**The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club**

**Candidate Questionnaire for March 2020**

*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 March 2020 primary election. 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 are elected to office.*

*There are two parts to our questionnaire plus additional questions for individual offices. Part 1 is a series of short-answer questions, with a 150-word limit on answers. Part 2 is a series of Yes/No questions covering a broad set of issues.*

*Please email your answers to Political Action Committee (PAC) at* [*pac@milkclub.org*](mailto:pac@milkclub.org) *and to our Correspondent Lee Hepner at* [*correspondent@milkclub.org*](mailto:correspondent@milkclub.org)*.*

*There will be an opportunity for you or a proxy to speak in person at the club’s PAC meeting on Saturday, December 7th from 11am to 6pm at the Women’s Building at 3543 18th Street. Please contact us at* [*pac@milkclub.org*](mailto:pac@milkclub.org) *or* [*president@milkclub.org*](mailto:president@milkclub.org) *to schedule an appointment.* ***And please note that your time will be limited to 5 minutes (including questions). So the content of this questionnaire will be the main source for endorsement consideration.***

*Good Luck!*

**Required Information**

***Full Name: Gloria Berry***

***Office Sought: Democratic County Central Committee***

***Mailing Address:***

***Phone:***

***Email: GloriaBerry.DCCC2020@gmail.com***

***Website: under construction***

***Are you a Member of the Harvey Milk LGBTQ Club?: no***

***If so, since when?:***

***Do you identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and/or queer (LGBTQ)?:*** no

**PART 1:**

**Questions for All Candidates**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. Please describe your qualifications for the position you seek. Feel free to add anything that you would like our Members to know about you and your candidacy.

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The San Francisco Democratic Party represents voters who want to see fundamental change in our political system. This is what makes me qualified because I comprehend that what has been done is not working. It’s time for the Democratic Party to reflect real people that are in the trenches instead of folks that seek these positions for a career in politics. I was elected as a Delegate to the California Democratic Party Assembly District 17 for 2019-2020. For that election I was on the Progressive slate and I won. I volunteered to be on the Progressive slate’s platform committee and I’m the sole person responsible for getting the issue of racial disparities in education on our platform. Additionally for the state chair election I voted for Kimberly Ellis. I also volunteered to be on the DCCC Black Agenda Committee and worked on the racial disparity question for the DCCC candidate questionnaire. My life experience Qualifications are I was a homeless Veteran, had a marijuana case and my family was evicted from D5 after living there 19 years.

2. Do you have any key endorsements that you would like to share? Why are these endorsements meaningful to you?

Shahid Buttar

Kayla Paige-Williams

SF Berniecrats

Matt Haney

3. What do you see as the most important short-term and long-term solutions to SF’s homeless crisis? What can you do in your office to help end homelessness?

The DCCC votes on resolutions, writes questionnaires for candidates to respond to, interviews these candidates and then votes on them. My plan is to vote yes on resolutions and candidates that have substance that are supportive of real solutions that address housing affordability like rent control. I will vote no or no endorsement if a resolution or candidate supports more market rate housing being built. I will request to to be on questionnaire committee so that we can ask candidates what their solutions are and whether they are leaning towards housing the poor or building investment properties. I volunteered and work on the DCCC Black agenda meeting to address these matters. Once our agenda is completed on I will definitely vote yes on it.

4. What are your plans to address housing affordability and economic inequality in San Francisco? What work have you done on these issues in the past?

Vote yes on resolutions and candidates that support housing affordability and economic equity. I have supported the Office of Racial Equity and look forward to holding them accountable. I volunteered for the DCCC Black agenda committee and we are addressing these exact issues.

5. Describe your work addressing racial injustice and inequity in San Francisco.

Due to wanting to escape racist and sexist job availabilities and not being able to afford college I left San Francisco in 1987 and joined the Navy. When I returned in 1997, although I had ten years of tech, I could not get hired at a tech company. I then became a correctional officer which was very sexist and racist. Working at San Quentin for eight years the reality of mass incarceration was sobering. So what I have done for the last ten years is fight for racial environmental justice at the Hunters Point shipyard, protested for Mumia Abdul Jamal, attended justice for Oscar Grant meetings, supported movements to hire Black contractors, attended several police commission meetings and applied twice to be on the commission, spoke in behalf of the Black community at countless Board of Supervisors meetings, and volunteered for the DCCC Black Agenda Committee.

6. How have you supported economically-underresourced LGBTQ San Franciscans, and how will you continue to do so if elected?

I have supported all LGBTQ I have come in contact with via various jobs and friendships. It bothers me when people patronize the LGBTQ community especially when it’s just for a vote. If elected I want the LGBTQ community to feel free to contact me for any resolutions that support the community to be presented to the DCCC for and consult me when it becomes aware that a candidate up for vote has failed LGBTQ San Franciscans.

7. Do you support State Senator Scott Wiener’s SB 50, a rezoning proposal to promote housing density? Why or why not?

Absolutely not. No more investment properties need to be built as long as we have an abundance of vacancies. Reverse gentrifications need to be implemented ASAP. The false narrative that affordable housing will be a solution for the poor needs to stop. Affordable housing is not affordable.

8. What are your thoughts on the role of law enforcement and corporations in the

annual Pride parade?

Law enforcement and corporations should only be in the parade as individuals. I actually also have a problem with politicians patronizing the parade for election purposes although it would be difficult to discern.

9. Do you support lowering the voting age to 16 for local elections? Why or why not?

Yes I support lowering the voting age. If youth can work at sixteen and join the military at 17 they should be allowed to vote.

10. Who did you support in the recent District 5 Supervisorial race?

Dean Preston and Nomvula O’meara

11. Who did you support in the recent District Attorney's race?

Chesa Boudin

12. Who did you support in the 2019 Mayor’s race?

Joel Ventresca

**Only SF DCCC Candidates**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. Are you presently a member of the San Francisco DCCC? If so, did you obtain your position from an appointment?

No

2. Please explain three main goals you would like to achieve as a DCCC member.

Pass the Black agenda, add more equity to the candidate questionnaire and get more oppressed people to vote.

3. How will you make the local Democratic Party more accessible, relevant, and engaged to community members?

Hold the DCCC outreach member accountable and support their efforts. Encourage members to come to community events even when it’s not election year.

4. Do you support limits on DCCC fundraising? If so, explain how?

Yes. Viable candidates should not be based on how much fund raising they can do. That philosophy is outdated. Also, limiting fundraising may discourage some candidates from using the DCCC as a treasure chest but have no true interest in building the party.

5. If you served on the DCCC during the 2019 endorsement process, how did you vote for

Mayor:

District Attorney:

District 5 Supervisor:

Prop C (Vaping):

Prop D (Uber/Lyft Tax):

Prop E (Teacher & Family Housing):

Prop F (Sunlight on Dark Money):

6. Do you support a candidate or candidates for President in 2020? Why?

Bernie Sanders. He has a history in civil rights, should have been nominated in 2016, will sign the congressional bill to explore reparations, showed up to the California African American Caucus twice this year, and is anti corporation.

**Only Judicial Candidates**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. Are you presently serving on the bench? If so, how did you obtain your seat?

2. Please provide three main reasons why you should serve as judge.

3. What are your thoughts on the cash bail system, and how should it be changed?

4. Please share your perspective on racial bias and its effects on the criminal justice system. How would you reduce this sort of bias? (For example, San Francisco has approximately 5% African American residents but over 50% of its inmates are African American.)

5. If you are serving on civil court, what measures would you take to try to make civil court more affordable and accessible to people of low income and modest means?

6. If you are serving on criminal court, what mitigating factors would you consider in sentencing defendants which you feel are not given enough consideration now?

7. Have you ever been held in contempt, been the subject of an adverse finding by the Commission of Judicial Performance, or been reprimanded by the California State Bar? If the answer is *yes* to any of these, please explain the circumstances.

**Only Congressional Candidates**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. Please explain why you are running for Congress.

2. Briefly describe three achievements you have made in your Congressional district.

3. How will you make the local Democratic Party more accessible, relevant, and engaging for community members?

4. Do you support Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez’s *Green New Deal?* Why or why not?

5. Do you support Medicare For All? If so, how would you implement it?

6. Do you support reducing military spending, and diverting it towards domestic programs? If so, how would you help implement this?

7. Do you support reducing America’s military presence in other countries?

8. What would you do to improve America’s current immigration policy? Give some examples.

9. Do you support raising the Federal Minimum wage? If so, to what amount?

10. Is your campaign accepting any corporate or PAC money? If so, please list those sources.

11. What are your main strategies for meeting voters?

12. Do you support a candidate or candidates for President in 2020? Why?

**Only State Assembly & State Senate Candidates**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. What are your top three goals as a member of the State Legislature?

2. Will you increase truly affordable housing while respecting the autonomy of local zoning and housing policies? If so, how?

3. How will you continue to advance state environmental policies that adequately address the climate crisis?

4. Will you support a permanent ban on fracking in California?

5. What are your plans for improving and expanding public transportation?

6. How will you ensure that public education is fully funded and that all schools are provided with adequate resources, regardless of locale? How exactly will you increase teachers’ pay?

7. How will you address and help remedy the record number of prison inmates? What programs will you undertake to assist prisoners before release and reduce recidivism?

8. Is your campaign accepting any corporate or PAC money? If so, please list those sources.

9. Do you support a candidate or candidates for President in 2020? Why?

**Only Presidential Candidates**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. Please explain why your candidate is running for President.

2. Briefly describe three major achievements your candidate has made prior to running for president.

3. Does your candidate support Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez’s *Green New Deal?* Why or why not?

4. Does your candidate support Medicare For All? If so, how would it be implemented?

5. Does your candidate support reducing military spending, and diverting it towards domestic programs? If so, how would you help implement this?

6. Does your candidate support reducing America’s military presence in other countries?

7. What would your candidate do to improve America’s current immigration policy? Give some examples.

8. What steps will your candidate take to ensure reproductive freedom and LGBTQ rights?

9. Does your candidate support raising the Federal Minimum wage? If so, to what amount?

10. Explain the criteria your candidate considers when appointing federal judges.

11. Is your candidate’s campaign accepting any corporate or PAC money? If so, please list those sources.

**Only Ballot Measures**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. Briefly explain the purpose of this ballot initiative and what it would do.

2. What would be the fiscal impact of this initiative?

3. Who crafted this initiative, and how was it placed on the ballot?

4. Who are the initiative’s principal consultants, and what is its main funding sources?

5. Who are some of the initiatives’s individual and organizational supporters?

6. Who are some of the initiative’s individual and organizational opponents?

7. Why do you think the Harvey Milk Club should endorse this initiative?

**PART 2:**

**Yes or No Questions**

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

**GENERAL YES NO**

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| 1. Are you registered to vote as a Democrat? | x |  |

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| 2. Have you ever sought elected office before? | x |  |

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| 3. Do you have a campaign consultant or other main point of contact? If so, who? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  | x |

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| 4. Have you ever sought a Milk Club endorsement in the past? | x |  |

**LGBTQ ISSUES YES NO**

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| 5. Should the SFPD formally apologize for the decades of homophobic and transphobic abuses and violence it committed against the LGBTQ community that have spanned decades. | x |  |

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| 6. Do you support public funding for employment development for transgender job-seekers? | x |  |

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| 7. Do you support efforts to expand access to PrEP and the *Getting to Zero* initiative to end the HIV epidemic in San Francisco? | x |  |

**TENANT, HOUSING, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES YES NO**

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| 8 Do you support the creation of an independent commission to oversee the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Services? | x |  |

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| 9. Do you support the split-role repeal of Proposition 13? | x |  |

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| 10. Do you support the repeal of the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act? | x |  |

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| 11. Do you support the repeal of the Ellis Act? | x |  |

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| 12. Do you support increasing funding for enforcement capacity for Short Term Rental platforms, e.g. AirBnB and VRBO? | x |  |

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| 13. Do you support the sweeps of homeless encampments by the Department of Public Works? |  | x |

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| 14. Do you support a vacancy tax on empty commercial properties? | x |  |

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| 15. Do you support a vacancy tax on empty residential properties? | x |  |

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| 16. Would you support a licensing system for landlords in San Francisco? | x |  |

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| 17. Do you support a public municipal bank in San Francisco? | x |  |

**IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES YES NO**

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| 18. Should U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement be abolished? | x |  |

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| 19. Do you support San Francisco’s Sanctuary City status? | x |  |

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| 20. Do you support due process protections for immigrant youth accused of crimes? | x |  |

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| 21. Do you support localities allowing noncitizens to vote in local elections, including, but not limited to, the SF School Board? | x |  |

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| 22. Do you support increased funds for immigrant defense services? | x |  |

**SOCIAL JUSTICE, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND LABOR ISSUES YES NO**

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| 23. Do you support the death penalty? |  | x |

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| 24. Do you support the use of tasers by law enforcement? |  | x |

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| 25. Do you support requiring an independent investigation of all police officer-related shootings? | x |  |

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| 26. Should the Department of Police Accountability have the power to investigate allegations of misconduct by members of the Sheriff’s Department? | x |  |

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| 27. Should a civilian oversight commission for the Sheriff’s Department be created, with the power to suspend or terminate members of the department? | x |  |

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| 28. Do you support the implementation of supervised injection/consumption sites? | x |  |

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| 29. Do you support the decriminalization of sex work? | x |  |

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| 30. Have you ever crossed a union picket line or ignored a union boycott? |  | x |

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| 31. Do you support the right for public sector employees to go on strike? | x |  |

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| 32. Do you support AB 5, making it harder for companies to label workers as independent contractors instead of employees? | x |  |

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| 33. Do you support the recent vote by the SF Board of Supervisors to close Juvenile Hall? |  | x |

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| 34. Do you support the rebuilding of the county jail at 850 Bryant? |  | x |

**EDUCATION AND YOUTH YES NO**

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| 35. Do you support expanding LGBTQ curriculum throughout San Francisco’s public schools? | x |  |

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| 36. Do you support the full, continuous funding for Free City College? | x |  |

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| 37. Do you think teachers' salaries should be increased to ensure a living wage in San Francisco? | xx |  |

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| 38. Do you support the March 2020 ballot initiative known as the San Francisco Affordable Housing/Jobs Balanced Development Act (“M2”)? | x |  |

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES YES NO**

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| 39. Do you support the recent bailout of Pacific, Gas, & Electric? |  | x |

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| 40. Do you support the dissolution of Pacific, Gas, & Electric? | x |  |

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| 41. Do you support expanding the CleanPower SF program? | x |  |

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| 42. Should CEQA guidelines be reduced in order to increase development? |  | x |

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| 43. Do you ride San Francisco public transit on a daily basis? |  | x |

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| 44. Do you support free access to public transit for seniors,  disabled persons, the economically disadvantaged, and the underserved? | x |  |

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| 45. Do you support a plan to provide free transportation citywide? | x |  |

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| 46. Do you support the ongoing switchbacks on the K, N, and T Muni lines? |  | x |

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| 47. Should the mayor continue to appoint all commissioners to the SFMTA? |  | x |

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| 48. Did you support Measure D on the November 2019 ballot? |  | x |

**POLITICAL TRANSPARENCY YES NO**

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| 50. Did you support the recent *Sunlight on Dark Money (****Prop F****)* ballot measure on the November 2019 ballot? | x |  |

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| 51. Does your campaign accept corporate contributions? |  | x |

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| 52. Does your campaign accept contributions from individuals with a financial interest in land use matters valued at $5 million or more? |  | x |

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| 53. Do you support expanding SF’s public financing program? | x |  |

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| 54. Do you support Supervisor Gordon Mar's charter measure to prohibit a mayoral appointment within 90 days of an election? | x |  |