

Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club

Questionnaire for Candidates for November 2018

Dear Candidate,

Congratulations on declaring your candidacy! The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club invites you to get to know us a little better as we plan our endorsements for the November 2018 election cycle. Your participation in our Club's questionnaire will allow our Membership to better understand who you are, what you stand for, and what you plan to accomplish if you get elected to office.

*There are two parts to our questionnaire. **Part 1 is a series of short-answer questions, less than 150 words. Part 2 is a simple set of Yes/No questions** covering a broad set of issues. If necessary, please expand upon your responses in Part 2 separately.*

E-mail all questionnaires to Political Action Committee (PAC) Chair Tom Temprano at pac@milkclub.org and to our Correspondent at correspondent@milkclub.org.

*Good Luck,
The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club*

Required Information

Full Name: *James Chang*

Office Sought: *Berkeley Rent Stabilization Board Commissioner*

Mailing Address: *2430 Dwight Way APT 111, Berkeley, CA 94704*

Phone: *(415) 527-7765*

Email: *jcjameschang@gmail.com*

Website: *www.james.vote*

Are you a member of the Harvey Milk Club? Since when?

Do you identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ)?

PART 1: Short-Answer Questionnaire

(Please limit responses to 5 sentences or 150 words)

1) Please describe your qualifications for the position you seek. Include any key endorsements you'd like to share plus anything else that you would like our Members to know about you and your candidacy.

I am the youngest elected official in the East Bay. I am the only elected Queer person on the rent board. I am also the only elected Asian person in Berkeley. Professionally, I have experience working in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. I have also worked both in and outside of politics both for an elected in office and out.

I believe we need to look at how we can empower marginalized communities, the queer community, the elderly, the disabled community, and we need to empower people of color both in heteronormative and queer spaces.

I'm endorsed by:

California Young Democrats

Berkeley Tenants Union

Senator **Nancy Skinner**

Assemblymember **Tony Thurmond**

Berkeley Mayor **Jesse Arreguin**

Berkeley Councilmembers:

Linda Miao, Cheryl Davila, Ben Bartlett, Kate Harrison, Sophie Hahn, Kriss Worthington,

Berkeley Rent Board Commissioners: **Igor Tregub, Alejandro Soto-Vigil, Christina Murphy, Jesse Townley, Paola Laverde, John Selawsky, Maria Poblet, Leah Simon Weisberg**

2) What are your plans to address housing affordability and economic inequality in the region you wish to represent? What have you done to address this crisis, if anything?

To address housing affordability and economic inequality, we must address displacement. We need to support Rent Control and Prop 10, expanding renter protection rights 2.0, universal right to legal counsel. I will continue to lobby any City Council (like Oakland, Richmond, SF) to help tenants. I will continue to push for more renters rights like I have

spoken and lobbied San Francisco supervisors to support Tenants Rights 2.0, which expands just cause for eviction.

On affordability, we need to implement and expand the legal aid that help keep people from being priced out of their homes. We need to make sure homeowners can stay in their homes and not get foreclosed. We need to be intentional about Building more housing. 100% market rate housing on Telegraph, College and Solano Avenue is okay. Anything below 40% affordable housing in South Berkeley is unacceptable

3) The anti-black racial biases of both the police and the criminal justice system is well documented. What are the most important actions that you can take in your office to stabilize and support the African American community against these threats?

Not be afraid to say Black Lives Matter!

Listen to the BLM community demands and work with the city to actually make progress in meeting them community where they are.

Appoint/ direct staff to hire more staff and management from the African American community.

4) What would you describe as your most important actions or plans to support the LGBTQ community?

- 1) be out and proud
- 2) Make sure LGBTQ folks are counted
 - a) when doing data collection on city services and staff, we have to know if our population is being served
- 3) be intentional with intersectionality
 - a) LGBTQ are not all white and male, we have to recognize the struggles of the community and individuals to build solidarity in finding solutions to dignity, respect, and full equality for our community

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?	Y	
2. Have you ever run for elected office before?	Y	

3. Do you have a campaign consultant or other main point of contact? If so, who? <u> Jacie Rowe: (510) 426-0870 jacie.rowe@gmail.com </u>	Y	
4. Have you ever sought the Harvey Milk Club endorsement in the past?		N

LGBTQ ISSUES

**YE NO
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5. Do you support public funding for employment development specifically for transgender individuals?	Y	
6. Do you support expanding LGBTQ curriculum in our public schools?	Y	

TENANT, HOUSING, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

YES NO

7. Do you support the expansion of rent control for buildings constructed after 1979?	Y	
8. Have you ever been involved as homeowner, buyer or agent in the eviction of a tenant? If so, please explain at the end of the questionnaire.		N
9. Do you support requiring Short Term Rental platforms (e.g. AirBnB, VRBO) to publish registration numbers for properly-registered short-term rentals on their respective websites; handing over booking data to the Planning Department; and increasing funding for enforcement capacity?	Y	
12. Do you support the statewide ballot initiative Prop 10 to repeal Costa-Hawkins?	Y	

IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES

YES NO

13. Do you support Sanctuary City?	Y	
14. Do you support due process protections for immigrant youth accused of crimes?	Y	
15. Do you support localities allowing noncitizens to vote in local elections, including but not limited to School Board?	Y	
16. Do you support expanding funding for immigrant defense services?	Y	

SOCIAL JUSTICE, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND LABOR ISSUES

YES NO

20. Do you support the implementation of supervised injection sites?	Y	
21. Did you support allowing localities to allow some bars to serve liquor until 4 AM?	Y	
22. Do you support the decriminalization of sex work?	Y	
23. Have you ever crossed a union picket line or violated a union boycott? If so, explain below.		N
24. Do you support efforts to allow employees of Uber, Lyft and other ridesharing services to unionize?	Y	
25. Do you support requiring an independent investigation of all police officer-related shootings?	Y	
26. Do you support the use of tasers by law enforcement?		N
27. Do you support the death penalty?		N

EDUCATION AND YOUTH

YES NO

28. Do you support lowering the voting age to 16 for local elections?	Y	
29. Do you support Common Core education standards?	Y	
30. Do you support teacher training to implement alternatives to suspension in instances of disruption or willful defiance?	Y	

ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

YES NO

31. Do you ride public transit on a regular basis? More than once a week?	Y	
32. Do you support community choice aggregation?	Y	
33. Do you support expanding free access to public transit for seniors and disabled persons?	Y	
34. Do you support requiring ridesharing companies (e.g. Uber, Lyft) to provide trip data to local government order to operate in your locality?	Y	