2020 Presidential Candidate Debates: Issues Explained by Experts

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Dominik Doemer

With the debates on June 26th and 27th, the 2020 presidential election officially enters a new stage. As you prepare for your coverage of the debates and resulting policy discussions, the following scholars are available and prepared to comment on the following topics:

- Border Security and Immigration
- Criminal Justice Reform
- Green New Deal
- Gun Control
- Health Care
- Money in Politics
- Student Debt

Border Security and Immigration

ELADIO BOBADILLA
University of Kentucky

Expert on the history of the modern immigrants' rights movement.

ERNESTO CASTANEDA
American University

https://scholars.org
Expert on the political inclusion of immigrants and minorities, the US-Mexico border, and the link between migration and mental health.

REÑÉ D. FLORES
University of Chicago

Expert on international migration, race and ethnicity, and social stratification.

ANGELA S. GARCÍA
University of Chicago

Expert on international migration, law and society, race and ethnicity, Latino/a sociology, and political sociology.

TANYA GOLASH-BOZA
University of California-Merced

Expert on the social consequences of immigration policy, with a focus on deportations.

JOSIAH M. HEYMAN
The University of Texas at El Paso

Expert on border security, immigration law enforcement, and attendant human rights issues.

https://scholars.org
TIFFANY D. JOSEPH
Northeastern University

Expert on how contemporary immigration is changing U.S. racial dynamics particularly with regard to racial classification and interracial relations.

S. DEBORAH KANG
University of Virginia-Main Campus

Expert on immigration law enforcement in the United States with a particular focus on the nation's northern and southern borders.

ANNA ON YA LAW
CUNY Brooklyn College

Expert on the interaction between law, legal institutions, and politics. Her substantive areas of expertise are in U.S. immigration and constitutional law, policy, and history.

CAITLIN PATLER
University of California, Davis

Expert on citizenship, legal status, and opportunities for mobility.

ARIELA SCHACHTER
Washington University in St. Louis

https://scholars.org
Expert on the integration of immigrants in the United States and the implications of immigrant-native relations for inequality and group politics.

JOHN D. SKRENTNY
University of California-San Diego

Expert on political and legal issues regarding immigration, civil rights, jobs and equal opportunity.

TOM K. WONG
University of California, San Diego

Expert on politics of immigration, citizenship, and migrant "illegality."

Criminal Justice Reform

IAN T. ADAMS
University of Utah

Expert on the effects of body-worn cameras in policing, particularly the unforeseen impact on vulnerable victim populations as well as on police officers themselves.

ALEXES HARRIS
University of Washington-Seattle Campus

https://scholars.org
Expert on juvenile justice as well as the fines and fees that people who make contact with all levels of U.S. systems of justice are charged upon citation or conviction.

CHAD POSICK
Georgia Southern University

Expert on the intersection of violent behavior and victimization, the developmental outcomes associated with trauma and abuse, and violence prevention.

DOUGLAS AARON BERMAN
The Ohio State University

Expert on criminal justice reform surrounding marijuana convictions.

KATHERINE BECKETT
University of Washington-Seattle Campus

Expert on death penalty reform and the causes and consequences of the expansion of the U.S. criminal justice system. She also studies racial disproportionality in the criminal justice system, the assessment and consequences of legal financial obligations, urban social control, drug policy, and capital punishment.

KERAMET REITER
University of California-Irvine

https://scholars.org
Expert on prisons, prisoners' rights, and the impact of prison and punishment policy on individuals, communities, and legal systems. Her research has examined medical experimentation on prisoners, record-clearing programs, gun control laws, and the use of long-term solitary confinement in the United States and internationally.

KEVIN H. WOZNIAK
University of Massachusetts-Boston

Expert on the politics of punishment and criminal justice with a particular focus on public opinion.

KIMYA NURU DENNIS

Expert on interdisciplinary approaches to mental health, community violence, Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for law enforcement, and race and ethnic relations.

MICHAEL SIERRA-ARÉVALO
University of Texas at Austin

Expert on policing in the United States, gangs, firearms, social networks, and violence prevention.

MICHELLE SUZANNE PHELPS
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

https://scholars.org
Expert on criminal justice policies, practices, and institutions in the United States over the past half-century, including penal change, mass probation, and policing.

NAZGOL GHANDNOOSH
The Sentencing Project

Expert on parole, racial disparities in criminal justice outcomes, and the dramatic reductions in New York, New Jersey, and California's prison populations.

SARA WAKEFIELD
Rutgers University

Expert on the consequences of the prison boom for families, with an emphasis on childhood well-being and family functioning.

Green New Deal

TERRI FRIEDLINE
University of Michigan

Expert on system reform and consumer protections to ensure that households and communities have access to safe and affordable financial products and services.

MATTO MILDENBERGER
University of California, Santa Barbara

https://scholars.org
Expert on climate policy inaction in the face of dramatic economic and social costs associated with the climate crisis.

ANDREW PATTISON
Colgate University

Expert on environmental and public policy, subnational sustainability and climate action planning, climate and energy politics, policy process theories, the role of science and technical information in policymaking, and issues of urban social equity.

MARK PAUL
New College of Florida

Expert on inequality by race, class and gender, and sustainable economics.

EMILY DIAMOND
University of Rhode Island

Expert on climate change policy, identity politics, and climate change communications.

LEAH C. STOKES
University of California, Santa Barbara

Expert on public policy and environmental politics, with a focus on environmental and energy policies in the United States and Canada.

Gun Control

https://scholars.org
PHILIP J. COOK
Duke University

Expert on violence prevention (with a particular focus on firearms), criminal justice policy and crime prevention.

KRISTIN ANNE GOSS
Duke University

Expert on the role of social movements and interest groups in representing less-advantaged groups in gun policy.

ANDREW V. PAPACHRISTOS
Northwestern University

Expert on urban neighborhoods, street gangs, violent crime, gun violence, and social networks.

KERRI M. RAISSIAN
University of Connecticut

Expert on the effect of policy on family violence and gun violence prevention

JACOB SMITH

https://scholars.org
Duke University

Expert on how different public policies relate to varied outcomes, particularly those affecting the number of gun deaths in the American states.

Health Care

SAMUEL L. DICKMAN
Primary Care, Planned Parenthood South Texas

Expert on disparities in access to care, prisoner health, substance abuse, and HIV/AIDS.

JOE M. FEINGLASS
Northwestern University

Expert on health policy, quality improvement, health disparities, medical informatics, patient safety, and social epidemiology research.

COLLEEN M. GROGAN
University of Chicago

Expert on health policy and politics, patient and consumer participation in health policymaking, and the American welfare state.

JONATHAN GRUBER
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Served as a technical consultant to the Obama Administration and worked with both the Administration and Congress to help craft the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

https://scholars.org
JONATHAN OBERLANDER
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Expert on U.S. health care policy, the politics of health care reform, and Medicare.

BENJAMIN D. SOMMERS
Harvard School of Public Health

Expert on health coverage and access to care, especially for low-income Americans.

Money in Politics

ADAM BONICA
Stanford University

Expert on ideology, campaign finance and interest groups politics.

NICHOLAS CARNES
Duke University

Expert on the influence of legislators’ backgrounds on economic policy and inequalities of social class.

JEN HEERWIG
Stony Brook University
Alexander Hertel-Fernandez
Columbia University
Expert on America's campaign finance system and political inequality.

Joshua Kalla
Yale University
Expert on party politics and dark money.

Michael J Malbin
SUNY at Albany
Expert on the role of donor access and money on voter persuasion.

Michael G. Miller
Barnard College
Expert on campaign finance, election administration, and voting behavior.

Stan Nguyen Oklobdzija
University of California-Riverside

https://scholars.org
DOUGLAS M. SPENCER
University of Colorado Boulder

Expert on campaign finance law and money in politics in both state and federal elections.

CIARA TORRES-SPELLISCY
Stetson University College of Law

Expert on campaign finance, voting rights, and election administration cases in the courts.

Expert on money in politics, strengthening election laws, and improving corporate governance.

CHRISTOPHER WITKO
Pennsylvania State University-Main Campus

Expert on interest group influence in the policy process, money in politics, and the politics of income inequality.

Student Debt

FENABA R. ADDO
University of Wisconsin-Madison

https://scholars.org
Expert on the intersection of family economics and social demography, including the role of education loans and credit card debt on early union formation and racial wealth differences in student loan repayment.

CHALIE EATON
University of California, Merced

Expert on tuition reform in public universities. Eaton’s research examines relationships between financialization and growing inequalities in U.S. higher education.

DONALD E. HELLER
University of San Francisco

Expert on rising tuition and college access, choice, and success for for low-income and minority students.

JASON HOULE
Dartmouth College

Expert on rising debt and social inequality, as well as how debt and the Great Recession are linked to population health and mental health.

JAMAL MAZYCK
San Francisco State University

https://scholars.org
Expert on minority student matriculation in higher education and postsecondary campus climate issues related to students of color.

SHERICE JANAYE NELSON
Southern University

Expert on America's Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

LAURA W. PERNA
University of Pennsylvania

Expert on the student debt crisis and identifying how social structures, educational practices, and public policies can promote college access and attainment, particularly for groups that continue to be underrepresented in higher education.

https://scholars.org