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PSC 101- 1012

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Spring 2020

KNPR Segment Summary

Segment: Bernie Sanders Appeals To Nevada Voters With Working Class Message

In this segment of the Nevada Public Radio, democratic presidential candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders was interviewed by Mike Prevatt. In this interview he discussed his race against his current opponents and delivered/reiterated his message, which he hoped to attract and gain the support of Nevadans during Nevada's early caucus. He touched based on his agenda as president and his current tactics to attain the funds he would need to carry out his goals. He also briefly thanked the working class in Nevada who had been donating to his presidential campaign.

During this segment with presidential candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders, discussed his race against democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden. He was briefly questioned on his agenda as a democratic candidate with socialist/progressive goals. His biggest attention grabber being his support for middle class families. His promise to rid student debt and to provide all Americans with healthcare and cheaper access to medication were big issues discussed in this segment. He created a clear plan to outline to the public the funding of these trillions dollars which consisted of bailing out Wall Street and giving huge tax breaks to the top one percent. This one percent of course being private investors and monopolies around the country. Senator Sanders was quick to defend his stance by adding his goal to cut prescription drug costs in half is not a "radical statement". Instead he sees this as a step to leveling out healthcare spending to measure up with Canada and other countries around the world. He continued by providing America with an

anecdote of the time he traveled with breast cancer patients to receive medication for “a fraction of the price in America”.

Although the majority of the focus of this segment was focused on his popular promise to end student debts and rid student loans, most of his goals as president were briefly discussed. He discussed the issue surrounding Climate change/ environmental health, and immigration. Sanders outlined a possible agenda for the “next president of the United States” which consisted of transforming the current energy system away from fossil fuels. Next he directly mentioned the state of Nevada, Florida and “other states like that that have huge amounts of solar exposure” which will take the lead in driving the country to a solar energy system. Sanders quickly touched base with the possible progression of the economy when he mentioned that this new system would “create millions of good- paying jobs”. Immigration has been a hot topic for the past four years of president Donald Trump’s presidency. Sanders provided a glimpse of hope by stating he would take significant measures to tackle criminal justice reform and initiate immigration reform. The presidential candidate continued by adding that in his agenda, this immigration reform would mean “moving towards a path to citizenship for the 11 million undocumented”, granting legal status to eligible students, and providing the world with a humane border policy.

The topic in this segment was presidential candidate Sen. Bernie sanders and his agenda of tackling issues greatly affecting America today. He set off by discussing issues that truly affected the millions of middle class Americans supporting him during his campaign. He discussed issues such as high rates of student debts/loans, low access to healthcare, legal status/ border policies. During this segment, the interviewer addressed one of the many concerns Americans have with Sander’s progressive/ socialist agenda, “where will he get the funds to relieve Americans of trillions of dollars of student loan debts?” Bernie replied by taxing Wall Street Gambling. This

would essentially work by imposing a tax on the “Wall Street speculators who nearly destroyed the economy a decade ago” (Bernie, 2020). This statement was in reference to the Emergency Troubled Asset Relief Program of 2008, which was passed by Congress and bailed out banks and private institutions (Kessler, 2019). When it comes to middle class Americans supporting Bernie in his campaign, he mentioned that Walmart was one of the employers who greatly contributed to his campaign. Although not mentioned in this specific interview, Sander’s has been vocal about not allowing big corporations to enter politics in other words he has scorned super PACs and rejects their help. Super PACs (Independent Expenditures Only Committees) are a source for campaign funds that can raise unlimited amounts of money, but cannot directly coordinate or make contributions to candidate campaigns (2013).

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