

FACT Questions for Gubernatorial Candidates

(each answer limited to 3 minutes)

General

1. What do you think is the primary function of civil government?

Marriage/Family/Life

2. Do you think that either the concept of “gender,” as distinguished from “sex,” or “gender identity” should be included as a protected class in Tennessee’s civil rights laws? Why or why not?
3. Do you think the concept of sexual orientation should be included as a protected class in Tennessee’s civil rights laws? Why or why not?
4. If litigation over a new or existing law in Tennessee or even in some other state gave the United States Supreme Court an opportunity to reverse its 2015 decision regarding same-sex marriage, would it be your hope that the Court would do so? Why or why not?
5. If *Roe v. Wade* were ever overturned, what law or laws regarding abortion would you be willing to encourage the Legislature to enact and why?
6. In 2016, the ACLU filed a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education against a local school district for discrimination because it had designated its multi-person locker rooms and bathrooms for use based on the student’s biological sex, even though it made accommodations for students who do not want to use those facilities based on their biological sex. What are your thoughts about whether schools should be allowed to have such a policy and whether the state should protect local schools from complaints and lawsuits over such policies?

Separation of Powers

7. Should the Attorney General continue to be appointed by the state’s Supreme Court justices or should that office be filled by popular vote of the people or by appointment of the Legislature in the same way they appoint the Secretary of State, Comptroller, and Treasurer and what is the basis for your opinion?
8. What criteria would you apply in nominating someone to the Tennessee Supreme Court?

Religious Liberty

9. In some states, religiously-based adoption agencies are being threatened with the loss of their state license to do adoptions if they will only place children in homes in which the marriage is between a male and female. What position would your administration take on that issue?