c-span.org/video/?310496-1/senate-hearing-benghazi-consulate-attack)]

**Rand Paul Said Hillary Clinton Should Be Precluded From Being Commander In Chief Since She Could Not “Protect Our Embassies.”** “But Paul saved special scorn for Clinton, the prospective frontrunner for the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination, specifically highlighting her role in the events surrounding the deadly 2012 attacks on American consulate in Benghazi, Libya. ‘If she wants to be commander in chief and she cannot protect our embassies, I don’t think that she could or should be,’ Paul said. ‘I think it precludes her from ever being considered as commander in chief.’” [Politico, [8/29/14](http://www.politico.com/story/2014/08/rand-paul-hillary-clinton-110464.html)]

**Rand Paul Compared The Benghazi Incident To A 1993 Mission In Somalia In Which President Clinton’s Then-Secretary Of Defense Resigned Following The Death Of Americans, And Said That If Hillary Clinton Had “Worked For Bill Clinton, She’d Probably Have Been Fired.”** “The first-term senator went on to compare Benghazi to the 1993 mission in Mogadishu, Somalia, in which 18 U.S. military members were killed. Two months after the tragedy, President Bill Clinton announced the resignation of Les Aspin, then secretary of the defense. Aspin had taken heat for denying security requests for U.S. forces in the region just a month before the attack. ‘He ignored the request and he resigned ultimately in disgrace,’ Paul said. ‘I think had Hillary Clinton worked for Bill Clinton, she'd probably have been fired.’” [CNN, [8/29/14](http://politicalticker.blogs.cnn.com/2014/08/29/rand-paul-if-hillary-clinton-worked-for-bill-clinton-shed-probably-have-been-fired/)]

**Rubio On Obama’s And Hillary Clinton’s U.S. Foreign Policy: They Thought “America’s Problems Around The World Were Created By A Robust Foreign Policy Through The Bush Administration, And That His Job Was To Extract Us From These Things Around The World. I Think That’s Proven To Be A Disaster.”** MR: “The ultimate responsibility is on the President, and on the members of his cabinet, like Hillary Clinton, who guide policy and who make decisions on management and so forth with regards to the decisions that were made with security at this facility in Benghazi. And for the President, he’s the one who has failed to lay out a strategic view of what America’s role in the world is. To the extent that there is one, it seems to have been that America’s problems around the world were created by a robust foreign policy through the Bush administration, and that his job was to extract us from these things around the world. I think that’s proven to be a disaster.” [Hugh Hewitt Show, [6/9/14](http://www.hughhewitt.com/senator-marco-rubio-hillary-clintons-hard-choices-photos-many-people-going-question/)]

**Rubio On The Number One Question He Would Ask Hillary Clinton About Benghazi If Given The Opportunity: “Think That Question Would Be Explain To Us The Process By Which The Decision Was Made To Keep That Consulate Open, Given All Of This Information That’s Out There.”** GB: “If you were in the House, hypothetically, and on this Select Committee…” MR: “Yeah.” GB: “And if Secretary Clinton were to show up, what is the number one question you think that she hasn’t sufficiently answered that you would put to her?” MR: “And I think that question would be explain to us the process by which the decision was made to keep that consulate open, given all of this information that’s out there, and I think it’ll be very important to see whether this Select Committee will be able to hold hearings in a classified setting, where the details about some of that reporting stream will be, they’ll be able to delve into.” [Hugh Hewitt Show, [6/9/14](http://www.hughhewitt.com/senator-marco-rubio-hillary-clintons-hard-choices-photos-many-people-going-question/)]

### Cover-up and continuing investigation

**Rand Paul: While The Administration Continued To Cover Up Benghazi, “I Will Continue To Seek The Truth Until Those At The Top Of This Two-Year Chain Of Deception Are Finally Held Accountable.”** “This new Benghazi ‘intelligence’ report [from the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence] is little more than a C.Y.A. attempt designed to protect incompetent politicians and government agents at the expense of justice for the victims of September 11, 2012. They will continue to cover up. I will continue to seek the truth until those at the top of this two-year chain of deception are finally held accountable.” [Office of Senator Rand Paul, [12/1/14](http://www.paul.senate.gov/?p=news&id=1251)]

### Miscellaneous

**Rand Paul Said “Politics Is What Happens To Discuss Whether People Are Fit For Office,” And Said There Would Be A Discussion About Whether Hillary Clinton Was “Fit To Lead.”** “Addressing criticism that his scrutiny of Benghazi is politically motivated, Paul said ‘Yeah, politics is what happens to discuss whether people are fit for office. There will be a discussion over the next four years whether or not Hillary Clinton is fit to lead this country.’” [Politico, [8/29/14](http://www.politico.com/story/2014/08/rand-paul-hillary-clinton-110464.html)]

**Rand Paul Blasted Hillary Clinton As Not “Fit To Lead The Country” For Her Response To Benghazi And Comments About Her Wealth.** “Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., said Hillary Clinton is not ‘fit to lead the country’ Friday, mocking the former secretary of state's comments about her wealth and condemning her response to the September 2012 attack on a U.S. facility in Benghazi.” [CBS, [8/2/14](http://www.cbsnews.com/news/sen-rand-paul-hillary-clinton-not-fit-to-lead-the-country/)]

**Rubio Said Clinton Would Have To “Answer For Benghazi” If She Ran For President.** RUBIO: “I think she's going to have to answer for Benghazi. I know people want to push that aside, but here's a fact. The State Department knew that the risk level for that facility was extremely high. They should have either closed that facility or provided it adequate security. They did not, under her watch. She will have to answer for that.” [Situation Room, CNN, 2/25/14]

## LIBYA

**Rand Paul Said Hillary Clinton’s “Main Achilles’ Heel” Was That She Did Not Think Through The “Unintended Consequences” Of Involvement In Libya And Did Not Provide “An Adequate Defense For Our Consulate In Libya.”** “‘Her [Hillary Clinton’s] main Achilles’ heel is that she didn’t provide an adequate defense for our consulate in Libya,’ Paul said during a trip to Georgia just before the midterms. ‘And also, she didn’t think through the unintended consequences of getting involved in the Libyan war. So I think you’d have an interesting dynamic, were there a [Republican] nominee that was for less intervention overseas and in the Middle East and that’s fiscally conservative. You’ve never seen that kind of combination before, and I think there’s a lot of independent voters, actually, that might be attracted to that kind of message.’” [Politico, [11/9/14](http://www.politico.com/story/2014/11/rands-grand-plan-112729.html)]

**Rand Paul Referred To U.S. Military Engagement In Libya As “Hillary’s War” And Said The Rise Of ISIS Was An Unintended Consequence Of It.** “Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) certainly has a knack for boldness. On Sunday's Meet the Press, he dubbed U.S. military engagement in Libya ‘Hillary’s war’ and stated the rise of the Islamic State (ISIS) is not a result of President Obama's inaction in the Middle East but the unintended consequence of the U.S. military engagement in Libya.” [Breitbart, [8/27/14](http://www.breitbart.com/Big-Government/2014/08/27/Exclusive-Rand-Paul-Hillary-Clinton-s-War-Hawk-Style-Policies-Destabilized-Libya-Syria-Leading-To-Benghazi-Terrorist-Attack-Rise-Of-ISIS)]

## HAWKISHNESS

**Rand Paul Called Hillary Clinton A “War Hawk.”** RAND PAUL: “I think the American public is coming more and more to where I am, and that those people like Hillary Clinton, who she fought her own war, Hillary`s war, you know, people are going to find that -- I think that`s what scares the Democrats the most is that in a general election, were I to run, there`s going to be a lot of Independents and even some Democrats who say, you know what, we are tired of war. We`re worried that Hillary Clinton will get us involved in another Middle Eastern war because she`s so gung-ho. If you want to see a transformational election in our country, let the Democrats put forward a war hawk like Hillary Clinton and you`ll see a transformation like you`ve never seen.” [Meet The Press, NBC, 8/24/14]

**Rand Paul: “Not Thinking Through The Consequences Of Intervention Has Caused Islamism And Radical Jihadist Groups To Proliferate.”** Rand Paul: “Sometimes people are trying to say I don’t have enough concern for this. Well, actually, I have a great deal of concern—and not thinking through the consequences of intervention has caused Islamism and radical jihadist groups to proliferate. So I think Qaddafi and Saddam Hussein were both secular dictators who were awful, and did terrible things to their people, but at the same time were also enemies of the jihadists. Assad is the same way. What we’ve done in Libya, and now what we’re doing in Syria, is we have armed groups that are commingled with jihadists.” [Breitbart, [8/27/14](http://www.breitbart.com/Big-Government/2014/08/27/Exclusive-Rand-Paul-Hillary-Clinton-s-War-Hawk-Style-Policies-Destabilized-Libya-Syria-Leading-To-Benghazi-Terrorist-Attack-Rise-Of-ISIS)]

**Rand Paul On What Independents And Some Democrats Would Say About Hillary Clinton In A General Election: “We’re Worried That Hillary Clinton Will Get Us Involved In Another Middle Eastern War Because She’s So Gung-Ho.”** RAND PAUL: “I think the American public is coming more and more to where I am, and that those people like Hillary Clinton, who she fought her own war, Hillary`s war, you know, people are going to find that -- I think that`s what scares the Democrats the most is that in a general election, were I to run, there`s going to be a lot of Independents and even some Democrats who say, you know what, we are tired of war. We`re worried that Hillary Clinton will get us involved in another Middle Eastern war because she`s so gung-ho. If you want to see a transformational election in our country, let the Democrats put forward a war hawk like Hillary Clinton and you`ll see a transformation like you`ve never seen.” [Meet The Press, NBC, 8/24/14]

## RUSSIA

**Bobby Jindal Blamed The Obama White House And Former Secretary Of State Hillary Clinton For Fumbling Foreign Policy, Including “Russia's Incursion Into Crimea And Ukraine.”** “Otherwise, Jindal's remark were heavy on blaming the Obama White House, including former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, for fumbling foreign policy. ‘Today, we see a world in which the Obama administration has neglected or abandoned America's long-standing allies. Our “special relationship” with Britain is gone, NATO is drifting, Eastern Europe is disaffected, and Israel has been purposefully alienated from the United States,’ he said. He went on to say the last months has sparked the rise of ISIS, Russia's incursion into Crimea and Ukraine, and other flare-ups around the world.” [The Post And Courier, [10/7/14](http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141007/PC1603/141009474/1031/louisiana-gov-bobby-jindal-takes-on-president-obama-at-the-citadel)]

**Fiorina: “I Have Met Vladimir Putin And Know That It Will Take More To Halt His Ambitions Than A Gimmicky Red ‘Reset’ Button.”** [Conservative Political Action Conference, [2/26/15](http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2015/02/25/carly-fiorina-is-getting-a-cpac-upgrade.html)]

## ISIL

**Rand Paul: Hillary Clinton Said “ISIS Is Not A Threat – Not A Threat To America. Those I Think Were Her Exact Words.”** RAND PAUL: “Well you know, I don't think we really want a commander-in-chief who is battling climate change instead of terrorism. She also has been out there saying ISIS is not a threat – not a threat to America. Those I think were her exact words.” BILL HEMMER: “Did she say that?” RAND PAUL: “I believe a couple of months ago there was a quote from her saying ISIS is not a threat to America. But what I would say is that for her to be out there saying that the biggest threat to our safety and our wellbeing is climate change, I think is -- goes to the heart of the matter whether she has the wisdom to lead the country, which I think it's obvious she doesn't.” [America’s Newsroom, Fox News, 9/5/14]

* **An Aide To Rand Paul Walked Back His Comments And Said Paul Meant To Criticize Hillary Clinton For Her Comments On The Prisoner Swap For U.S. Soldier Bowe Bergdahl, Not That She Underestimated The Threat Of ISIS.** “An aide to Republican Senator Rand Paul said the lawmaker intended to criticize Hillary Clinton, a possible 2016 Democratic rival for the presidency, for comments on the prisoner swap for U.S. soldier Bowe Bergdahl, not that she underestimated the threat posed by Islamic State. ‘Hillary Clinton has said ISIS is not a threat to the United States,’ Paul said on Fox News Channel’s ‘Hannity’ on Sept. 3. The Kentucky lawmaker repeated that assertion to Fox’s Bill Hemmer two days later, noting his belief that those were Clinton’s ‘exact words.’…An aide to Paul who requested anonymity said the lawmaker meant to refer to Clinton’s remark in June that the five Taliban fighters exchanged for Bergdahl were ‘not a threat’ to the U.S.” [Bloomberg, [9/9/14](http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:n_LhtScbXzkJ:www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-09-08/paul-misstates-clinton-record-on-islamic-state-risk.html+&cd=1&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=us)]

## CLIMATE CHANGE

**Rand Paul Said Hillary Clinton’s Statement That Climate Change Was The Biggest Threat To Our Safety Went “To The Heart Of The Matter Whether She Has The Wisdom To Lead The Country, Which I Think It's Obvious She Doesn't.”** RAND PAUL: “Well you know, I don't think we really want a commander-in-chief who is battling climate change instead of terrorism. She also has been out there saying ISIS is not a threat – not a threat to America. Those I think were her exact word.” BILL HEMMER: “Did she say that?” RAND PAUL: “I believe a couple of months ago there was a quote from her saying ISIS is not a threat to America. But what I would say is that for her to be out there saying that the biggest threat to our safety and our wellbeing is climate change, I think is -- goes to the heart of the matter whether she has the wisdom to lead the country, which I think it's obvious she doesn't.” [America’s Newsroom, Fox News, 9/5/14]

## RECORD

### General

**Rubio Said Hillary Clinton Was “Extremely Vulnerable On Her Record.”** RUBIO: “I think she's extremely vulnerable on her record. The truth of the matter is she was the secretary of state during an administration that has had virtually no major successes on foreign policy. In fact, their failures on foreign policy are stark, and we're reminded of them every single day. And she'll have to answer for that.” [Morning Edition, NPR, [7/22/14](http://www.npr.org/templates/transcript/transcript.php?storyId=333767950)]

**Rubio Gave Hillary Clinton An F On Her Record At The State Department And Said The Diplomacy Pursued While She Was There “Has Failed Everywhere In The World.”** MR. KARL: “How big of a problem is this going to be for Hillary Clinton? How much is this going to be used against her? SEN. RUBIO: Well, if she's -- I'm sure she's going to go on bragging about her time in the State Department, she's also going to have to be held accountable for its failures, whether it's the failed reset with Russia or the failure in Benghazi that actually cost lives. MR. KARL: So what grade do you give her as secretary of state? SEN. RUBIO: I don't think she has a passing grade. In fact -- MR. KARL: She's an F? SEN. RUBIO: Yeah, because if you look at the diplomacy that was pursued in her time in State Department, it has failed everywhere in the world. So here's what I would say. If she is going to run on her record as secretary of state, she's also going to have to answer for its massive failures.” [This Week, ABC, 5/11/14]

**Rubio On Potentially Debating Hillary Clinton On Foreign Policy: “Whoever Runs For President Against Hillary Clinton, I Think, Is Going To Have Ample Space To Criticize Foreign Policy.”** HH: “If it turns out that she runs for president, and it turns out that you run for president, will you be afraid of debating her foreign policy record with her?” MR: “You know, anyone, whoever runs for president against Hillary Clinton, I think, is going to have ample space to criticize foreign policy. What is the signature foreign policy achievement of this administration?” [Hugh Hewitt Show, [6/9/14](http://www.hughhewitt.com/senator-marco-rubio-hillary-clintons-hard-choices-photos-many-people-going-question/)]

**Rubio Bashed The Hillary Clinton Foreign Policy: “She Is Responsible For At Least Four Of The Six Yeas Of This Disastrous Foreign Policy.”** “He did take a moment to bash Hillary Clinton, the putative Democratic frontrunner. ‘She is responsible for at least four of the six yeas of this disastrous foreign policy,’ he said. ‘She was the secretary of state, the chief foreign policy officer of the Obama administration at a time when it is now universally accepted that his policy is a fiasco.’” [CNN.com, [8/26/14](http://www.cnn.com/2014/08/26/politics/rubio-sc-fundraiser/index.html)]

**Rubio On Hillary Clinton: “And If She Thinks She Is Going To Run On The Fact That She Has Experience As Secretary Of State, If That Is Going To Be The Basis Of Her Campaign, She’s Not Going To Win.”** “I think her record on foreign policy is a disaster, and if she thinks she is going to run on the fact that she has experience as Secretary of State, if that is going to be the basis of her campaign, she’s not going to win.” [Shark Tank, [12/7/14](http://shark-tank.com/2014/12/07/rubio-hillary-clinton-chief-architect-failed-obama-foreign-policy/); [VIDEO](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KM4vnQWYyXo)]

### No accomplishment

**Rubio On If He Thinks There Is A Signature Achievement Of Hillary Clinton’s Tenure As Secretary Of State: “I Do Not.”** MR: “Around the world today, perhaps, the most common theme is one of serious doubt about the U.S.’ willingness to lead or ability to lead, whether it’s in Asia or Europe, or in any part of the planet, so what is the signature achievement of her four and a half years at the State Department?” HH: “Do you think there is one?” MR: “I do not. In fact, I think if you look at the administration’s foreign policy especially during her watch, it completely lacked any sort of strategic vision of what America’s role is in the world in the 21st Century.” [Hugh Hewitt Show, [6/9/14](http://www.hughhewitt.com/senator-marco-rubio-hillary-clintons-hard-choices-photos-many-people-going-question/)]

**HEADLINE: “Rubio: ‘Ample Space’ To Criticize Hillary On Foreign Policy.”** [Breitbart, [6/9/14](http://cdn.breitbart.com/Breitbart-TV/2014/06/10/Rubio-Ample-Space-to-Criticize-Hillary-on-Foreign-Policy)]

**Rubio On Hillary Clinton’s Record As Secretary Of State If She Ran For President: “I Would Ask Her Now, And That Is You Were The Secretary Of State During The First Four Years Of The Obama Administration. Name One Significant Foreign Policy Achievement Now Or After You Left.”** HH: “Now if Senator Clinton goes through and runs, and either you or another Republican are challenging her, do you fear foreign policy? She is…” MR: “No, I would ask her the question I would ask her now, and that is you were the secretary of State during the first four years of the Obama administration. Name one significant foreign policy achievement now or after you left.” [Hugh Hewitt Show, [7/11/14](http://www.hughhewitt.com/marco-rubio-lebron-day-problems-facing-country/)]

**Fiorina: “Mrs. Clinton, Name An Accomplishment.”** “Like Mrs. Clinton, I too have travelled the globe. Unlike Mrs. Clinton, I know that flying is an activity, not an accomplishment. I have met Vladimir Putin and I know that his ambition will not be deterred by a gimmicky red reset button. Mrs. Clinton, name an accomplishment.” [Conservative Political Action Conference, [2/26/15](http://www.nationalreview.com/campaign-spot/414484/carly-fiorina-cpac-mrs-clinton-name-accomplishment-jim-geraghty)]

### Detached

**Rubio: “The Obama/Clinton Worldview Has Given Americans A Graphic And Often Horrific View Of The Chaos That Is Unleashed In The World When America Walks Away From Its Traditional Role As The Guarantor Of Global Security.”** “Five and a half years of the Obama/Clinton worldview has given Americans a graphic and often horrific view of the chaos that is unleashed in the world when America walks away from its traditional role as the guarantor of global security. From Syria and Iraq to eastern Ukraine and the South China Sea, we are seeing what the world will look like if our leaders continue choosing detachment: more violence, rivals and partners alike taking advantage of our inaction, and a steady increase in threats to our citizens and to our prosperity.” [Marco Rubio, Washington Post, [9/12/14](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/marco-rubio-lets-reject-the-veiled-isolationism-of-obama-and-clinton/2014/09/12/b4e769c0-3780-11e4-8601-97ba88884ffd_story.html)]

## SYRIA

**Rubio Said He Urged Obama And Secretary Clinton In 2011 To “Intervene Decisively To Oust Assad And To Identify And Arm The Moderate Syrian Opposition.”** “The truth is that, when the Syrian people rose up in 2011 in protest against Bashar al-Assad’s brutal rule, our vital national interest was to prevent a protracted civil war in which radical jihadists from all over the world could rush into a vacuum. If they could seize operational spaces, they could use them to plan and carry out attacks against our allies and ultimately America. In the early stages of this conflict, responsible, bipartisan voices called for U.S. leadership, hoping precisely to prevent the outcome we have now seen play out. I urged Secretary Clinton and President Obama to intervene decisively to oust Assad and to identify and arm the moderate Syrian opposition. Instead, we were told that Assad was a ‘reformer’ and that we should not get involved.” [Marco Rubio, Washington Post, [9/12/14](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/marco-rubio-lets-reject-the-veiled-isolationism-of-obama-and-clinton/2014/09/12/b4e769c0-3780-11e4-8601-97ba88884ffd_story.html)]

**Rubio Attacked Hillary Clinton For Saying She Privately Advocated For A Different Syria Position Than What Obama Pursued: “She And Other Administration Officials Who Found Their Voices Only After They Left Office Were Complicit In Implementing And Publicly Defending The President’s Disastrous Foreign Policies.”** “Some former Obama administration officials, notably Secretary Clinton, have tried to argue that they advocated internally for a different approach, that they saw the train wreck coming. But the fact of the matter is that when they were in positions of responsibility, they failed to prevent the situation that now exists. ‘What are we going to arm them with and against what?’ Secretary Clinton said of the Syrian opposition in 2012. She and other administration officials who found their voices only after they left office were complicit in implementing and publicly defending the president’s disastrous foreign policies — and we’ll be dealing with the consequences for decades to come.” [Marco Rubio, Washington Post, [9/12/14](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/marco-rubio-lets-reject-the-veiled-isolationism-of-obama-and-clinton/2014/09/12/b4e769c0-3780-11e4-8601-97ba88884ffd_story.html)]

## OTHER

**Rubio On Secretary Clinton’s Statement That Venezuela Is A Democracy: “It’s A Muddled Position, Which I Think Gives You Insight Into How The Obama Administration Makes Foreign Policy.”** “Rubio said Clinton was essentially saying two contradictory things: that Venezuela is and is not a democracy. ‘It’s a muddled position, which I think gives you insight into how the Obama Administration makes foreign policy,’ Rubio said. Rubio said Venezuela is not a real democracy anymore because of government crackdowns and control of opposition parties, the news media and the judiciary.” [Miami Herald, [2/27/14](http://www.miamiherald.com/2014/02/27/3963080/rubio-proposes-venezuela-sanctions.html)]

# ECONOMY

***2016 Republican candidates have also sought to link Secretary Clinton’s agenda to President Obama’s economic policies. Cruz, for example, cited low labor force participation as a failure of “her policies.” Others hit Clinton for the comment she made in October 2014 that “businesses don’t create jobs,” which she has since called a misstatement.***

***Cruz contends that the candidacy of Hillary Clinton would be a continuation of President Obama’s failed economic agenda. He argues that Hillary Clinton has embraced a far-left agenda and that her policies, domestically and internationally, have failed.***

**Ted Cruz On Hillary Clinton “Her Policies, Domestically And Internationally, Haven’t Worked.”** “‘Her policies, domestically and internationally, haven’t worked,’ he said. ‘Domestically the Obama economic agenda is a disaster; we’ve got the lowest labor force participation since 1978; millions of hardworking Americans, their lives have gotten harder.’ Cruz argued that ‘internationally, the Obama-Clinton foreign policy is a disaster… Every region of the world has gotten worse; America has weakened, our enemies have been strengthened.’” [ABC News, [6/1/14](http://abcnews.go.com/blogs/politics/2014/06/ted-cruz-says-hillary-clinton-deliberately-stonewalled-benghazi/); Ted Cruz Interview, This Week, ABC, 6/1/14]

**October 2014: Rand Paul Criticized Hillary Clinton Twice For Saying Businesses Did Not Create Jobs While He Was Campaigning In Kansas.** “‘Hillary Clinton comes up and she says, ‘Businesses don’t create jobs.’ Anybody here think businesses don’t create jobs?’ Paul said. ‘I’m here today to endorse Pat Roberts and Sam Brownback, because you know what? They know that businesses do create jobs, and I hope you know that too.’ Later in the day, in the Kansas City suburb of Overland Park, Paul offered the line again as he stood next to the podium, sort of in the style of Sen. Ted Cruz. ‘Hillary Clinton says, “Well, businesses don’t create jobs.” Anybody believe that?’ he said. The crowd roared.” [Buzzfeed, [10/28/14](http://www.buzzfeed.com/rosiegray/rand-paul-is-already-campaigning-against-hillary-clinton)]

**Rand Paul Criticized Hillary Clinton And President Obama For Suggesting Businesses Did Not Create Jobs, Saying They “Are On Another Page, They’re On Another Planet, Reading Another Book.”** “‘The president says, you didn’t build that, it just sort of happened,’ Paul said in Wichita in an airport hangar rally at midday. ‘The plane just sort of came into being because it was a public road and a public library.’ ’Hillary Clinton comes up and she says, ‘Businesses don’t create jobs.’ Anybody here think businesses don’t create jobs?’ Paul said. ‘I’m here today to endorse Pat Roberts and Sam Brownback, because you know what? They know that businesses do create jobs, and I hope you know that too.’…Obama and Clinton ‘are on another page, they’re on another planet, reading another book,’ Paul said.” [Buzzfeed, [10/28/14](http://www.buzzfeed.com/rosiegray/rand-paul-is-already-campaigning-against-hillary-clinton)]

# HEALTHCARE

***2016 Republican candidates, including Cruz, Pence, and Rubio, have brought up HillaryCare, which Rubio called “a disaster,” to make the argument that Obamacare would be a piece of Hillary Clinton’s agenda.***

**Ted Cruz On Former Texas Senator Phil Gramm And Hillarycare: “I'm Convinced If Phil Gramm Hadn't Been In The United States Senate, Obamacare Would Have Passed 21 Years Ago And It Would Have Been Called Hillary-Care.”** [Ted Cruz Remarks, Texas Public Policy Foundation, 1/10/14; VIDEO]

**Pence: “I Have To Tell You, Like Many Conservatives, I Remember Hillary Healthcare.”** “BEGALA: In fact, Newt has said that Hillary is hawkish on national defense. They serve on a Pentagon advisory board together. And it happens to be true, she's very strong on national defense and no better person to speak to that than Newt Gingrich is there Congressman. PENCE: Well, Newt Gingrich, I think, is re-emerging on the national stage. And he's right to give credit where credit is due. On a broad number of issues related to the war on terror, Senator Clinton has been a strong supporter of national defense. But I have to tell you, like many conservatives, I remember Hillary healthcare, Paul.” [Crossfire, CNN, [5/13/05](http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0505/13/cf.01.html)]

**Rubio: Hillarycare Would Have Been A Disaster As Well.** “Everyone did, because he said it to everyone, and he said it repeatedly. It was, you know, I think if he had said to people that under this law, if you have insurance that you’re happy with, you probably won’t get to keep it, because we’re going to make everyone get a certain kind of insurance, it never would have passed. It just would not have passed. Even Democrats would have peeled off. But either they chose to believe that, or they chose to look the other way. And now it’s the law, and it’s hurting people very badly. And as far as separating himself and creating space for Secretary Clinton on this issue, you know, I think it’s hard, we can’t forget that she was the original author of Hillarycare back in, I believe, 1993. And that would have been a disaster as well. So they’re equal believers in this notion that the government is the only solution to our problems, including our health insurance.” [Hugh Hewitt, [11/13/13](http://www.hughhewitt.com/senators-rubio-johnson-obamacare-meltdown-hillary-connection/)]

# IDEAS OF THE PAST

***2016 Republican candidates have portrayed Hillary Clinton as committed to ideas of the past. Without actually citing examples, Jeb Bush called it “‘90s nostalgia,” Rubio referred to “outdated and broken institutions,” and Walker attacked her “old, tired” approach.***

**Jeb Bush On A Potential Hillary Clinton Campaign: “If Someone Wants To Run A Campaign About '90s Nostalgia, It’s Not Going To Be Very Successful.”** “The outlet, anonymously citing attendees who heard Bush’s remarks, reported that the former Florida governor took another not-so-subtle jab at Clinton. ‘He said, “If someone wants to run a campaign about '90s nostalgia, it’s not going to be very successful,”’ Hearst Connecticut Media reported, citing another person present at the event.” [Politico, [1/8/15](http://www.politico.com/story/2015/01/jeb-bush-jabs-hillary-clinton-114073.html)]

**Rubio: “The Democratic Party, Including Secretary Clinton, All The Policies They Continue To Spew Out Are Old School, Big-Government Policies That Have Never Worked, Work Less Now Than Ever Before, And Do Nothing To Position Us For Success.”** RUBIO: “And here's my final point. The 21st -- we have to turn the page on the 20th century and move to the 21st. What ideas does she have to position America for 21st century leadership in a new economy, in a new world that's changed so dramatically? The Democratic Party, including Secretary Clinton, all the policies they continue to spew out are old school, big-government policies that have never worked, work less now than ever before, and do nothing to position us for success.” [Situation Room, CNN, 2/25/14]

**Washington Post: “If Clinton Runs, The Rubio Campaign’s Attack Strategy Will Be Like Watching Reruns Of VH1’s ‘I Love The 90s,’ Reminding Us Of Grunge Fashion And Dave Matthews?”** “So, if Clinton runs, the Rubio campaign’s attack strategy will be like watching reruns of VH1’s ‘I Love the 90s,’ reminding us of grunge fashion and Dave Matthews? Most of Clinton’s would-be challengers are in their 40s, so they should pay attention to how Rubio’s attack lands.” [Washington Post, [7/23/14](http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/rubio-eyeing-the-2016-gop-nomination-coyly-dances-around-clintons-age/2014/07/23/af5695a4-12a4-11e4-98ee-daea85133bc9_story.html?tid=hpModule_308f7142-9199-11e2-bdea-e32ad90da239)]

* **Rubio Claimed That Hillary Clinton, Democrats, And Some Republicans Don’t Have The Answers To Deal With The Challenges We Face In The 21st Century.** RUBIO: “We -- all of the better-paying jobs of the 21st century require some form of higher education. We have an outdated higher education system that's too expensive and for working people too difficult to access. Those things have to be addressed. We are not just suffering from a cyclical downturn in our economy. We are going through the equivalent of an industrial revolution every five years. And I don't think she or her party and quite frankly even some people in my party have answers to that.” [Fox News Sunday, Fox, 8/3/14]
* **Rubio On Hillary Clinton And Democrats: Most Of Her Party Is “Wedded To Outdated And Broken Institutions.”** “And so, our challenge for not just Republicans but for the country is to apply the time-tested principles of limited government and free enterprise to our modern challenges. She's incapable of doing that, as is most of her party wedded to outdated and broken institutions. […] And that's my argument as it relates to her, and the left in general.” [Fox News Sunday, Fox, 8/3/14]

**HEADLINE: “Walker Rips Clinton’s ‘Old, Tired’ Approach.”** [The Hill, [11/11/14](http://thehill.com/blogs/ballot-box/223621-walker-clinton-embodies-old-tired-approach-to-governing)]

# INAUTHENTICITY / OUT OF TOUCH

***2016 Republicans have criticized Secretary Clinton for being inauthentic or out-of-touch in several different ways. Cruz aggressively cites her “palpable condescension toward the American people.” Jindal believes her positions are inauthentic because she seems to follow the polls on issues like gay marriage, and Rubio echoes this criticism by claiming she does not show “courage of her convictions.”***

***While Walker portrays her as a creature of establishment Washington, Pence claims her liberal policy goals are out of touch with the American mainstream. Rand Paul points to her “dead broke” comments as showing that she and Bill Clinton are “disconnected” from the American people.***

**Ted Cruz On Hillary Clinton: “Hillary Has Demonstrated A Palpable Condescension Toward The American People.”** “That distinction is also important because if Hillary Clinton is the nominee, and I think if she runs she is likely to be the Democratic nominee, Hillary has demonstrated a palpable condescension toward the American people.” [Breitbart, [10/14/14](http://www.breitbart.com/Big-Government/2014/10/14/Exclusive-Ted-Cruz-On-Potential-White-House-Run-Critical-Question-For-All-2016-GOP-Primary-Voters-Is-Who-Is-Standing-Up-And-Leading/)]

**Ted Cruz On Hillary Clinton: “She Views All Of Us As Ignorant Rubes Who Need To Be Governed By Our Quote Unquote ‘Betters’”.** “Cruz added that he thinks Hillary Clinton hates the American people and has contempt for them—and plans to take them for granted to elevate her into power. ‘She views all of us as ignorant rubes who need to be governed by our quote unquote ‘betters,’ Cruz said. ‘Jimmy Carter viewed the American people the same way. Barack Obama certainly views the American people the same way.’ Drawing a contrast, Cruz said, ‘Part of the simple magic of Ronald Reagan is he simply gave voice to the underlying values of the American people. Speaking the truth is powerful. Speaking for working men and women, not the elites in Washington, is powerful.’” [Breitbart, [10/14/14](http://www.breitbart.com/Big-Government/2014/10/14/Exclusive-Ted-Cruz-On-Potential-White-House-Run-Critical-Question-For-All-2016-GOP-Primary-Voters-Is-Who-Is-Standing-Up-And-Leading/)]

**Bobby Jindal Called Out Former Secretary Clinton And President Obama On Having Changed Their Positions On Gay Marriage And Said He Was Not A “Weather Vane” On The Issue And Would Not Change His Position.** “‘I know there are folks that are changing their position on this,’ Jindal said. ‘I know former Secretary [of State Hillary] Clinton, President Obama, have changed their positions on this. I know you can certainly see where opinion polls it appears a lot of folks have changed their positions on this. I’m not a weather vane on this issue and I’m not going to change my position. I continue to believe that marriage is between a man and a woman.’” [Washington Examiner, [10/7/14](http://washingtonexaminer.com/bobby-jindal-i-agree-with-ted-cruz-on-gay-marriage/article/2554516)]

**Rand Paul: Hillary Clinton’s Comments That She And Bill Were Struggling To Make Ends Meet After They Left The White House Were “Disconnected.”** “Senator Rand Paul dismissed comments from Hillary Rodham Clinton that she and her husband were struggling to make ends meet after they left the White House, saying they were ‘disconnected.’” [New York Times, [6/11/14](http://thecaucus.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/06/11/paul-takes-on-clinton-over-her-dead-broke-comments/)]

**Rand Paul On Hillary Clinton’s Comments That She And Bill Were Struggling To Make Ends Meet After They Left The White House: I “Think She Needs To Come Down To Kentucky… Look At The Despair In The Faces Of People Who Are Losing Their Jobs** **.”** “Mr. Paul, the Kentucky Republican who is thinking about running for president in 2016, scoffed at the idea that Mrs. Clinton, a possible Democratic presidential candidate, would try to claim that she had struggled. ‘I frankly think she needs to come down to Kentucky,’ Mr. Paul said in an interview on Tuesday. ‘Look at the despair in the faces of people who are losing their jobs because of the president’s policies, and let them know that her hardship was that she only got eight million bucks for her book.’” [New York Times, [6/11/14](http://thecaucus.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/06/11/paul-takes-on-clinton-over-her-dead-broke-comments/)

**Rand Paul Thought Hillary Clinton Was Going To Have “Trouble Relating To America`S Middle Class If You Have Been Riding Around In A Limousine For 20 Year.”.** BOLLING: “Sure. Sure. Sir, also, Hillary Clinton, this week, I believe she said -- she told someone that she hasn`t driven a car in nearly two decades, almost 20 years. Your thoughts on a potential president or at least someone who wants to be president who hasn`t gotten behind the wheel of a car in 20 years? PAUL: “You know, I think you`re going to have a little bit of trouble relating to America`s middle class if you have been riding around in a limousine for 20 years.” [Fox, Your World With Neil Cavuto, 1/30/14]

**Pence On Hillary Clinton: “I Believe She Represents That Strong Center Left Liberal Tradition, Big Government Tradition In The Democratic Party.”** “PENCE: I want to agree with Charlie on point. I think Hillary Clinton is an enormously appealing individual, I would say coast-to- coast for my district out in the middle of heartland America, this is -- this is one of the most admired, not only women, but public people in America. We would love to take her on, though, because I believe she represents that strong center left liberal tradition, big government tradition in the Democratic Party. And the Republican Party is going to be a great race, a great nomination, I know we'll have a great nominee to take her or whoever the Democrats come up with on.” [Crossfire, CNN, [4/14/05](http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0504/14/cf.01.html)]

**Pence Asserted That “Hillary Clinton’s Big Government Views Expressed In The Famous HillaryCare” Were Not “Positions Of The Mainstream Of The American People Across The Country.”** “REP. MIKE PENCE, (R) INDIANA: Well let me say I think there's going to be an awful lot of people in the country that are going to be turning to the Democratic Party. And there's no question that Senator Clinton is, as a politician, as a public person, is all of the things that Charlie just said. But I would draw two distinctions from Senator Clinton to President Clinton. No. 1 is personal, but the other is policy. I think on the personal side, your old boss, James, President Bill Clinton, was an extraordinary political figure. He had the ability to reach Americans in ways that very few public people ever have. And we grant him that point. I'm not sure the consensus is that Hillary Clinton possesses that kind of personal appeal. On the policy side, though, I truly believe that Hillary Clinton's big government views expressed in the famous HillaryCare, the attempted takeover as it was characterized of the healthcare system, her strong abortion rights positions, those are not positions of the mainstream of the American people across the country. And we would love to take her on.” [Crossfire, CNN, [4/14/05](http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0504/14/cf.01.html)]

**Pence Said He Was “Glad To See Hillary [Clinton] Out There” Because She Was “Bringing Back Lots Of Bad And Noxious Memories That Emanated From The White House.”** “PENCE: Well, it would be a problem if the American people actually started to believe that, Paul. I think the American people recognize that the very nature of intelligence gathering is a complex art, and the truth is that the intelligence service of every nation that is a member of the Security Council, including France and Russia and Germany, all came to the same conclusion that our intelligence community came to in that Iraq was in possession of enormous quantities of weapons of mass destruction. The American people know that. They believe this president to be a man of integrity. With all due respect to John Podesta and every veteran of the Clinton administration, I'm glad to see Hillary out there. I think she is bringing back lots of bad and noxious memories that emanated from the White House.” [Crossfire, CNN, [6/20/03](http://www.studentnews.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0306/20/cf.00.html)]

**Pence Accused Hillary Clinton Of “Scare Mongering Of The Worst Kind” For Suggesting “Bush Knew” About 9/11 Ahead Of Time.** “WHITFIELD: Congressman Pence, if you could please respond to the dangers or how helpful it might be to have congressional hearings, whether it would be behind closed doors, or whether it would be open to public hearings to further investigate how the White House should be better handling such warnings or threats? PENCE: Fredricka, it's absolutely important. It's a point on which Harold and I completely agree. Democratic Senator Bob Graham, Republican Congressman Porter Goss are right now and have been for months engaged in Intelligence Committee inquiries into the institutional failures here. But once again, I must tell you -- to see Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton go to the floor with a scandal newspaper from there in New York, Harold, that reads the headline, ‘Bush Knew’ -- to me is just utterly outrageous. It is scare mongering of the worst kind, and we ought to reject it.” [Crossfire, CNN, 5/18/02]

**Rubio On Hillary Clinton: She “Lacks The Courage Of Her Convictions.”** “Mr. Rubio said the book portrayed the Obama administration as full of people ‘who have the wrong convictions.’ Mr. Rubio added that former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton ‘lacks the courage of her convictions.’ Mr. Rubio criticized the Obama administration for announcing a timeline for withdrawal at the same time as it announced the surge, a critique Mr. Gates does not make in the book.” [Washington Wire, Wall Street Journal, [1/12/14](http://blogs.wsj.com/washwire/2014/01/12/lawmakers-criticize-timing-of-gates-memoir/)]

**Asked If He Would Defer To Paul Ryan, Walker Said Beating Hillary Clinton Would Require A Message That Said “Hillary Clinton Is All About Washington.”** “MR. TODD: ‘Do you defer to Paul Ryan?’ GOV. WALKER: ‘I love Paul Ryan. I've said many times before I'd be the president of the Paul Ryan fan club. But I do think if we're going to beat Hillary Clinton in this next election we've got to have a message that says Hillary Clinton is all about Washington.’” [Meet the Press, NBC, 11/9/14]

# AGE / HEALTH

***Paul, Perry, Rubio, and Walker have all made explicit or implicit references to Secretary Clinton’s age as an issue in 2016.***

**Rand Paul Hinted At Hillary Clinton’s Age, Saying That Campaigning For The Presidency Was A “Very Taxing Undertaking” And A “Rigorous Physical Ordeal.”** “In a POLITICO interview, the 51-year-old senator [Rand Paul] talked unblinkingly about the possibility of a run, and sought to draw a sharp contrast between himself and Hillary Clinton — none too subtly raising the issue of her age. At 67, she is 16 years older than he is. ‘I think all the polls show if she does run, she’ll win the Democrat nomination,’ he said. ‘But I don’t think it’s for certain. It’s a very taxing undertaking to go through. It’s a rigorous physical ordeal, I think, to be able to campaign for the presidency.’” [Politico, [11/9/14](http://www.politico.com/story/2014/11/rands-grand-plan-112729.html)]

**Rick Perry Said Hillary Clinton’s Health Was “Fair Game” In A Presidential Campaign.** “QUESTION: Do you think it's fair game? Hillary's health? PERRY: I think everything about everyone is fair game in the business of being the president of the United States.” [Rick Perry Interview, Morning Joe, MSNBC, 6/2/14]

**HEADLINE: “Rubio, Eyeing The 2016 GOP Nomination, Coyly Dances Around Clinton’s Age.”** [Washington Post, [7/23/14](http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/rubio-eyeing-the-2016-gop-nomination-coyly-dances-around-clintons-age/2014/07/23/af5695a4-12a4-11e4-98ee-daea85133bc9_story.html?tid=hpModule_308f7142-9199-11e2-bdea-e32ad90da239)]

**HEADLINE: “Walker Rips Clinton’s ‘Old, Tired’ Approach.”** [The Hill, [11/11/14](http://thehill.com/blogs/ballot-box/223621-walker-clinton-embodies-old-tired-approach-to-governing)]

**Walker: “Whether It’s Two Years, Six Years Or 20 Years From Now — Because I Think Of Hillary Clinton. I Could Run 20 Years From Now And Still Be About The Same Age As The Former Secretary Of State Is Right Now.”** “Governor Walker: ‘To me, I’m not going to run just because of the pundits or anything else like that. The closer you get to something like that the more you realize — and I say this only half jokingly — that you have to be crazy to want to be president. And anyone who has seen pictures of this president or any of the former presidents can see the before and after. No matter how fit, no matter how young they are, they age pretty rapidly when you look at their hair any everything else involved with it. Whether it’s two years, six years or 20 years from now — because I think of Hillary Clinton. I could run 20 years from now and still be about the same age as the former Secretary of State is right now.’” [WITI Fox 6, [11/16/14](http://fox6now.com/2014/11/16/a-one-on-one-interview-governor-walker-talks-about-his-bald-spot-his-family-and-2016/)]

# BILL CLINTON / WOMEN’S ISSUES

***Rand Paul has been especially critical of Bill Clinton, calling him a “sexual predator” and Democratic messaging on women hypocritical in light of Bill Clinton’s affairs.***

**HEADLINE: “Rand Paul: Democrats Should Disown ‘Sexual Predator’ Bill Clinton.”** [Washington Post, [2/6/14](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/post-politics/wp/2014/02/06/rand-paul-democrats-should-disown-sexual-predator-bill-clinton/)]

**Rand Paul Called Bill Clinton A “Sexual Predator.”** “Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) said in a new interview that Democrats should distance themselves from Bill Clinton if they are serious about women's rights. Asked on Newsmax TV whether Clinton is an unsavory character, Paul repeated his assertion that the former president is a ‘sexual predator.’” [Aaron Blake, Washington Post, [2/6/14](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/post-politics/wp/2014/02/06/rand-paul-democrats-should-disown-sexual-predator-bill-clinton/)]

**Rand Paul Called Democrats Hypocritical For Being “Big On All These Workplace Rules To Protect Women,” But When Bill Clinton Was President “He Really Didn’t Obey The Workplace Rules On Women And What He Did Was Inappropriate.”** “Paul's been anything but shy in his criticism of the former president over the Monica Lewinsky scandal. ‘I think the American people don't like hypocrisy. Democrats have been big on all these workplace rules to protect women, most of which I agree with. But then when he was commander and chief he really didn't obey the workplace rules on women and what he did was inappropriate,’ Paul offered.” [NH1, [10/16/14](http://www.nh1.com/news/rand-paul-reveals-what-will-help-him-decide-to-run-for-president-in-2016/)]

**Rand Paul Said That Democrats Said They Were “Great Saviors Of Women In The Workplace,” But Bill Clinton’s Affair With An Intern Was “Sexual Harassment.**” “’You know what’s funny about it is I tell people – they’re like, “Why did you bring up the Clintons? Why did you bring up Bill being such a predator and sexual harassment and what he did with an intern in the workplace?”’ Paul said. ‘I said, ‘Well, because they asked me the question.’ I tend to answer questions and they ask me the question. I answered the question and they asked my wife the same question. But it is an important point because the Democrats want to say, ‘We’re the great saviors of women in the workplace.’ One of the things we have done that is a step forward, has been over the last couple of decades is women should be protected from predatory behavior of their bosses. And that’s what Bill Clinton’s affair, whatever you want to call it with an intern was, was sexual harassment.’” [Breitbart, [2/5/14](http://www.breitbart.com/Breitbart-TV/2014/02/05/Rand-Paul-Attacks-Democrats-for-Bill-Clinton-Woody-Allen-Hypocrisy-in-War-on-Women)]

**Rand Paul: “Until They [Democrats] Get Rid Of The Hypocrisy That They’re Going To Be Great Feminist And They’re Going Defend A Big Bully In The Workplace Who Takes Advantage Of A 20-Year-Old Girl, I Don’t Think They Have A Leg To Stand On.”** “‘And so until they get rid of the hypocrisy that they’re going to be great feminist and they’re going defend a big bully in the workplace who takes advantage of a 20-year-old girl, I don’t think they have a leg to stand on,’ Paul continued. ‘And that hypocrisy defeats their whole argument. I mean look at the other people who give money. Look at a Woody Allen, who is a big Democrat giver across the country, whose seven-year-old girl described what he did to her. And yet nobody in Hollywood blinks an eye and says he’s still our big pal. We love Woody Allen. He’s a great giver to Democrat causes. And really there should be a social shunning of somebody who would do something like that, if not prison.’” [Breitbart, [2/5/14](http://www.breitbart.com/Breitbart-TV/2014/02/05/Rand-Paul-Attacks-Democrats-for-Bill-Clinton-Woody-Allen-Hypocrisy-in-War-on-Women)]

**Rand Paul Said There Was “A Question Of Hypocrisy” In The Fact That Democrats Said There Was A War On Women By The Republicans, And Yet They Defended A Man Who Did Something “Inexcusable” In the Workplace.** Rand Paul on his comments about Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky: “You know, I'm not so sure. I mean, like I said, it's hard to separate them. It's not her fault. I mean, she's had to tolerate the same sort of problems from him, you know, I guess over time. But I would say that it's more a question of the entire Democrat Party, who says there's a war on women and that somehow the other party is committing this, and yet they support and defend a guy who really, in the workplace, was doing something that was inexcusable, should not be tolerated. And so really there's a question of hypocrisy. And I think people don't like hypocrisy. And so we'll see. I don't know if it makes any difference now or not. I just keep answering the questions you all ask me.” [CBS This Morning, CBS, 1/29/14]

**Rand Paul Suggested It Was Hypocritical Of Democrats To Cast The GOP As Anti-Women While Celebrating Bill Clinton, And Said That Anyone Who Accepted Money From Or Had A Fundraiser With Bill Clinton Should Give It Back.** “The Kentucky Republican and likely 2016 presidential candidate is making a habit of ripping former President Bill Clinton, dubbing the 42nd president a ‘sexual predator’ and suggesting that it is hypocritical of Democrats to cast the GOP as anti-women when they celebrate someone who preyed on women working under him in the workplace.‘They can’t have it both ways. And so I really think that anybody who wants to take money from Bill Clinton or have a fundraiser has a lot of explaining to do. In fact, I think they should give the money back,’ Mr. Paul said on C-SPAN’s ‘Newsmakers.’ ‘If they want to take a position on women's rights, by all means do. But you can't do it and take it from a guy who was using his position of authority to take advantage of young women in the workplace.” [Washington Times, [2/9/14](http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/feb/9/rand-pauls-launches-pre-emptive-2016-strike-on-bil/?page=all)]

# MISCELLANEOUS

## WEALTH

**Rand Paul Joked That He Was Losing Sleep Over Clinton’s Money Problems And Asked The Audience To Observe A “Moment Of Silence” For Her Finances.** “Paul, who is laying the groundwork to run for president in 2016, began his speech by mockingly saying he was losing sleep over Clinton's money woes... Paul facetiously asked the crowd to observe ‘a moment of silence’ for her finances.” [National Journal, [8/2/14](http://www.nationaljournal.com/politics/rand-paul-rips-hillary-clinton-not-fit-to-lead-the-country-20140801)]

**Rand Paul Blasted Hillary Clinton On Paid Appearances Joking “It Was Really Tough Giving Those Speeches.”** “Paul facetiously asked the crowd to observe ‘a moment of silence’ for her finances. ‘Somebody must have been praying for her,’ the Republican said seconds later, ‘because she's now worth 100, 200 million. I tell you it was really tough giving those speeches."’ [National Journal, [8/2/14](http://www.nationaljournal.com/politics/rand-paul-rips-hillary-clinton-not-fit-to-lead-the-country-20140801)]

## PARTISANSHIP

**Bobby Jindal: “.@HillaryClinton’s Partisan Politics Detract From The Real Issue, The Obama Administration Mismanaged CDC Funding. Politico.Com/Magazine/Story…”** [@BobbyJindal, Twitter, [10/13/14](https://twitter.com/BobbyJindal/status/521696000642400256)]

**Pence Called Hillary Clinton “An Immense Political Talent.”** “COSTA: Let’s get your answer. What’s your take on Clinton, Governor? PENCE: Well look, you know, I have had the occasion to work in and around Secretary Clinton for many years. She’s obviously an immense political talent, but I will tell you, I think it’s... The American people are less interested in public men and women talking about what is wrong with the other side as they are in talking about what’s right about their side. My hope is that in this fall’s elections and in any future elections our party will put out a positive, substantive agenda of solutions grounded in Republican principles. I think that’s what’ll carry the day more than criticisms or comparisons with the competition, whoever that might be.” [Newsmakers, CSPAN, [8/22/14](http://www.c-span.org/video/?321102-1/newsmakers-gov-mike-pence-r)]

## SECOND AMENDMENT

**Associated Press: Bobby Jindal Charged That Joe Biden And Hillary Clinton Think The Second Amendment Is Little More Than “A Phrase From A Speech Writer.”** “Jindal charged that Vice President Joe Biden and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, both possible Democratic presidential candidates, think the Second Amendment is little more than ‘a phrase from a speech writer.’ ‘If they had their way they'd simply cut and paste the Constitution and just get rid of the Second Amendment entirely,’ said Jindal, who approved several gun rights bills last year, including one that creates stiff penalties for those who knowingly publish the names of gun permit holders.” [Associated Press, [4/25/14](http://triblive.com/politics/politicalheadlines/6010754-74/gun-rights-amendment)]

## LACK OF SUPPORT

**Rand Paul Said He Thought The Midterm Results Were A “Repudiation” Of The President And Hillary Clinton, Particularly In Kentucky, Iowa And Arkansas.** CHRIS CUOMO: “Republicans decidedly got a vote of confidence from you. What are they going to do with it? Are they going to cooperate with the president? We'll going to be joined by another name that you're going to be hearing a lot, Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky. And there you are. Good morning, Senator. Good to have you. We were just talking to your friend Governor Christie here about what this [the midterm results] means going forward. How do you see it?” RAND PAUL: “You know, I think it's all good news. I think last night in Kentucky, we had a huge victory. And particularly in Kentucky, Iowa, Arkansas, this was not only a repudiation of the president, but I think really repudiation of Hillary Clinton. Everybody thought oh, hey, I'm going to be a Clinton Democrat; turns out that's not so popular in a lot of states either. And trying to separate this into Obama Democrats and Clinton Democrats really wasn't a successful strategy for the Democrats yesterday.” [New Day, CNN, 11/5/14]

**Rand Paul Said Alison Grimes Ran As A Clinton Democrat, But “It Turns Out Hillary Clinton Doesn’t Have Many Coattails In Kentucky.”** BRET BAIER: “I bet. Your reaction to obviously not only Mitch McConnell's win but how the map is stacking up tonight?” RAND PAUL: “You know, I think here in Kentucky, it's a referendum not only on the President but on Hillary Clinton. Mrs. Grimes ran as a Clinton democrat. She tried to just associate herself to the President, she tried to attach herself to Hillary Clinton but in turns out Hillary Clinton doesn't have many coattails in Kentucky.” [Election Coverage, Fox News, 11/4/14]

**Rand Paul Said The Clintons Campaigned Heavily In Kentucky, Arkansas And Iowa During The Midterms But He Did Not Think They Helped Their Ticket.** BRET BAIER: “Sounds like you want to talk about a potential opponent there a couple of times?” RAND PAUL: “Well, they [the Clintons] campaigned in Kentucky very heavily and in Arkansas and in Iowa [in the midterms], so I think the facts are the facts. Did the Clintons help their ticket? So far, I don't think they have.” [Election Coverage, Fox News, 11/4/14]

**Rand Paul Said There Was Supposed To Be A “Clinton Cachet” In Places They Campaigned, But “The Shininess Has Worn Off Of That.”** CHRIS CUOMO: “Senator, in an [midterm] election where the Democrats I think it's fair to say ran away from their base, ran away from their president, ran scared through most of the elections and paid the price, Hillary Clinton, you could you argue, didn't. She did what a leader should do. She went out there; she stood by what she's about, what she believes her party is about. She fought the good fight and she lost. Do you think that the races that she weighed in on would have gone a different way if she weren't there?” RAND PAUL: “I don't think she was an asset. I think that she -- the Clintons for a long time have been perceived as oh, hey, they can help Democrats convince people in the south that there still are some conservative Democrats, but guess what? It doesn't work anymore. Even in their home state in Arkansas, it didn't work last night. They campaigned heavily in Iowa, didn't work in Iowa. They campaigned heavily in Kentucky. They're supposed to be this Clinton cachet. Well, the shininess has worn off of that.” [New Day, CNN, 11/5/14]

**Rand Paul On The 2014 Midterms: “Somebody Should Ask Hillary Democrats Why They Got Wiped Out Tonight. Clearly, Hillary Is Yesterday’s News.”** “Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) said late Tuesday that in the wake of the Senate going Republican, the biggest loser is former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton… ‘Somebody should ask Hillary Democrats why they got wiped out tonight. Clearly, Hillary is yesterday's news,’ Paul said in an email to Breitbart News.” [Breitbart, [11/4/14](http://www.breitbart.com/Big-Government/2014/11/04/Exclusive-Rand-Paul-Tuesday-s-Biggest-Loser-Is-Hillary-Clinton)]

## ABORTION

**Pence Asserted That Hillary Clinton’s “Strong Abortion Rights Positions” Were Not “Positions Of The Mainstream Of The American People Across The Country.”** “REP. MIKE PENCE, (R) INDIANA: Well let me say I think there's going to be an awful lot of people in the country that are going to be turning to the Democratic Party. And there's no question that Senator Clinton is, as a politician, as a public person, is all of the things that Charlie just said. But I would draw two distinctions from Senator Clinton to President Clinton. No. 1 is personal, but the other is policy. I think on the personal side, your old boss, James, President Bill Clinton, was an extraordinary political figure. He had the ability to reach Americans in ways that very few public people ever have. And we grant him that point. I'm not sure the consensus is that Hillary Clinton possesses that kind of personal appeal. On the policy side, though, I truly believe that Hillary Clinton's big government views expressed in the famous HillaryCare, the attempted takeover as it was characterized of the healthcare system, her strong abortion rights positions, those are not positions of the mainstream of the American people across the country. And we would love to take her on.” [Crossfire, CNN, [4/14/05](http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0504/14/cf.01.html)]

## LIKEABILITY

**Pence Compared Hillary Clinton To Bill Clinton, Saying “I’m Not Sure The Consensus Is That Hillary Clinton Possesses That Kind Of Personal Appeal.”** “REP. MIKE PENCE, (R) INDIANA: Well let me say I think there's going to be an awful lot of people in the country that are going to be turning to the Democratic Party. And there's no question that Senator Clinton is, as a politician, as a public person, is all of the things that Charlie just said. But I would draw two distinctions from Senator Clinton to President Clinton. No. 1 is personal, but the other is policy. I think on the personal side, your old boss, James, President Bill Clinton, was an extraordinary political figure. He had the ability to reach Americans in ways that very few public people ever have. And we grant him that point. I'm not sure the consensus is that Hillary Clinton possesses that kind of personal appeal. On the policy side, though, I truly believe that Hillary Clinton's big government views expressed in the famous HillaryCare, the attempted takeover as it was characterized of the healthcare system, her strong abortion rights positions, those are not positions of the mainstream of the American people across the country. And we would love to take her on.” [Crossfire, CNN, [4/14/05](http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0504/14/cf.01.html)]

## WALL STREET TIES

**Rubio Called Hillary Clinton The “Front-Runner For The Democratic Nomination” Who Would Have “The Support Of Many On Wall Street, Many Of The Big Donors Around The Country.”** INSKEEP: “How strong a candidate do you think Hillary Clinton is...” RUBIO: “Well, I...” INSKEEP: “...Assuming she runs?” RUBIO: “Yeah, so I would say a couple things about it - first is, clearly she's a front-runner for the Democratic nomination. I think she'd have the support of many on Wall Street, many of the big donors around the country.” [Morning Edition, NPR, [7/22/14](http://www.npr.org/templates/transcript/transcript.php?storyId=333767950)]

**Rubio On Hillary Clinton: “If She Runs For President, No Candidate In American History Will Have More Support In The Boardrooms Than Hillary Clinton. That’s A Fact!”** “And then putting on a little Elizabeth Warren spin, Rubio went on a a [sic] bit of anti-Wall Street screed, saying that ‘If she runs for President, no candidate in American history will have more support in the boardrooms than Hillary Clinton. That’s a fact! And yet the average voter doesn’t believe that.’” [Florida Politics, [12/6/14](http://floridapolitics.com/archives/2331)]