

Election Countdown: Bush vs Kerry

Call him charming, call him well-scripted. When President George W. Bush gave his rousing address at the Republican National Convention in New York City, Sept. 2, he was so smooth butter could not melt in his mouth. Bush talks a good game. He spoke extensively about the war in Iraq and glossed over the issues of concern to working families — jobs, affordable health care, education and the state of the economy. If you didn't know better or did not know someone who remains unemployed after losing his/her job more than two years ago, or someone living without health insurance, you too could have fallen for Bush's reality-challenged vision of the United States.

By Labor's standards, Bush has been undoubtedly the most anti-union and the worst president for America's working families and the middle class. Even the Teamsters Union, which supported President Bush in 2000 and tried — successfully — to work with his administration on several labor issues, is now in the forefront of the campaign to unseat this President on November 2.

"The Bush administration's actions speak louder than words," Teamster General President James P. Hoffa wrote in his September mes-

sage. He added: "It [the administration] has consistently ignored the needs of working families while putting the privileged first. The Bush/Cheney White House has chosen tax cuts for the wealthy and special favors for big business while millions of high-wage, high-productivity manufacturing jobs have been lost or outsourced overseas. In fact, the latest Bush proposal will eliminate overtime for six million workers."

Echoing what labor leaders have been saying for four years, New York Times Editorial columnist Bob Herbert said it well when he wrote last month: "America's working families look to a president for leadership, vision and policies that will benefit and improve their work and family lives."

What they got in Bush is a president who, in only four years, has American workers on the defensive. Herbert wrote: "In a tight labor market, when jobs are plentiful, workers have leveraged and can demand increased wages and benefits. But today's workers have lost power in many different ways — through the slack labor market, government policies that favor corporate interests, the weakening of unions, the growth of lower paying service industries —

the end result of all this is a portrait of American families struggling just to hang on, rather than to get ahead. The benefits of productivity gains and economic growth are flowing to profits, not worker compensation. The fat cats are getting fatter, while the workers, at least for the time being, are watching the curtain come down on the heralded American dream."

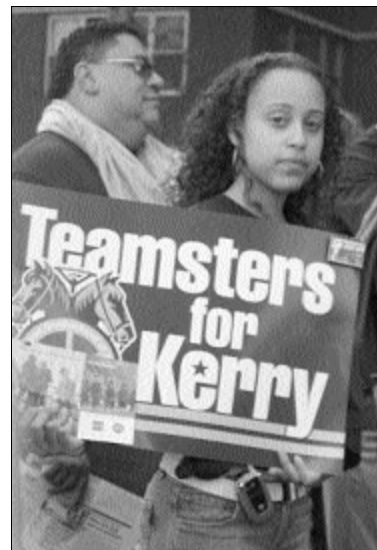
On November 2, Americans will have the opportunity to choose a president who has the interest of working families high on his agenda.

Local 237 Endorses Kerry

How you vote is a personal decision, but after researching the candidates' record, Teamsters Local 237, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the AFL-CIO have endorsed John Kerry for president.

If you are not yet convinced that John Kerry deserves your vote, G.P. Hoffa and Local 237 President Carl Haynes urge you to look at each candidate's actions and not just listen to their campaign rhetoric before casting a vote for president in November.

An examination of Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry's



Donna Risticco

At the New York Labor Day rally.

20-year record in the U.S. Senate reveals a leader who earned a 91 percent lifetime AFL-CIO voting record on such important working family issues as jobs, health care, worker safety, education and civil rights. President George W. Bush's four-year record in the White House shows a much different history.

On page 5 you can compare Kerry and Bush on vital working family issues.

Local 237 Election Endorsements

President John F. Kerry

Vice President John Edwards

U.S. Senate Charles Schumer (D)

House of Representatives

Dist.	Candidate	County/Countries
1.	Timothy Bishop (D)	Suffolk
2.	Steve J. Israel (D)	Suffolk
3.	Peter T. King (R)	Nassau, Suffolk
4.	Carolyn McCarthy (D)	Nassau
5.	Gary L. Ackerman (D)	Queens, Nassau, Suffolk
6.	Gregory Meeks (D)	Queens
7.	Joseph Crowley (D)	Bronx, Queens
8.	Jerrold Nadler (D)	New York, Kings (Brooklyn)
9.	Anthony Weiner (D)	Kings, Queens
10.	Edolphus Towns (D)	Bronx
11.	Major R. Owens (D)	Kings
12.	Nydia M. Velazquez (D)	Queens, Kings, New York
13.	Frank Barbaro (D)	Richmond (Staten Island), Kings
14.	Carolyn B. Maloney (D)	New York, (Manhattan), Queens
15.	Charles Rangel (D)	New York
16.	Jose E. Serrano (D)	Bronx
17.	Eliot Engel (D)	Bronx, Westchester
18.	Nita M. Lowey (D)	Westchester

New York State Senate

1.	Kenneth P. LaValle (R)	Suffolk
2.	John J. Flanagan (R)	Suffolk
3.	Caesar Trunso (R)	Suffolk
4.	Owen H. Johnson (R)	Suffolk
5.	Carl L. Marcellino (R)	Nassau, Suffolk
6.	Kemp Hannon (R)	Nassau
7.	Micahel A. L. Balboni (R)	Nassau
8.	Charles J. Fuschillo	Nassau, Suffolk

9.	Dean G. Skelos (R)	Nassau
10.	Ada L. Smith (D)	Queens
11.	Frank Padavan (R)	Queens
12.	George Onorato (D)	Queens
13.	John D. Sabini (D)	Queens
14.	Malcolm A. Smith (D)	Queens
15.	Serphin R. Maltese (R)	Queens
16.	Toby Ann Stavisky (D)	Queens
17.	Martin Malave Dilan (D)	Kings
18.	Velmanette Montgomery (D)	Kings
19.	John L. Sampson (D)	Kings
20.	Carl Andrews (D)	Kings
21.	Kevin S. Parker (D)	Kings
22.	Martin Golden (D)	Kings
23.	Diane Savino (D)	Kings, Richmond
24.	John J. Marchi (R)	Richmond
25.	Martin E. Connor (D)	New York, Kings

26.	Liz Krueger (D)	New York
27.	Carl Kruger (D)	Kings
28.	Olga A. Mendez (R)	New York, Bronx
29.	Thomas K. Duane (D)	New York
30.	David A. Paterson (D)	New York
31.	Eric T. Schneiderman (D)	New York, Bronx
32.	Ruben Diaz Sr. (D)	Bronx
33.	Efrain Gonzalez Jr. (D)	Bronx
34.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
35.	Nicholas A. Spano (R)	Westchester
36.	Ruth Hassell-Thompson (D)	Bronx, Westchester
37.	Suzi Oppenheimer (D)	Westchester
38.	Thomas P. Morahan (R)	Orange, Rockland
39.	William J. Larkin Jr. (R)	Orange, Ulster
40.	Vincent L. Leibell (R)	Dutchess, Putnam, Westchester
41.	Stephen M. Saland (R)	Columbia, Dutchess

New York State Assembly

1.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
2.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
3.	Patricia A. Eddington (D)	Suffolk
4.	Steven Englebright (D)	Suffolk
5.	Ginny Fields (D)	Suffolk

6.	Philip R. Ramos (D)	Suffolk
7.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
8.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
9.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
10.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
11.	Robert K. Sweeney (D)	Suffolk
12.	Joseph Saladino (R)	Nassau
13.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
14.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
15.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
16.	Thomas P. DiNapoli (D)	Nassau
17.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
18.	Earlene Hooper (D)	Nassau
19.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
20.	Harvey Weisenberg (D)	Nassau
21.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
22.	Jimmy K. Meng (D)	Queens
23.	Audrey I. Pheffer (D)	Queens
24.	Mark Weprin (D)	Queens
25.	Brian M. McLaughlin (D)	Queens
26.	Ann Margaret Carrozza (D)	Queens
27.	Nettie Mayersohn (D)	Queens
28.	Michael Cohen (D)	Queens
29.	William Scarborough (D)	Queens
30.	Margaret M. Markey (D)	Queens
31.	Michele R. Titus (D)	Queens
32.	Vivian E. Cook (D)	Queens
33.	Barbara M. Clark (D)	Queens
34.	Ivan C. Lafayette (D)	Queens
35.	Jeffrion L. Aubry (D)	Queens
36.	Michael N. Gianaris (D)	Queens
37.	Catherine T. Nolan (D)	Queens
38.	Anthony R. Seminero (D)	Queens
39.	Jose R. Peralta (D)	Queens
40.	Diane Gordon (D)	Kings
41.	Helene E. Weinstein (D)	Kings
42.	Rhoda S. Jacobs (D)	Kings
43.	Clarence Norman Jr. (D)	Kings
44.	James F. Brennan (D)	Kings
45.	Stephen Cymbrowitz (D)	Kings
46.	Adele H. Cohen (D)	Kings
47.	William Colton (D)	Kings
48.	Dov Hiking (D)	Kings
49.	Peter J. Abbate Jr. (D)	Kings
50.	Joseph R. Lentol (D)	Kings
51.	Felix W. Ortiz (D)	Kings

52.	Joan L. Millman (D)	Kings
53.	Vito J. Lopez (D)	Kings
54.	Darryl C. Towns (D)	Kings
55.	William F. Boyland (D)	Kings
56.	Annette M. Robinson (D)	Kings
57.	Roger L. Green (D)	Kings
58.	N. Nick Perry (D)	Kings
59.	Frank R. Seddio (D)	Kings
60.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
61.	John Lavelle (D)	Richmond
62.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
63.	Michael J. Cusick (D)	Richmond
64.	Sheldon Silver (D)	New York
65.	Alexander B. Grannis (D)	New York
66.	Deborah J. Glick (D)	New York
67.	Scott M. Stringer (D)	New York
68.	Adam Clayton Powell IV (D)	New York
69.	Daniel J. O'Donnell (D)	New York
70.	Keith L. T. Wright (D)	New York
71.	Herman D. Farrell Jr. (D)	New York
72.	Adriano Espaillat (D)	New York
73.	Jonathan Bing (D)	New York
74.	Steven Sanders (D)	New York
75.	Richard N. Gottfried (D)	New York
76.	Peter M. Rivera (D)	Bronx
77.	Aurelia Greene (D)	Bronx
78.	Jose Rivera (D)	Bronx
79.	Michael Benjamin (D)	Bronx
80.	Naomi Rivera (D)	Bronx
81.	Jeffrey Dinowitz (D)	Bronx
82.	Michael Benedetto (D)	Bronx
83.	Carl E. Heastie (D)	Bronx
84.	Carmen E. Arroyo (D)	Bronx
85.	Ruben Diaz Jr. (D)	Bronx
86.	Luis M. Diaz (D)	Bronx
87.	James G. Pretlow (D)	Westchester
88.	Amy R. Paulin (D)	Westchester
89.	Adam Bradley (D)	Westchester
90.	Sandra R. Galef (D)	Putnam, Westchester
91.	George Latimer (D)	Westchester
92.	Richard L. Brodsky (D)	Westchester
93.	NO ENDORSEMENT	
94.	Alexander J. Gromack (D)	Rockland
95.	Ryan S. Karben (DD)	Rockland
96.	Dennis Tracey (D)	Orange, Rockland