

Paola Flores
Rhetoric 105
Mrs. Hays
8 September 2016

We Need to Hear Each Other Out: The Green Party (2016)

The Green Party discusses the social injustice that occurs in America today. Examples included the wealthy and the rest of its citizenry the working poor, the struggling middle class and others who cannot make ends meet. The party gives points on how programs and services from public schools are cut and fees have inflated. Healthcare for the people is of big interest and is tried to be made affordable and accessible to everyone. The criminal justice system discrimination based on gender, ethnicity and race is the “hot topic” of America, today. The Green party is seeking to empower strengths and values of the people, while maintaining an open mind looking at “family, community, bioregion, state, nation and Earth community.” (II. Social Justice)

In section A of the plank, “Civil Rights and Equal Rights,” the Green Party states that one of their key values is respect for diversity. This serves as warrant. They support the drive that people carry; and that they also comfort the barriers of racism, sexism, homophobia, class oppression, and many other ways that society and culture often separates society.

Section B, “Environmental Justice” explains the idea that the people should not be poisoned or come into contact with harmful levels of chemicals. It follows with how no group of people should come across pollution that is being created by big industrial corporations, governmental and commercial sources or policies.

Section D, “Welfare: A commitment to Ending Poverty” demonstrates how the

capabilities to face what is Modern Day America are challenged when communities are affected by low income households, violence and discouragement. This shows that the party believes in securing a standard way of living, could shape the future onto well established, educated children that were brought up on a dependent environment. Section A, “Civil Rights and Equal rights”, part 7, “Religious Freedom and Secular Equality”, states their belief on maintaining the separation of government and religion, but does assure the right that the people carry; to exercise religion. They wish to end discriminatory federal, state and local laws that are against religious beliefs, as well as non beliefs. They carry out 11 points that range from prosecuting those who commit hate crimes to the restoration of the Pledge of Allegiance to its pre-1954 version, which eliminates the phrase “under God”.

Throughout the Green Party’s “Social Justice” plank, it can be inferred that they cause the stability of the people despite their status, race, gender etc. It can also be inferred that they value the non-materialistic actions that are taken, rather than solely believing “money buys happiness”. The Green Party shows how greatly they are committed to their plan for America by not doubting their abilities, rather stating what is possible. Their beliefs are reflected greatly through their “Immigration/Emigration” and “Civil Rights and Equal Rights” policies. In section A of “Civil rights and Equal Rights”, they state that there is a respect for the rights that the people are given and that it is the peoples defense to understand and prevent discrimination and the abuse of power. In section D, “Welfare: A commitment to Ending Poverty” the party reflects on how work can be performed outside the monetary system has both social and economic value and is essential to a sustainable, reliant economy and amicable communities.

The Green Party also addresses the conflicting views of their platform, and gives reasoning behind what is believed. An example would include their views on immigration and emigration; “Persons can freely chose to line in and work in any county he or she desire” They acknowledge how their goal would be unattainable without reciprocity between such nations. With reciprocity, they set that as a practice goal.

Although the Green Party has disagreements with how the U.S. is run, they do provide information pertaining to certain acts to back up their knowledge and how they would enforce their ideals. They mention the USA Patriot Act, alongside with “kindred new laws” (II. Social Justice). They do specify the Act that they encounter difficulties with, but they never mention which laws they disagree with. They vaguely explain, “Our civil liberties of privacy and free speech are impaired by the excesses of the USA PATRIOT Act and kindred new laws that use a nation tragedy[...] to impose ubiquitous surveillance and control over citizens” (II. Social Justice). This does however, back up their values and possible ideals on how to improve and make Acts and Laws more appealing towards their target audience; the people of America.

The message that The Green Party is trying to convey is equality for all. An example that is provided is their interest for a U.S. passage of CEDAW, which is the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women. In 1979, it was adopted by the U.N. General Assembly, and ratified by 173 countries. However, the U.S. is one of the few countries that have not ratified it. (A. Social Equality). These facts support and introduce the idea that although an industrialized nation, the U.S. does not partake in every act/passage; especially ones that might have the audience, as what we can say, at their fingertips. Another fact that is

given in their plank is the amount of human trafficking that occurs in the U.S.: “Estimates of human trafficking in the U.S vary greatly from 18,000 to 50,000 to over 100,000 with a world-wide estimate of 12.5 million, mostly women and children.” (A. Violence and Oppression)” These statistics are few of many that provide logical support to help identify their claim and point out that violence and oppression is a factor which coincides with its “family, community, bioregion, state, nation and Earth community” (II. Social Justice).

The values and facts that the Green Party gives, all aim to be towards the people of the United States. They try to appeal to everyone who has a problem regarding poverty, crime, social and economic equality etc. The Party's plank uses strong words to emphasize points such as “We favor strong measures to combat official racism in the forms of police brutality directed against people of color” (2. Racial Discrimination i).

Another point that they give out is “We strongly support the vigorous enforcement of civil-rights laws, the aggressive prosecution of hate crimes, and the strengthening of legal services for the poor” (2. Racial Discrimination I). Words like “Vigorous” and “strengthening” show the people the determination and willingness that the Party is going to give to make sure the everyone is feeling safe and under control.

Given the attention that the media has been giving to police brutality, unemployment rates, social and racial equality, the media attempts to encourage the people on speaking and standing up for their beliefs. The Green Party’s plank does an excellent job in pointing out all the current situations that lead to separation between the people and the state. It explains very well on topics such and police brutality and racial segregation, which is shocking to hear, that problems are still

occurring even past the 1960s.

All in all, the purpose of this source is to try to spread the Party's ideals and beliefs in hope to gain awareness to the uncertainties and disbelief's that happen in everyday life. Many might find their ideas confusing for the reason that they hold "10 key values" all both left and right on the political scale. The end result is having the people vote for the Green Party. The Green Party all in all could of been a bit more specific with laws, but being political, they would like to get their point out there and have actions be taken.

Works Cited

The Green Party of the United States. "II. Social Justice." [Www.gp.org](http://www.gp.org). Nation Builder, n.d.
Web. 19 Sept. 2016.