Dan Coats

Red Flags

On October 8th Coats Criticized Trump For His Comments On The Entertainment Tonight Tape Asserting That, “Donald Trump’s Vulgar Comments Are Totally Inappropriate And Disgusting, And These Words Have No Place In Our Society.” (Senator Dan Coats, Twitter, 10/8/16)

In The Aftermath Of The Release Of The Entertainment Tonight Tape, Coats Also Asserted That, “We Must Affirm That Women Deserve Respect And Honor.” (Senator Dan Coats, Twitter, 10/8/16)

On June 7th Coats Criticized Trump For His Comments Regarding Judge Curiel Saying “Donald Trump’s Comments About The Ethnicity Of Judge Curiel, Who Was Born In Indiana, Were Totally Inappropriate.” (Senator Dan Coats, Twitter, 6/7/16)

According To Open Secrets, Coats Was Listed As A Registered Lobbyist For King & Spalding. (Center For Responsive Politics, Accessed 11/29/16)

Coats Is Listed As Having Walked Through The Revolving Door. (Center For Responsive Politics, Accessed 11/29/16)

It Was Reported That Coats “Has Struggled To Find A Single Policy Position He Shares With Trump.” (Maureen Groppe, “Lugar Undecided On Presidential Choices,” The Indianapolis Star, 6/17/16)

In June 2016, Coats Said That “It’s Time For Donald Trump To Shift From The Thought Of The Moment Spontaneously Uttered To A More Disciplined Way Of Running A Campaign For President Of The United States.” (CNN’s Newsroom, 6/9/16)

In February 2016, Coats Said He Was “Increasingly Concerned By Donald Trump’s Statements And Behavior, And I Have Serious Concerns About His Ability To Win The General Election And Provide Presidential Leadership.” (Maureen Groppe, “Indiana Governor, Senator Reject Trump Veep Speculation,” USA Today, 5/10/16)

In January 2016, Coats Said That “You Can’t Just Bombast And Bluster Your Way Through That Kind Of Governing” That Trump Would Do As President. (Dave Bangert, “Bangert Coats On Trump, Obama, Cubs Home Stands,” IF Online, 1/14/16)

In January 2016, Coats Said “What Bothers Me About Trump Is The Lack Of Substance Behind It All.” (Dave Bangert, “Bangert Coats On Trump, Obama, Cubs Home Stands,” IF Online, 1/14/16)

In March 2016, When Asked If Trump Could Handle National Security, Coats Said “I’m Waiting For The Responsible, Calm, Serious Presidential Donald Trump To Appear. He Says That’s Going To Happen. We Will See.” (CNN’s The Lead With Jake Tapper, 3/16/16)


In February 2016, Coats Endorsed Marco Rubio For President (Greg Margason, “Sen. Coats Endorses Presidential Candidate Marco Rubio,” Fox59, 2/22/16)

In A May 1992 Article, Mike Pence Compared Evan Bayh And Coats’ Effort To Block Out-Of-State Trash From Going To Indiana To Nazi Germany. (Darren Samuelsohn, “Mike Pence Once Compared Evan Bayh And Dan Coats To Nazis,” Politico, 7/20/16)
In 2014 Russia Sanctioned Coats And Other U.S. Officials, Banning Him From Entering Russia.  
(Brett LoGiurato, “Senators Have Amazing Responses To Being Included On Russia s Sanctions List,” **Business Insider**, 3/20/14)

In November 2015, Anonymous Claimed To Have Learned The Identities Of Ku Klux Klan Members And Posted Coats’ Name As One Of The “Officials That Have Political Power In The USA That Are Associated With Either KKK Or Racist Related.”  
(Caroline Bankoff, “These Politicians Would Just Like To Say That They re Not Members Of The KKK,” **New York Magazine**, 11/2/15)

• On November 2nd 2015, Coats Responded, Saying “For Those Who Are Asking - I Have Never Had Any Affiliation With The Ku Klux Klan And Deplore All Forms Of Racial Discrimination.”  
(Senator Dan Coats, **Twitter** 11/2/15)

In July 2016, Coats Said He Would Support A Declaration Of War Against ISIS.  
(CNN s “Newsroom,” 7/15/16)

Coats Did Not Sign A Letter Sent By The Majority Of Republicans To Iran’s Leaders About The Iran Nuclear Deal.  
(David Jackson And Maureen Gropp, “Dan Coats Did Not Sign GOP s Open Letter To Iran s Regime,” **The Indianapolis Star** 3/11/15)

In August 2015, Coats Opposed The Idea Of A Government Shutdown To Block Planned Parenthood Funding.  

• NOTE: Coats Was Opposed To Federal Funding For Planned Parenthood.  
(Brian Francisco, “Planned Parenthood Defunding Fails,” **Fort Wayne Journal Gazette** 8/4/15)

“During His First Term In The Senate, Coats Voted In Favor Of The Federal RFRA And The Defense Of Marriage Act.”  
(Daniel Metz, “Coats Talks Retirement, America s Future,” **Indiana Daily Student** 4/20/15)

In 1993, Coats Helped Author “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell.”  
(Gregory Lewis McNamee, “Dan Coats United States Senator,” **Encyclopedia Britannica**, 5/27/16)

In 1992, Coats Voted For The Family And Medical Leave Act Believing It Would Reduce The Number Of Abortions By Offering More Time Off To New Parents.  
(Ron Elving, “With Sen. Dan Coats Retirement, One More Gone From The Old School,” **NPR** 3/25/15)

As Part Of The Project For American Renewal, Coats Introduced Several Pieces Of Socially Conservative Legislation Including One That Would Provide Grants Of $1 Million To School Districts To Develop “Same Gender” Schools.  
(David Boaz, “The Return of Dan Coats,” **CATO** 2/22/10)

• Soon After The Release Of The Entertainment Tonight Tape Of Trump, The Project For American Renewal Released A Statement That Ended With Assertion “The Lord Is The Only Thing That Will Save Donald Trump, Spiritually And Politically”  
(“The Lord Is The Only Thing That Will Save Donald Trump, Spiritually And Politically,” **The American Renewal Project** 10/10/16)

In 2010, Coats Was Criticized By His Democratic Opponent For “Lobbying On Behalf Of A Hedge Fund Executive Who Backed Cap-And-Trade Climate Measures.”  
(Elana Schor, “Cap And Trade Takes Beating In Senate Race,” **E&E** 10/26/10)

As A Lobbyist, Coats Represented Several Health Care Firms (Amgen, United Health Group, the Pharmaceutical Research And Manufacturers Of America) And Financial Institutions That Received Bailout Money (Bank of America, Goldman Sachs, Merrill Lynch).  

As A Lobbyist, Coats Represented The Indian Government, A Canadian Aerospace Firm, And A Texas Oil Company That Partnered With Venezuela’s Chavez Government.  

Coats Worked For A Lobbying Firm Which Represented Foreign Clients Including The United Arab Emirates And Yemen.  

Coats Also Lobbyed For A German Company So That They Could Get Contracts In Iraq.  
(Eric Lipton, “A Journey From Lawmaker to Lobbyist and Back Again,” **The New York Times** 11/13/10)
As A Lobbyist, Coats Fought Hard To Make Sure That Cooper Industries Kept Favorable Tax Status After It Moved Its Headquarters To Bermuda. (Eric Lipton, "A Journey From Lawmaker To Lobbyist And Back Again," The New York Times, 11/13/10)


BACKGROUND

Personal Information

Daniel Ray Coats

Education

Indiana University School Of Law
Bloomington, Indiana (Encyclopedia Britannica, 11/29/16)
AND
Wheaton College
Wheaton, Illinois. (Encyclopedia Britannica, 11/29/16)

Work Experience

2011 – Present: U.S. Senate        Senator (Encyclopedia Britannica, 11/29/16)
1999: Created Foundation For American Renewal (Foundation for American Renewal, Accessed 11/29/16)
1972 – Undefined: Mutual Security Life Insurance   Assistant VP/Counsel

QUESTIONS FOR DAN COATS

Political Vulnerabilities
**Criticisms of the President-elect**

Background: Coats has consistently criticized the President-elect throughout the campaign. Coats has suggested the President-elect can be “vulgar” and has displayed a lack of discipline at times. Coats has also expressed doubts that the President-elect could handle national security responsibilities.

- Given the tumultuous nature of this campaign season, would you commit to standing by the President and express full public support during turbulent periods should you serve in the administration?

- Do you have any specific reservations to putting full support behind the President-elect’s issues agenda and policy platform?

**Time Spent as a Lobbyist**

Background: Coats has served as a ‘revolving door’ registered lobbyist, moving in between government positions and lobbying since the 1990s. In addition to foreign clients, Coats has lobbied to help a U.S. company keep favorable tax status after moving its headquarters overseas.

- Do you have any current business relationships or connections through your time as a lobbyist that would create an immediate conflict of interest should you join the administration?

- Will you agree to disclose a full list of every client you have ever had as a lobbyist?
  - Will you disclose the length of each contract?
  - Will you disclose the amount of money you were paid by each client?

- What causes have you lobbied on behalf of, similar to your time lobbying on behalf of Cooper Industries, that directly conflicts with the President-elect’s agenda?

**White Supremacy**

Background: Coats has been accused by the online hackers “anonymous” of being a member of the Ku Klux Klan, which Coats has denied.

- Do you have any past or current affiliations to white supremacist groups?

- If you were to join the administration, would you willing to publicly denounce such groups if called upon to do so?

**Policy Questions**

**Opposition To Temporarily Subject Immigrants From Certain Muslim Nations To Significantly Enhanced Vetting**

Background: Coats has been critical of the President-elect’s plan to temporarily subject immigrants from certain Muslim nations to significantly enhanced vetting, calling the proposal “bombastic rhetoric over sound judgment.”

- Are you willing to fully back a plan to temporarily halt immigration to the U.S. from Muslim majority nations, should the administration move forward with one?

- Would you be willing to help the President-elect create an immigration plan which would emphasize the safety of U.S. citizens through a temporary halt on immigrations from certain geographies?
Director of National Intelligence Questions

- As principal advisor to the President about intelligence matters related to national security, what do you view as the U.S.’ greatest threats?

- As the head of the sixteen member U.S. intelligence community, what reforms would you advise the President-elect to bring to intelligence gathering procedures?

- What is your general philosophical belief of how to value national security versus respecting the privacy of our nation’s citizens?

- Are you willing to commit to serving out a full term, as defined by the President-elect, in the DNI position to avoid turbulence during the more demanding times of the administration?

COMMENTS ON TRUMP / PENCE

Coats Criticized Trump’s Comments About Women Made In A 2005 Tape

Coats Said That Trump’s “Vulgar Comments Are Totally Inappropriate And Disgusting, And These Words Have No Place In Our Society” In Reference To The 2005 Tape. “Sen. Dan Coats, R-Ind., said Trump’s ‘vulgar comments are totally inappropriate and disgusting, and these words have no place in our society.’” (Maureen Groppe, Chelsea Schneider, And Tony Cook, The Indianapolis Star 10/9/16)

- NOTE: Marsha Coats Had No Comment. “Indiana’s members of the Republican National Committee - state GOP chairman Jeff Cardwell, Marsha Coats and John Hammond - did not respond to requests for comment.” (Maureen Groppe, Chelsea Schneider, And Tony Cook, The Indianapolis Star 10/9/16)

Coats Said That He “Struggled To Find A Single Policy Positions He Shares With Trump”


Coats Was Included In A New York Times Article About “The 5 Types Of Trump-Averse Republicans” Because Of This Comment. “Then there are lawmakers best described as grumps, like Senator John McCain of Arizona, who appears decidedly downbeat about his party, and Senator Bob Corker of Tennessee, who offered early support to Mr. Trump’s campaign but said this week, ‘I don’t know that I really have a lot to say,’ adding that he had tried to advise Mr. Trump and was ‘discouraged by the results.’ Add to that list Senator Dan Coats, Republican of Indiana, who has struggled to find a single policy position he shares with Mr. Trump.” (Jennifer Steinhauer, “The 5 Types Of Trump Averse Republicans,” The New York Times, 6/15/16)

Coats Frequently Criticized Trump’s Campaign Rhetoric

In June 2016, Coats Said That “It’s Time For Donald Trump To Shift From The Thought Of The Moment Spontaneously Uttered To A More Disciplined Way Of Running A Campaign For President Of The United States.” SARA MURRAY: “RNC chairman, Reince Priebus, tweeting, "Great victory speech by Donald Trump tonight. Exactly the right approach and perfectly delivered. But some Republicans remain skeptical." SEN. DAN COATS, (R), INDIANA: “I think it’s time for Donald Trump to shift from the thought of the moment spontaneously uttered to a more disciplined way of running a campaign for president of the United States.” (CNN’s “Newsroom,” 6/9/16)

In February 2016, Coats Said He Was “Increasingly Concerned By Donald Trump’s Statements And Behavior, And I Have Serious Concerns About His Ability To Win The General Election And Provide Presidential Leadership.” “In February, Coats told The Associated Press he was ‘increasingly concerned by Donald Trump’s statements and behavior, and I have serious concerns about his ability to win the
general election and provide presidential leadership.” (Maureen Groppe, “Indiana Governor, Senator Reject Trump Veep Speculation,” USA Today, 5/10/16)

In January 2016, Coats Said That “You Can’t Just Bombast And Bluster Your Way Through That Kind Of Governing” That Trump Would Do As President. DAVE BANGERT: “OK, that’s the excited part. How about concerns?” DAN COATS: “On the Republican side, it’s clear Donald Trump has tapped into something that every Republican candidate should pay attention to, because it’s a phenomena that none of us has experienced before. Typically, politicians want to know, ‘How can I say this so I don’t offend anyone?’ Trump says, ‘How can I say this so it will offend everybody?’ So obviously, there’s a lot of pent-up problems with political correctness. On the other hand, being president of the United States means you are essentially the leader of the free world. And that is a very solemn obligation, and you can’t just bombast and bluster your way through that kind of governing.” (Dave Bangert, “Bangert Coats On Trump, Obama, Cubs Home Stands,” IC Online, 1/14/16)

**Coats Criticized Trump’s Lack Of Experience**

In January 2016, Coats Said “What Worries Me About Trump Is The Lack Of Substance Behind It All.” DAN COATS: “What bothers me about Trump is the lack of substance behind it all. ... if Donald Trump is going to be our nominee, he has to show more than sound bites.” (Dave Bangert, “Bangert Coats On Trump, Obama, Cubs Home Stands,” IC Online, 1/14/16)

When Asked If Trump Could Win, Coats Dodged And Said That There Were Republican Primary Candidates With Strength And Experience That “Would Find That Middle Spot.” BANGERT: “But does he really have to do that to win?” COATS: “That’s the question. I think we have to find the candidate - and I think this will sort itself out in the primaries - that can gain the public’s trust that they see what the problems are and they have the strength and leadership that’s needed. And also that they have the kind of experience and ability to execute. ... I think there are candidates who would find that middle spot.” (Dave Bangert, “Bangert Coats On Trump, Obama, Cubs Home Stands,” IC Online, 1/14/16)

**Coats Expressed Doubts That Trump Could Handle National Security As President**

In March 2016, When Asked If Trump Could Handle National Security, Coats Said “I’m Waiting For The Responsible, Calm, Serious Presidential Donald Trump To Appear. He Says That’s Going To Happen. We Will See.” JOHN HOWELL, RADIO HOST: “Do you have more trust in his ability to handle the codes and national security than Barack Obama?” SEN. DAN COATS (R), INDIANA: “That’s a tough question. I’m waiting for the responsible, calm, serious presidential Donald Trump to appear. He says that’s going to happen. We will see. But, man, I don’t know how to answer that question.” (CNN’s “The Lead With Jake Tapper,” 3/14/16)

**Coats Was Outspoken In His Criticism Of Trump’s Proposed Muslim Ban**

In December 2015, Coats Said Of Trump’s Proposed Muslim Ban “Once Again, Donald Trump Has Chosen Bombastic Rhetoric Over Sound Judgment.” “Coats has been outspoken in his criticism of Trump. ‘Once again, Donald Trump has chosen bombastic rhetoric over sound judgment,’ Coats tweeted in December after Trump said Muslims should be banned from entering the United States.” (Maureen Groppe, “Indiana Governor, Senator Reject Trump Veep Speculation,” USA Today, 5/10/16)

**Coats Did Not Support Trump During The Primary, Indicating A Preference For A Candidate With Gubernatorial Experience**

[Image or content not provided for this section]
The Republican Nominee “Should Be Someone Coming Out Of A Governorship Or Not Coming Out Of The Congress.” He said the Republican nominee ‘should be someone coming out of a governorship or not coming out of the Congress’ because ‘Congress doesn’t have the support of the American people that you would need to be successful, and there’s a bunch of governors out there and others that have really made the tough decisions and taken their states from negative to positive.’ He named three among the Republican presidential field: Ohio Gov. John Kasich, Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker and Jeb Bush, former governor of Florida. Coats’ preferences leave out three of his colleagues: Republican Sens. Ted Cruz of Texas, Rand Paul of Kentucky and Marco Rubio of Florida.” (Brian Francisco, “Coats Support Still On Table,” Fort Wayne Journal Gazette 8/26/15)

**Coats Endorsed Rubio In The Republican Presidential Primary**

In February 2016, Coats Endorsed Marco Rubio For President. “After months of spirited debates and now three consequential primary contests, it is time to focus on which Republican candidate can best unite our party, earn the support of independents and disaffected Democrats and win the election this fall. It is clear to me that Marco Rubio is that candidate. He has all the qualities needed to unite our fractured nation and address the major domestic and foreign policy challenges that confront America because of Barack Obama’s failed leadership. I have sat literally side-by-side with Marco on the Senate Intelligence Committee for over five years and have witnessed up close his grasp of complex issues and readiness to lead our nation as commander-in-chief. I am excited to support him and look forward to the next generation of conservative leadership under Marco Rubio.” (Greg Margason, “Sen. Coats Endorses Presidential Candidate Marco Rubio,” Fox 52 2/22/16)

**GENERAL CONTROVERSY**

**Pence Compared Coats’ Policy On Trash Collection To Nazi Germany In A May 1992 Article**

In A May 1992 Article, Mike Pence Compared Evan Bayh And Coats’ Effort To Block Out-Of-State Trash From Going To Indiana To Nazi Germany. “Mike Pence wasn’t pleased with Indiana’s top leaders in the early 1990s as they tried to block out-of-state trash from landing in Hoosier landfills, and in his reach for an argument, he wrote an essay comparing their efforts to how Nazi Germany had treated ‘politically unpopular’ Jews. His May 1992 article, published in the Indiana Policy Review and obtained exclusively by POLITICO, centers around moves by then-Gov. Evan Bayh and Sen. Dan Coats as they tried to block New Jersey and other states from shipping their garbage more than 700 miles across the country bound for Indiana’s dumps.” (Darren Samuelsohn, “Mike Pence Once Compared Evan Bayh And Dan Coats To Nazis,” Politico 7/20/16)

Pence: “German Jews Of The 1930s Would Know Exactly What To Call The Coats-Bayh Assault On The Private Property Of Unpopular Individuals Engaged In An Unpopular Enterprise.” (Darren Samuelsohn, “Mike Pence Once Compared Evan Bayh And Dan Coats To Nazis,” Politico 7/20/16)
In 2014, Coats Was Sanctioned By Russia And Banned From Entering The Country

In 2014 Russia Sanctioned Coats And Other U.S. Officials, Banning Him From Entering Russia. “Sens. Dan Coats and John McCain, Republicans from Indiana and Arizona, respectively, were two of nine U.S. officials sanctioned by Russia on Thursday, a response to an expansion of sanctions on Russian officials by U.S. President Barack Obama. The officials on the Russian Foreign Ministry's list have mostly expressed pride at being included. They are banned from entering Russia.” (Brett LoGiurato, “Senators Have Amazing Responses To Being Included On Russia’s Sanctions List,” Business Insider, 3/20/14)

- Coats: “While I'm Disappointed That I Won't Be Able To Go On Vacation With My Family In Siberia This Summer, I Am Honored To Be On This List.” (Senator Dan Coats, Twitter 3/20/14)

Coats Was Accused Of Being A Member Of The Ku Klux Klan, Which He Denied

In November 2015, Anonymous Claimed To Have Learned The Identities Of Ku Klux Klan Members And Posted Coats’ Name As One Of The “Officials That Have Political Power In The USA That Are Associated With Either KKK Or Racist Related.” “A couple of weeks ago, the (very loose) hacking collective Anonymous claimed to have learned the identities of 1,000 Ku Klux Klan members and vowed to make them public. On Monday, they got started by posting the names of nine ‘officials that have political power in the usa that are associated with either kkk or racist related,’ including four United States senators and nine mayors. (Right now is a good time to note that anything Anonymous says should be taken with a grain of salt, which is definitely not to say that a number of American politicians haven’t been in the KKK.)” (Caroline Bankoff, “These Politicians Would Just Like To Say That They’re Not Members Of The KKK,” New York Magazine 11/2/15)

On November 2nd 2015, Coats Responded, Saying “For Those Who Are Asking - I Have Never Had Any Affiliation With The Ku Klux Klan And Deplore All Forms Of Racial Discrimination.” “For those who are asking - I have never had any affiliation with the Ku Klux Klan and deplore all forms of racial discrimination.” (Senator Dan Coats, Twitter 11/2/15)

- Coats: “This Is Baseless Internet Garbage Of The Worst Kind.” (Senator Dan Coats, Twitter 11/2/15)
CONTROVERSIAL POLICY / STATEMENTS

Coats Has Advocated For A More Aggressive Stance Against ISIS, Including A Formal Declaration Of War

In July 2016, Coats Said He Would Support A Declaration Of War Against ISIS. DAN COATS: “We've been doing this incrementally here, but we really haven't taken the step of declaring all-out war against ISIS and doing whatever we need to do to stop this. This incremental piece-by-piece, piece-by-piece is just going to continue to lead to what we've seen in the massacre at Nice.” ANDERSON COOPER: “You believe there should be an actual declaration of war?” COATS: “I would support a declaration of war. I think western civilization is -- should be at war with this radical Islamic terrorist operation. Until we declare that and take what is necessary to win this war we're going to continue to have breaking news, more of these massacres. It’s occurring on an ever-increasing basis. So I think it’s time to stand up and say ‘enough is enough.’” (CNN’s “Newsroom,” 7/15/16)

In January 2016, Coats Said That He Believes Congress Should Vote On An Authorization For The Use Of Military Force Against ISIS. DAVE BANGERT: “So what’s the right strategy?” DAN COATS: “I’m one of the Republicans who thinks Congress should authorize an (Authorization for the Use of Military Force) that the president mentioned the other night. ... I think we should send him something that says, yes, we're in this and gives him the authority to do what is necessary to win.... The problem is, what he's asked for is conditioned on very strict limitations. He sees very small, incremental engagements.” BANGERT: “Are you saying boots on the ground? Are you at that point? And where would you put those boots?” COATS: “That’s why we need the debate. In that debate, the first thing we should do is turn to the military and say: What does it take to do this? Then we need to debate: Are we willing to do X, Y and Z? No one believes it takes an invasion force to accomplish this. We have learned the lessons of Vietnam and Iraq, particularly when you are engaged in something as complex as this, with all the cultural interactions and a different mindset. You have to look at how to realistically do this, and that's not necessarily Desert Storm. But it’s certainly more than has happened.” (Dave Bangert, “Bangert Coats On Trump, Obama, Cubs Home Stands,” IC Online, 1/14/16)

Coats Did Not Sign The Open Letter From Republicans To Iran’s Leaders Regarding The Iran Nuclear Deal

Coats Did Not Sign A Letter Sent By The Majority Of Republicans To Iran's Leaders About The Iran Nuclear Deal. “Indiana Sen. Dan Coats did not join the majority of Senate Republicans in signing a letter to Iran’s leaders about a pending nuclear deal, despite Coats’ opposition to the deal.” (David Jackson And Maureen Groppe, “Dan Coats Did Not Sign GOP’s Open Letter To Iran’s Regime,” The Indianapolis Star, 3/11/15)

- Coats Said That While He Wants To Stop Iran From Getting A Nuclear Weapon, "He Does Not Believe That These Two Interrelated Goals Are Best Served By An Open Letter To The Iranian Regime." “But while Coats wants to stop Iran’s quest for nuclear weapons capability and wants Congress to approve any deal negotiated with Iran, the letter would not achieve that, according to his spokesman. ‘He does not believe that these two interrelated goals are best served
by an open letter to the Iranian regime,’ spokesman Matt Lahr said.” [David Jackson And Maureen Groppe, “Dan Coats Did Not Sign GOP s Open Letter To Iran s Regime,” The Indianapolis Star, 3/11/15]

**Coats Criticized The 2016 Presidential Campaigns For Not Debating Or Discussing The National Debt**

In September 2016, Coats Called A Congressional Hearing To Discuss The National Debt. “And Daniels testified Thursday at a congressional hearing called by Sen. Dan Coats, R-Ind., to examine ways to tackle the growing national debt. 'The whole problem is getting worse and fast,' Daniels said. ‘Your re-elections may not be threatened by your inaction. But your consciences will be.’ Another former White House budget director, Democrat Alice Rivlin, said Coats deserved credit for trying to refocus attention on an issue that has ‘dropped from sight in this contentious election.’” (Maureen Groppe, “Daniels Wants Trump, Clinton To Discuss Federal Debt,” The Indianapolis Star, 9/8/16)

- **Coats Criticized The Fact That “In This Presidential Election Year, This Is Not Even Being Debated.”** "I can't think of a more challenging issue that will face this next president and yet, in this presidential election year, this is not even being debated,' said Coats, who is retiring at the end of the year.” (Maureen Groppe, “Daniels Wants Trump, Clinton To Discuss Federal Debt,” The Indianapolis Star, 9/8/16)

**While Coats Supported Pence’s Decision To Block Syrian Refugees From Indiana, His Solution To The Crisis Was An Aggressive Military Strategy**

In A November 2015 Statement, Coats Supported Pence’s Decision To Suspend The Resettlement Of Syrian Refugees In Indiana. “Here in the United States, we are having difficult but important conversations about how to balance legitimate security concerns with our country's legacy of compassion. I support Indiana Gov. Mike Pence's recent decision to suspend the resettlement of Syrian refugees in Indiana. While the United States is a welcoming country, our government has an obligation to protect American citizens. We should not accept any Syrian refugees in Indiana or across the country unless the U.S. government can guarantee, with 100 percent assurance, that they are not members, supporters or sympathizers of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria.” (Dan Coats, “Coats Syrian Refugees Need Safe Havens, Greater Humanitarian Aid From International Community,” U.S. Senator Dan Coats, 11/19/15)

To Address The Refugee Crisis, Coats Suggested Military Actions To Set Up Safe Havens Along Syrian Borders, No-Fly Zones, And A “Massive Commitment From The World Community” To Partner With The U.S. In These Efforts. “The only reasonable solution to dealing with this humanitarian crisis is to create conditions in and near Syria that will permit people to safely remain near their home country. This will require the United States, our allies and other cooperating international powers to create areas in Syria where Syrians can find safety from attack. Safe havens should be set up along the borders of Turkey, Iraq and Jordan, with international security guarantees, funding and management under United Nations auspices. This will require both no-fly zones and strategic military activity by the United States and our allied partners. Western countries should accept these steps as an inescapable price to help bring two twin catastrophes to an end -- the migrant crisis and the war that generated it. We also need a massive commitment from the world community to set up, fund and manage safe areas with sanitation, health care, food, housing and schools in neighboring countries. We need a much greater contribution from other regional states, European countries and traditional donor countries who have long been committed to humanitarian causes.” (Dan Coats, “Coats Syrian Refugees Need Safe Havens, Greater Humanitarian Aid From International Community,” U.S. Senator Dan Coats, 11/19/15)

**While Coats Believed Planned Parenthood Should Stop Receiving Federal Funding, He Was Against The Idea Of A Shutdown In 2015 To Block This Funding**

In August 2015, Coats Opposed The Idea Of A Government Shutdown To Block Planned Parenthood Funding. “If 2013 is any indication, some are saying, a shutdown might not even work. The Affordable Care Act passed despite the government’s two-week closure, and Sen. Dan Coats (R) of Indiana said a repeat attempt would be equally ineffective. ‘We have a president who we have learned over seven
years of time is not going to be persuaded to change his mind over anything he doesn't like,' Senator Coats told Politico. 'If we had never done this [in 2013] you would be more likely to convince people this is a tactic that would work... Unless someone can convince me that tactic will cause the president to do a 180, we're just gonna end up with the same results as last time.'” (Sarah Caspari, “Will Republicans Shut Down The Government Over Planned Parenthood,” The Christian Science Monitor, 8/4/15)

**NOTE: Coats Was Opposed To Federal Funding For Planned Parenthood.** "Indiana Right to Life President Mike Fichter said the organization is pleased that Donnelly and Sen. Dan Coats, R-Ind., ‘recognized the need to end federal funding for the nation's largest abortion provider, Planned Parenthood.’ Coats was the Senate's presiding officer during the procedural vote. During floor debate earlier Monday, he said the secretly recorded comments of Planned Parenthood officials regarding providing aborted fetal tissue to researchers were ‘cold, calculating’ and ‘like describing to somebody how they can go to Home Depot and how to pick things off the shelf. mBut in this case we're talking about living human tissue being taken and harvested. The barbaric practice of conducting abortions in a way that promotes harvesting fetal organs, or profiting from such practices, has no place in modern society,’ Coats said in remarks broadcast by C-SPAN.” (Brian Francisco, “Planned Parenthood Defunding Fails,” Fort Wayne Journal Gazette 8/4/15)

**Coats Voted In Favor Of The Religious Freedom Restoration Act And Defense Of Marriage Act, And Helped Author “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell**

“During His First Term In The Senate, Coats Voted In Favor Of The Federal RFRA And The Defense Of Marriage Act.” “During his first term in the Senate, Coats voted in favor of the federal RFRA and the Defense of Marriage Act, both of which are credited with enabling discrimination against LGBT people. ‘I felt badly that my state was being mischaracterized in terms of the way that I viewed it,’ he said. ‘I think there were a lot of gross misrepresentations, but it didn’t mean that the issue shouldn’t have been addressed sensibly.’” (Daniel Metz, “Coats Talks Retirement, America’s Future,” Indiana Daily Student 4/20/15)

**With Regards To Indiana’s RFRA, Coats Said “I Just Felt That The Issue Was An Issue That Ought To Be Addressed, But I Really Felt That It Wasn’t Being Addressed The Way It Ought To Be.”** “The Religious Freedom Restoration Act, one of the most partisan issues facing Indiana, was driven in part by social media. Recounting his experience of the RFRA ordeal from his office in Washington, D.C., Coats leaned back in his chair, crossed his legs and with a weary tone and animated hand gestures, expressed its weight on him as a lifelong Hoosier. ‘I really was burdened by it all because I know my state pretty well,’ he said. ‘I’ve been everywhere in this state - small town, big town, rural, industrial, whatever. I just felt that the issue was an issue that ought to be addressed, but I really felt that it wasn’t being addressed the way it ought to be. There wasn’t a civil discussion in terms of how to go forward, and there wasn’t enough listening and far too much yelling.’” (Daniel Metz, “Coats Talks Retirement, America’s Future,” Indiana Daily Student 4/20/15)

**In 1993, Coats Helped Author “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell.”** “Notably, in 1993 he helped author ‘Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,’ the policy that banned openly gay men and women from serving in the military, and he later voted (2010) against its repeal.” (Gregory Lewis McNamee, “Dan Coats United States Senator,” Encyclopedia Britannica, 5/27/16)

**Coats Was Criticized By Conservatives For Voting For The Family And Medical Leave Act In 1993**

In 1992, Coats Voted For The Family And Medical Leave Act Believing It Would Reduce The Number Of Abortions By Offering More Time Off To New Parents. “In 1992, for example, Congress was weighing what would become the Family and Medical Leave Act. Coats, a longtime anti-abortion champion, was convinced that granting more time off to new parents would reduce the number of abortions. So he, like his anti-abortion colleague Henry Hyde in the House, embraced the family leave bill. He cast a crucial vote for it in committee and stuck with it through two presidential vetoes and a firestorm of criticism from business lobbies and social conservatives alike.” (Ron Elving, “With Sen. Dan Coats Retirement, One More Gone From The Old School,” NPR, 3/25/15)
Social Media

On October 8th Coats Criticized Trump For His Comments On The ET Tapes Asserting That, “Donald Trump's Vulgar Comments Are Totally Inappropriate And Disgusting, And These Words Have No Place In Our Society.” “Donald Trump's vulgar comments are totally inappropriate and disgusting, and these words have no place in our society.” (Senator Dan Coats, Twitter, 10/8/16)

In The Aftermath Of The Release Of The ET Tape, Coats Also Asserted That, “We Must Affirm That Women Deserve Respect And Honor.” “We must affirm that women deserve respect and honor.” (Senator Dan Coats, Twitter, 10/8/16)

On June 7th Coats Criticized Trump For His Comments Regarding Judge Curiel Saying “Donald Trump’s Comments About The Ethnicity Of Judge Curiel, Who Was Born In Indiana, Were Totally Inappropriate.” “Donald Trump’s comments about the ethnicity of Judge Curiel, who was born in Indiana, were totally inappropriate.” (Senator Dan Coats, Twitter, 6/7/16)
**Political Affiliation**

According To GOP Data Center Coats Is An Unaffiliated Voter. [GOP Data Center, Accessed 11/29/16]

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**Political Contributions**

No Records Found

**Lobbying**

According To Open Secrets, Coats Was Listed As A Registered Lobbyist For King & Spalding. [Center For Responsive Politics, Accessed 11/29/16]

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**Revolving Door**

Coats Is Listed As Having Walked Through The Revolving Door. [Center For Responsive Politics, Accessed 11/29/16]
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CoatsFounded The Project For American Renewal In 1999 With His Wife, Marsha Coats. “Senator Dan Coats and his wife Marsha established the Foundation for American Renewal in 1999 to champion effective principles of compassion. Pulling from his experience as President of Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Foundation pursues its mission through an action agenda combining on-the-ground projects with leading edge research and strategic grants.” (Foundation for American Renewal Accessed 11/29/16)

As Part Of The Project For American Renewal, Coats Introduced Several Pieces Of Socially Conservative Legislation Including One That Would Provide Grants Of $1 Million To School Districts To Develop “Same Gender” Schools. “The Mentor Schools Act, to provide grants of $1 million to school districts to develop ‘same gender’ schools. The Role Model Academy Act, to establish an innovative residential academy for at-risk youth. The Kinship Care Act, to create a $30 million demonstration program for states to use adult relatives as the preferred placement option for children separated from their parents. The Restitution and Responsibility Act, to provide grants to states for programs to make restitution to victims of crime. The Assets for Independence Act, to create a four-year, $100 million demonstration program to establish 50,000 Individual Development Accounts, to be used for the purchase of home, college education or small business. The Community Partnership Act, to institute demonstration grants for programs to match communities of faith with welfare recipients and nonviolent criminal offenders.” (David Boaz, “The Return of Dan Coats,” CATO 2/22/10)

Libertarians At The CATO Institute Criticized The Project For American Renewal For Trying To Engage In Conservative Social Engineering. “Republicans suffer from the same weakness. The latest example is the Project for American Renewal, launched Sept. 6 by William Bennett and Sen. Dan Coats (R-Ind.). Bennett and Coats endorse ‘devolution of federal authority and funding to state governments’ but go on to argue that Republicans ‘need to offer a vision of rebuilding broken communities - not through government, but through those private institutions and ideals that nurture lives.’ They stress that ‘even if government undermined civil society, it cannot directly reconstruct it.’” (David Boaz, “The Return of Dan Coats,” CATO 2/22/10)

Soon After The Release Of The ET Recording Of Trump, The Project For American Renewal Released A Statement That Ended With Assertion “The Lord Is The Only Thing That Will Save Donald Trump, Spiritually And Politically.” “The Lord is the only thing that will save Donald Trump, spiritually and politically.” (“The Lord Is The Only Thing That Will Save Donald Trump, Spiritually And Politically,” The American Renewal Project 10/10/16)
**Coats Was Criticized For Lobbying On Behalf Of Cap And Trade Measures**

In 2010, Coats Was Criticized By His Democratic Opponent For “Lobbying On Behalf Of A Hedge Fund Executive Who Backed Cap-And-Trade Climate Measures.” “The Democratic nominee, initially seen as his party's best hope to hold onto the seat vacated by retiring Sen. Evan Bayh (D-Ind.), has rapped Coats for lobbying on behalf of a hedge fund executive who backed cap-and-trade climate measures. ‘Cap and trade would devastate Hoosiers,’ an announcer intones in one of Ellsworth’s latest campaign ads. ‘But Coats was paid almost half a million dollars to lobby for it.’ Indiana Democrats have sought to use the Republican’s lobbying past as a weapon on a range of issues, launching a website to highlight links between his former firm and clients on Wall Street as well as in foreign governments.” (Elana Schor, “Cap And Trade Takes Beating In Senate Race,” 10/26/10)

**As A Lobbyist, Coats Represented Health Care Firms And Financial Institutions That Received Bailout Money**

As A Lobbyist Coats Represented Several Health Care Firms (Amgen, United Health Group, the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America) And Financial Institutions That Received Bailout Money (Bank of America, Goldman Sachs, Merrill Lynch). “The former senator has had scores of corporate lobbying clients over the years, including health-care firms (Amgen, United Health Group, the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America), bailout recipients (Bank of America, Goldman Sachs, Merrill Lynch) and communications companies (BellSouth, Sprint Nextel, Verizon). Another past client is Cerberus Capital Management, where Dan Quayle -- whose seat Coats took over in the Senate -- is a top executive.” (Dan Eggen, “Lobbyist who wants Senate seat back receiving criticism,” The Washington Post, 2/11/10)

**As A Lobbyist, Coats Represented Foreign Clients And Clients With Foreign Ties**

As A Lobbyist Coats Represented The Indian Government, A Canadian Aerospace Firm, And A Texas Oil Company That Partnered With Venezuela’s Chavez Government. “Lobbying disclosure records also show that Coats represented foreign firms or governments that could prove controversial, including the Indian government and Bombardier, a Canadian aerospace firm. Coats also represented a Texas oil-and-gas company that partnered with Venezuela’s Hugo Chávez, records show.” (Dan Eggen, “Lobbyist who wants Senate seat back receiving criticism,” The Washington Post, 2/11/10)

Coats Worked For A Lobbying Firm Which Represented Foreign Clients Including The United Arab Emirates And Yemen. “Democrats wasted little time attacking Coats’s lobbying background, or criticizing his long absence from Indiana (he lives and votes in Virginia) and his ownership of a second home, in North Carolina. The Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee highlighted Coats’s work in 2000 and 2001 for the lobbying firm Verner, Liipfert, Bernhard, McPherson and Hand, which had foreign clients, including the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.” (Dan Eggen, “Lobbyist who wants Senate seat back receiving criticism,” The Washington Post, 2/11/10)

Coats Also Lobbyed For A German Company So That They Could Get Contracts In Iraq. “He also said he contacted officials at the Defense Department on behalf of the Festo Corporation, a German company, as it successfully pursued a federal contract to train workers in Iraq to fix water pumps.” (Eric Lipton, “A Journey From Lawmaker to Lobbyist and Back Again,” The New York Times, 11/13/10)

**As A Lobbyist, Coats Lobbyed To Allow A Company To Keep Favorable Tax Status After Moving Its Headquarters Overseas**

As A Lobbyist, Coats Fought Hard To Make Sure That Cooper Industries Kept Favorable Tax Status After It Moved Its Headquarters To Bermuda. “When Cooper Industries, a century-old manufacturing company based in Texas, moved its headquarters to Bermuda to slash its American income tax bill, it had to turn to a Washington insider with extraordinary contacts to soothe a seething Congress. Dan Coats, then a former senator and ambassador to Germany, served as co-chairman of a team of lobbyists in 2007 who worked behind the scenes to successfully block Senate legislation that would have terminated a tax
loophole worth hundreds of millions of dollars in additional cash flow to Cooper Industries.” (Eric Lipton, “A Journey From Lawmaker to Lobbyist and Back Again,” The New York Times 11/13/10)

**As A Lobbyist, Coats Represented Corporate Clients**

As A Lobbyist, Coats Represented Corporate Clients Including General Electric And Google. “But few rival Mr. Coats, whose blue-chip list of 36 clients included corporate titans like General Electric and Google. These companies routinely have major legislative issues pending in Congress and in the Senate Finance Committee that Mr. Coats will now be asked to vote on, often with great consequences to their bottom line.” (Eric Lipton, “A Journey From Lawmaker to Lobbyist and Back Again,” The New York Times 11/13/10)

**Coats Lobbied On Behalf Of Sprint So That It Would Be Exempt From Lawsuits Associated With Assisting The U.S. Government In Surveillance Operations.** “He said he intervened with members of Congress for Sprint as it sought protection from lawsuits for its role in assisting United States intelligence agencies in conducting a surveillance program without warrants.” (Eric Lipton, “A Journey From Lawmaker to Lobbyist and Back Again,” The New York Times, 11/13/10)