

THE TRUTH SHALL SET US FREE

“I don’t often quote the Bible in campaigns,” said Dr. Steven Porter, independent candidate for Congress in the third district of Pennsylvania, “but lately the words uttered by Jesus have been haunting me. ‘Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free,’ he said. Not bad words at any time; however, when listening to the ads of candidates at election time, they are truly words to heed.

“Yesterday, I saw the beginning of the Pennsylvania TV onslaught by Barack Obama. Thirty-second sound bytes as misleading as they could be telling us how he is not controlled by special interests. Like chameleons who change colors to deceive their predators, you can count on politicians to hand you the lines they think you want to hear in order to get your vote—whether or not the lines are true. Hillary was for NAFTA when she was First Lady, but now that it has proven disastrous for so many Americans, she distances herself from it. When we were all caught up in the hubbub of Bush’s lies after 9/11, she voted for the war in Iraq. Now, of course, she opposes it. When English wanted you to elect him in 1994, he told you he was for term limits. Now that he is in office, he has abandoned that promise. In 2000 when Rx medicine was rising beyond our ability to pay, he told you he would champion cheaper exports from Canada. Now that he has taken huge sums from the pharmaceutical companies, he has voted against cheaper imports. And so with Mr. Obama, the candidate who claims he is beyond the reach of special interests.

“Perhaps the truth might be in order, and I would like to thank the Center for Responsive Politics for helping to bring it to light. You can verify what you see below on www.opensecrets.org.

“I have no doubt that the ads being run by Obama have been ‘vetted,’ as they say, by his legal department. Perhaps the special interests have not been in the form of PACs. But I would love an explanation of why his ‘top contributor’ list reads as follows: #1—Goldman Sachs (over \$500,000), #2—JP Morgan Chase (over \$346,000), #3—the University of Chicago (over \$317,000), #4—UBS (nearly \$316,000), #5—Kirkland Ellis (over \$307,000), #6—Exelon Corp. (over \$301,000), and on and on. Lehman Brothers, Citigroup, Morgan Stanley, etc. etc.

“But let us for the moment say that he might be less connected to special interests than others. There still remains the fact that he is a Democrat—a thorough-going supporter of one of the two major parties. As such he **must** and **has** espoused the policies of his party and done the bidding of his party leaders. One does not get into the Senate of the United States without playing the game. So let us see what his party has done with special interests, bearing in mind that we (at least I) have **never** heard him take his party to task for its part in the selling of the American democracy.

“Below is a chart which shows how extensively special interests and their industries own **BOTH** major political parties. And since I am a candidate for office (albeit an un-owned

independent) **I would like you not** to take my word for the facts below, but to verify them for yourselves by going online and clicking a few buttons.

SPECIAL INTEREST IN POLITICS
Donations to Major Parties for Federal Races
Selected from a list of over 80 entries

N.B.: Figures rounded to nearest million
 1990-March 2008
 Source: www.opensecrets.org (Center for Responsive Politics)

<u>Special Interest</u>	<u>Amount (in millions)</u>	<u>% to Dem.</u>	<u>% to Rep.</u>
1. Abortion: pro-life	6	5	94
2. Abortion: pro-choice	16	80	19
3. Accounting	101	40	59
4. Casinos/Gambling	77	54	46
5. Commercial Banks	195	40	60
6. Computers/Internet	160	51	48
7. Defense	126	41	59
8. Gun Rights	19	15	85
9. Gun Control	2	94	6
10. Education	133	70	29
11. Entertainment	223	69	31
12. Health	396	41	58
13. Hedge Funds	26	71	28
14. Insurance	287	36	63
15. Lawyers/Law Firms	888	72	27
16. Lobbyists	137	52	48
17. Oil & Gas	213	25	75
18. Pharmaceutical	152	34	65
19. Real Estate	521	46	53
20. Telephone	111	44	56
21. Tobacco	60	26	74
22. Unions	73	96	4

TOTAL LOBBY SPENDING 1998-2007: \$19.71 BILLION

LARGEST LOBBY SPENDERS BY INDUSTRY

1. Pharmaceuticals/Health	\$1.321 billion
2. Insurance	\$1.018 billion
3. Electric Utilities	\$ 918 million
4. Computers/Internet	\$ 743 million
5. Business Associations	\$ 695 million
6. Education	\$ 653 million
7. Real Estate	\$ 632 million
8. Oil & Gas	\$ 612 million
9. Hospitals/Nursing Homes	\$ 582 million
10. Mfg. & Dist.	\$ 573 million
11. Health Professionals	\$ 550 million
12. Civil Servants/Pub. Officials	\$ 509 million

13. Securities/Investments	\$ 505 million
14. TV/Movies/Music	\$ 480 million
15. Automotive	\$ 467 million
16. Air Transport	\$ 463 million
17. Telecommunications	\$ 460 million
18. Telephone	\$ 434 million
19. Aerospace/Defense	\$ 369 million

“How an Obama, a Clinton, a McCain, an English **or any other major party candidate** could say with a straight face that they are disconnected to special interest influence in light of the numbers on the charts above is beyond me. And with all respect to Jesus, I think it would be beyond him, as well.”