

THE  
ECONOMIC  
CLUB OF  
CHICAGO

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Questions submitted to Poll Everywhere at  
The First Forum Luncheon featuring David Axelrod  
Moderated by Steve Edwards

- Do you believe the only way a women will win the US presidential election is if both parties candidates are women?
- Trump has previously never held a public office. Do you think that is a good or a bad thing?
- David - during the campaign, why do you think so many got distracted on criticizing Trump the person instead of the addressing the underlying the concerns of those who supported him?
- Do you think losing the election will actually help keep Hillary out of jail?
- What are the implications of Bannon as Chief Strategist?
- Who might Democrats work to elect as our next IL Governor?
- What questions should journalists be asking Republicans who are in leadership positions in the house and senate?
- It feels like there are pervasive and strong felt sentiments of gender and racial biases permeating America. And an emboldened permissiveness to bullying and discrimination. This feels so backward. How do we hope? What productive actions do you recommend prioritizing?
- Both the DNC and RNC were spectators in 2016....what role will should they play in future Presidential elections to increase their relevance?
- What are the top 3 things the Democratic Party can do to rebuild?
- What are the national security implications of the "never Trump" movement? Is there a large enough pool of qualified individuals outside of this group from which to build a national security team?
- Should the US sign a new free trade agreement with the U.K., Canada and Mexico?
- Will NATO survive a pivot to Russia and away from Europe?
- Should someone from the Clinton campaign actually take responsibility for the loss instead of blaming the FBI?
- How do you feel government agencies will have checks and balances in a trump administration?
- Is it time for a President to be uncensored and Tweet publicly? Have we held back the ability for the public to connect directly with a President?
- What advice would you give to the Trump administration?

- What about authenticity?
- How do we get rid of the Electoral College?
- Four years from now, what do you feel will be the three worst policy decisions of the Trump administration?
- You said on CNN (Wed Nov 9, 844P ET) "that if you respect democracy you make it work". But what if the Democratic system elected a Fascist?
- Did the middle class in the Rust Belt not hear the Democratic message or was the message simply not there?
- What do we do about IL debt?
- Please discuss the effect of the following 3 events on the election: 1) Obamacare premiums 2) Deplorables comment 3) James Comey emails
- Given the opportunity, what advice would you give Donald Trump to bring healing to our country?
- Has the electoral college outlived its usefulness?
- Do you think Trump will be impeached under the 25th amendment?
- Will Mike Pence perhaps be the most powerful Vice President in modern history?
- On a scale of 0-10, rate how bad you thought the Clinton campaign strategy was?
- In hindsight, what would you & Pres Obama have done differently to better communicate the value of Obama's economic policies to the white working class?
- Why do you believe people are expecting a different Donald than the one we saw on the campaign?
- What are the Dems chance of taking the senate in 2018?
- How does the Democratic Party reinvent itself?
- Is there any way that the environment won't suffer during the Trump presidency?
- There has been a great deal of discussion regarding the electoral college. What are your thoughts?
- Will we have an even more polarized and splintered electorate in 2020?
- How did you manage to restrain yourself when sitting across from Kayleigh and Jeffrey on CNN
- Are you going to wait and see what happens or try to intervene or act somehow based on your fears?
- What do you think are the odds that Trump is impeached in his first two years?
- If there are no clear or easy answers on the economic issues, what alternate message would break through to the parts of America that voted for Trump?
- Given trump's antipathy towards outlets like the NYT, CNN, and the WaPo, what are the implications for press freedom in a trump administration?
- How long does priebus last as chief of staff?
- What do we, as a concerned citizenry about our government, do between now and 4 years from now?
- Tax cuts and no new jobs. What happens?
- Do you think the primary system failed both parties?

- What if anything do think Hillary Clinton should do now to help Trump bridge the divide in the country?
- Would Bernie Sanders have been a better, successful candidate?
- What is your advice to Democrats now? Where do we put our time, money and energy?
- If messaging was one of the reasons the Dems lost, how much responsibility do those who were in charge of message-dispersal (consulting firms that were paid millions) have in the loss? Also, will this change the makeup of campaign staffs to fewer "tech geeks from top tier schools" to more "average voters," for example the ones in McCombe, MI?
- Should Obama have done more to better address the divide in this country that became apparent in this election?
- Will Trump's feuding with press result in significant erosion of press rights and effectiveness?
- How will public education be impacted?
- Michael Bloomberg lacked prior political experience. Arnold Schwarzenegger lacked experience when he became good governor. Both did what I consider excellent jobs. What is wrong with our county accepting a businessman into our government as President? The balance of power should provide the support with the thousands of people working in our bloated government
- What needs to be done to have a viable 3rd party candidate for the White House. How long do you think it will be?
- We've blamed the media and polls and Comey - but to what extent was the Clinton campaign responsible for Tuesday's loss? Where did they go wrong?
- We have a lot of young people in our office fired up and wanting to do something. What do you tell them to do? Where do you channel that energy?
- 30% of Latinos voted for Trump. Do you believe Democrats did enough to reach out to Latinos, especially in critical states like Florida?
- Is this an awakening for broader participation? A new set of people seeking office a less passive electorate? Could this be a breakthrough for American politics and governance by the people?
- What about women's issues and the Supreme Court? What's a constructive path forward?
- How effective can ego stroking be in pushing Trump to more progressive, or at least rational, positions?
- Just for a fun ending question...what possessed him to be the homeowner association president at Water Tower?
- Does trump win this election without racism, sexism and bigotry?
- Trump also pulled votes from white collar workers. Let's not dismiss this reality. How much of those votes really was a vote for smaller government? Less regulation? A vote for Hillary was essentially a vote for the status quo which became increasingly unacceptable. Please comment.
- What was your impression of the meeting between President Obama and Trump?
- What is the most responsible posture the average citizen can take now to help the country survive a Trump administration?

- What are your thoughts about likely Supreme Court nominees? Is Ted Cruz really a possible selection? What is your thought on the resulting impact on Roe v Wade and the 2nd Amendment?
- Can you talk about nepotism and the role Trumps children's can play. And security clearance?
- Some western democracies do not allow for false statements during political campaigns and also require that citizens vote. Are these possible to enact in the US?
- How do you explain how so many voters have no regard for trump's apparent lack of fitness to be president?
- Do you think Hillary Clinton being a woman contributed to her loss?
- Do you feel the new administration could lead to a new Cold War?
- Of the population that didn't vote, do we know enough about the segments inside that non voting population and which candidate they would have supported if activated?
- Do you think President Obama neglected rural America contributing to the backlash against Secretary Clinton?
- Is Mike Pence going to be de facto President, given Trumps seeming disinterest in actual policy and consideration of the issues?