

Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club

Questionnaire for Candidates for November 2014

Dear Candidate,

Congratulations on declaring your candidacy. The Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club invites you to get to know us better as we seek to learn more about you. As we plan our endorsements for the 2014 election cycle, your participation in our club questionnaire allows our membership to better understand you as a candidate: who you are, what you stand for, and what you plan to accomplish in office.

*There are two parts to our questionnaire. Part 1 is a series of short-answer questions. We invite you to be descriptive in this section, however, please keep your responses to under 5 sentences. Part 2 is a simple Yes/No questionnaire that covers a broader set of issues than Part 1. You may expand upon Part 2 answers on a separate sheet of paper. Please return the completed questionnaire by **11:59 PM Thursday, August 14th**. E-mail all questionnaires to PAC Chair Alex Walker at pac@milkclub.org. Please bring at least 5 copies (printed front and back) of your questionnaire to our PAC interviews on **Saturday, August 16**. If you are unable to do so, please let Alex know ASAP. Please do not print this cover sheet.*

*We will be having our candidate interviews on **Saturday, August 16** from **9:30 AM to 4:30 PM** at the **LGBT Center's Ceremonial Room** (1800 Market at Octavia). Alex should be in touch to schedule a 10-minute slot (5 minute speech and the rest for questions and wrap-up). If you have any questions or to reschedule, email him at pac@milkclub.org or call him at 415-876-8254.*

Good Luck,

The Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club

Required Information

Full Name: **Brigitte Davila**

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Website: **www.davila4citycollege.com**

Are you a member of the Harvey Milk Club? **Yes**

If so, when did you first join? **2008**

Are you lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ)? **No**

PART 1: Short-Answer Questionnaire

- 1) Please describe your qualifications for the position you seek (include your key issues/priorities if elected and any key endorsements you'd like to share), plus anything else that you'd like our members to know about you and your candidacy.

I just completed my 20th year of teaching at San Francisco State University. I was always a member of the California Faculty Association, but I became much more active in the last decade. I have served as our local's affirmative action representative, secretary, PAC Chair and liaison to the Education Budget Advocacy Committee. I also served as representative to the San Francisco labor council for two years. Currently, I am a member of the statewide CFA PAC and a higher education representative to the California Teacher's Association.

I am the first in my family to attend and graduate from college. It was not an easy road. Although I performed well in high school, I started working in a factory immediately after graduating. MECHA representatives (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan) were outreaching in my neighborhood and created an awareness of the possibility of obtaining a college degree. The community college was my first step on a journey that ultimately led me to UC Berkeley and Berkeley Law. I began teaching at San Francisco State University in 1994 in the Latina/Latino Studies Department of the College of Ethnic Studies. While there I have created special programs in Community Service Learning, digital technology and online learning.

- 2) If you are running for College Board, tell us about what you have done to support CCSF during its accreditation crisis and what you plan to do to keep it open and funded. Even if you aren't running for College Board, if you have been a part of the fight to save CCSF, feel free to tell us about what you have done to help.

City College must reflect the needs of the community and provide academic and training programs to meet the needs of the entire city. In the case of City College that includes ESL classes, remedial classes, specialized training and life-long learning.

In 2013, I helped coordinate support from the California Faculty Association to pass a resolution supporting City College and condemning the arbitrary and punitive nature of the ACCJC actions. I am a representative to the California Teacher's Association Higher Education Caucus and I support the CTA's critical response to the ACCJC's decision. Even more importantly, I plan to fight hard as a trustee to maintain City College as a community resource accessible to all.

Further, after the election, the BOT needs to hit the ground running advocating for CCSF and developing greater awareness of the College. I would also like to see peer-to-peer recruitment to city college. Many potential students are not aware that CCSF is still accredited. After the worst of the accreditation debacle, the college took a hit in enrollment. Most estimates put the figure at about 35,000 students. This directly affects state funding for the college. We need to address this problem immediately and restore enrollments.

- 3) Do you support repeal or reform of the Ellis Act? Locally, what specifically would you do to fight for housing affordability in San Francisco?

Repealing the heavily abused Ellis Act is only one tool in the housing affordability arsenal. I am also supporting Prop G and Prop H. I would also like to see more funding for intentional community housing or coops.

- 4) In your opinion, what kind of reform of Prop 13 is needed, if any? Would you support a split-roll property tax system?

I would love to see Prop 13 entirely repealed, but a split-role system is more likely. Prop 13 was an overblown "solution" to seniors' property tax problems in 1976. Yes it did maintain many seniors' ability to stay in their homes but the largest support is to corporations.

- 5) LGBTQ elders and older people living with HIV face a number of challenges,

including finding affordable housing, accessing health care and a general lack of services. Many are being evicted. If you were elected, what would you do in your power to help address these challenges?

In general, I am a strong supporter of affordable housing initiatives. The city has reached a crisis situation regarding housing and the elderly including LGBT elderly are the some of the most vulnerable. As a CCSF Trustee, I will advocate for cooperative housing for students. This will have the affect of opening up more housing for others with critical needs

- 6) Similarly, LGBTQ youth face challenges including bullying and a high rate of homelessness, if ostracized by their families. If you are elected, what would you do in your power to help these youth? For School Board candidates, what would you do on the SFUSD board to help LGBTQ students who are bullied?

First, although I am not a school board candidate, I want to emphasize that I have zero tolerance in my classroom for slurs & bullying comments based on sexual orientation or gender.

LGBT Youth face a particularly bewildering landscape, especially if they were rejected by their families. Outreach and resources to support them should always be available. Students going through this difficult time should have the support they need to know that "it gets better."

I have mentored many LGBT students as part of my work at San Francisco State University. I understand the loneliness and the isolation that some LGBT students feel.

- 7) Supervised injection facilities or drug consumption facilities have been shown to reduce new HIV and hepatitis infections, overdose deaths, and public drug use, and to increase linkage to medical care and substance use treatment and save money, yet they remain controversial and illegal. If you are elected, what would you do to advocate for supervised injection sites?

I fully support decriminalizing and de-stigmatizing addiction. It should be handled as a health matter. I would support the creation of safe facilities where addiction can be managed and treated.

PART 2: Yes/No Questionnaire

Please check **Yes** or **No** for each question.

GENERAL	YES	NO
1. Are you registered to vote as a Democrat?	X	
2. Have you ever run for elected office before?		X

3. Do you have a campaign consultant? If so, who:		X
4. Have you ever sought the Milk Club endorsement in the past?		X

LGBTQ ISSUES

5. Do you support including full transgender health benefits in Covered California health plans?	X	
6. Do you support public funding for employment development for transgender individuals?	X	

TENANT, HOUSING, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

7. Do you support rent control?	X	
8. Have you ever been involved as homeowner, buyer or agent in the eviction of a tenant? If so, please explain:		X

RACIAL AND IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES

9. Do you support driver's licenses for undocumented persons?	X	
10. Do you support localities allowing noncitizens to vote in local elections, including but not limited to school board?	X	
11. Do you support the protection of due process for immigrant youth accused of crime?	X	
12. Do you support the DREAM Act?	X	

SOCIAL JUSTICE, HEALTH, NIGHTLIFE AND LABOR ISSUES

13. Do you support capital punishment (death penalty)?		X
14. Do you support the decriminalization of sex work?	X	
15. Did you support Prop 35 in November 2012?	X	
16. Did you support Sen. Leno's 2013 bill (or at least the concept) to allow localities to allow some bars to serve liquor until 4 AM?	X	
17. Do you support the legalization, taxation, and regulation of adult recreational use of marijuana?	X	
18. Have you ever crossed a union picket line or violated a union boycott? If so, explain:		X
19. Do you support the Domestic Workers' Bill of Rights?	X	

EDUCATION AND YOUTH ISSUES

YES

NO

20. Did you support Assemblymember Ammiano's AB 1266 (rights for transgender students)?	X	
21. Do you support the Common Core education standards?	X	
22. Do you support lowering the threshold to pass a local parcel tax for education to 55%?	X	

ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

23. Do you support California's high speed rail plans?	X	
24. Do you support Governor Brown's Delta Tunnels plan?		X

LOCAL BALLOT MEASURES

25. Do you support Prop A (Transportation and Road Improvement Bond)?	X	
26. Do you support Prop B (Population-Based Adjustment to General Fund Appropriation to Transportation Fund)?	X	
27. Do you support Prop C (Children and Youth Fund)?	X	
28. Do you support Prop D (Retiree Health Benefits for Former Redevelopment Agency and Successor Agency Employees)?	X	
29. Do you support Prop E (Tax on Sugar-Sweetened Beverages)?	X	
30. Do you support Prop F (Pier 70 Development Height Limit Increase)?	X	
31. Do you support Prop G (Harvey Milk Anti-Speculation Tax)?	X	
32. Do you support Prop H (Maintaining Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park as Natural Grass)?	X	
33. Do you support Prop I (Park Code – Children's Playgrounds, Walking Trails, Athletic Fields)?		X
34. Do you support Prop J (Administrative Code – Minimum Wage)?	X	
35. Do you support Prop K (Affordable Housing Goals)?	X	
36. Do you support Prop L (Transportation Priorities)?		X

STATE BALLOT MEASURES

37. Do you support Prop 43 (Water Bond)? Note: this may not end up being on the ballot this year.	X	
38. Do you support Prop 44 (Rainy Day Fund)?	X*	
39. Do you support Prop 45 (Health Insurers Justify Rate Increases)?	X	
40. Do you support Prop 46 (Drug Testing Doctors; Raising Medical Malpractice Awards Cap)?	X	
41. Do you support Prop 47 (Reducing Some Crimes From Felonies to Misdemeanors)?	X	
42. Do you support Prop 48 (Indian Gaming Compacts Referendum)?	X	
43. Do you support Prop 49 (Constitutional Amendment Opposing Citizens United)?	X	

* but not school district caps