

## Who is Howard Dean?

- He served in the Vermont House from 1982 to 1986; was elected lieutenant governor in 1986, and became governor in 1991 with the death of then-Governor Richard Snelling.
- **Re-elected 5 times** — Governor of Vermont from 1991-2003. He left his position as Governor in order to run for the Presidency.
- A **Medical Doctor** (GP) - practiced in Vermont with his wife (also a physician) for 13 years. He left medicine when he suddenly inherited the Governorship.
- He received his B.A. from Yale University in 1971 and his medical degree from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City in 1978.
- **Husband to Dr. Judith Steinberg Dean** (internist) and **father of two** - one daughter at Yale and one son in high school.
- A fairly **average person**. His wife is remaining at home running her small, private practice and taking care of their son while he campaigns. "He may be speaking on a national stage, but when he got home from his last trip, he did his own laundry -- including some shirts that his wife says archly, should have gone to the cleaners." (quote from [deanforamerica.com](http://deanforamerica.com))

## On the Issues

### SUPPORTING AMERICA'S WORKERS

- **Workers' rights** are fundamental human rights, guaranteed by the Constitution.
- Actively supported nurses' **right to organize**, and was awarded the very first Paul Wellstone Award from the AFL-CIO for his support of workers' rights.
- Proposed amending federal law to allow card-check, ban mandatory antiunion meetings, streamline the NLRB, and punish companies that fail to negotiate with their workers in good faith.
- Will ensure that all US **trade agreements include meaningful protections for labor, the environment, and human rights**.



### RESTORING RURAL AMERICA

- Has a plan to create an economic revival in rural America starts with access to **capital for rural entrepreneurs** and focuses on encouraging new development in areas where out-migration is decimating communities.
- Believes that ending the digital divide is a necessary step to protecting America's rural communities which requires **extending broadband technology** to every American.
- Believes that America's rural communities are threatened by concentration and integration in the agriculture industry, crippling the ability of many small farmers to make a profit.

### PROMOTING AMERICAN HEALTH

- Advocates a proven system of **universal healthcare**: as a doctor and governor, he is the only candidate to have actively provided healthcare to patients and citizens and over 92% of all Vermonters have health insurance - including virtually everyone under 18.
- Believes that working families deserve **affordable health insurance**, and supports extending already existing programs to those Americans who are not currently eligible for federal assistance.
- Believes that companies have an obligation to their workers and the rest of the country to be good corporate citizens and will use **incentives to encourage them to provide their workers with health coverage**.
- Proved the importance of early intervention by instituting "Success by Six" in Vermont. Under the program, 9 out of 10 newborns get a home-visit from trained community outreach workers to help provide their parents with information and parenting skills; as a result, the state's **child and sexual abuse rates have fallen dramatically**.

## SECURING AMERICA AT HOME AND ABROAD

- Believes that America must be a moral force in the world and an embodiment of the goals to which other nations aspire.
- **Opposed the war in Iraq** because he did not believe Iraq presented an imminent threat to the US.
- In April 2003 Dean released his **plan for Reconstruction of Iraq**:
  1. A **NATO-led coalition** should maintain order and guarantee disarmament.
  2. Civilian authority in Iraq should be transferred to an **international body approved by the U.N. Security Council**.
  3. The U.N.'s Oil for Food program should be transformed into an **Oil for Recovery program**, to pay part of the costs of reconstruction and transition.
  4. The U.S. should convene an **international donor's conference** to help finance the financial burden of paying for Iraq's recovery.
  5. **Women should participate** in every aspect of the decision-making process.
  6. A means should be established to **prosecute crimes** committed against the Iraqi people by individuals associated with Saddam Hussein's regime.
  7. A **democratic transition** will take between 18 to 24 months, although troops should expect to be in Iraq for a longer period.
- Believes that we must strengthen homeland security, and that we must **return our focus to defeating terrorism and strengthening alliances**.
- Believes that **helping other countries' emerging middle-classes grow** provides a more secure future for all of us.
- Four goals for American leadership in the world:
  1. First, **defeat the threat** posed by terrorists, tyrants, and technologies of mass destruction.
  2. Second, **strengthen our alliances** and ensure Russia and China are fully integrated into a stable international order.
  3. Third, **enlarge the circle of beneficiaries** of the growing world economy.
  4. And fourth, ensure that life on our fragile planet is **sustainable**.

## PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

- Committed to protecting the environment and understands that **environmental issues cannot be isolated from other issues**, like trade, the economy, or energy policy and that a healthy environment and healthy economy must go hand-in-hand.
- Knows that Americans must reclaim our historic role as leaders and technological innovators, pushing for **new energy sources and increased efficiency**.
- Believes that protecting the environment is a **vital public-health issue**, and that clean air, clean land, and clean water are the rights of all Americans.

## IMPROVING EDUCATION

- Believes that the American education system must prepare and inspire a new generation of leaders.
- **Opposed Bush's harmful "No Child Left Behind"** unfunded mandate, and believes that states and local communities should have greater control over their children's education.
- Supports **accountability in schools**, and supported Vermont's strong testing and accountability programs, but also knows that the key to any education system is committed **parental involvement**.
- Demonstrated a **commitment to early childhood education** by instituting Vermont's "Success by Six" program, which has a proven record of raising health and education levels for Vermont's children.

## REBUILDING AMERICA'S ECONOMY

His economic plan is based on four fundamentals:

- **Repeal the Bush tax cuts**, and use those funds to pay for universal health care, homeland security, and investments in job creation that benefit all Americans.
- Set the nation on the path to a **balanced budget**, recognizing that we cannot have social or economic justice without a sound fiscal foundation.
- Create a **fairer and simpler system of taxation**.
- Assure that **Social Security and Medicare are adequately funded** to meet the needs of the next generation of retirees.

Dean's detailed economic plan can be found at <http://images.deanforamerica.com/docs/031016.americandream.pdf>

## ENSURING CIVIL RIGHTS AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

- Believes that the principles of Civil Rights and Justice are fundamental to restoring the American community.
- Strongly **supports affirmative** action and knows that all Americans benefit from increased diversity in our institutions.
- Strongly supports a **woman's right to choose** - spoke out against the Partial Birth Abortion Ban and parental notification laws.
- Committed to extending **equal rights to all gay and lesbian** Americans.
- Will **oppose the expansion of the PATRIOT Act**, and will fight for the repeal of its unconstitutional portions.
- Believes that the **death penalty** should be used in only the most serious cases, and that **expanded DNA testing and high-quality lawyers** must be part of the process.

## Great Resources to Learn More

- Dean's web site - [www.deanforamerica.com](http://www.deanforamerica.com)
- The Progressive Case for Dean - <http://www.alternet.org/story.html?StoryID=16592>
- Why Dean: An Analysis - <http://www.scfordean.com/modules.php?op=modload&name=Sections&file=index&req=viewarticle&artid=12&page=1>



## Dean's Record

1. When Dean took office, he inherited a \$70 million dollar debt. **In just five years, he reduced that debt by 29%**. This took Vermont's bond value from the lowest in New England to the highest.
2. Last year, as most states scraped the bottom and had to drastically cut funding for social programs, Vermont posted a **\$10 million dollar surplus**. And Dean did all this while actually cutting taxes twice!
3. Under Dean, Vermont's **unemployment rate went from 6.9% to 3.7%**, far below the national average.
4. Gov. Dean managed to **preserve 470,000 acres of forest**, nearly 8% of Vermont's land area.
5. Gov. Dean required factories to have emissions **standards which were even more stringent than the Kyoto treaty**.
6. Thanks to the efforts of Gov. Dean, **96% of the children in Vermont have quality healthcare**. And nearly all adults have access to quality healthcare as well.
7. **Teen pregnancy dropped by 49%** while Dean was in office and is now the lowest in the country.
8. In Vermont, **91% of new mothers receive either an at home follow-up visit or doctor's visit free of charge**. While many do not need these visits, they are invaluable to lower income households, especially single parent households.
9. During Dean's tenure, **child abuse declined by 45%**, in large part due to the post-natal care afforded families who request it.
10. **Child sexual abuse decreased by 70%**, due to Vermont's ground-breaking abuse investigation program.
11. In Vermont, **97% of children are immunized by the time they reach kindergarten**. This makes Vermont second in the nation for child immunization.
12. Dean was **one of only two governors to recognize gay civil unions** and while this may be counter to many people's beliefs, it is right in line with the American ideal that everyone, regardless of race, gender, sex or religion be treated as equals. That is what makes America the greatest country the world has ever known. It is also important to note that Dean considers legislation of civil unions a states' rights issue and has no plans to pursue it as President.