

NAME: Gregor Knauer

HOME OR CAMPAIGN OFFICE ADDRESS: PO Box 7931, Apache Station, Tempe, AZ 85281

PHONE AND PREFERRED EMAIL ADDRESS: 480-966-0649 <gregorknauer@gmail.com

CANDIDATE FOR OFFICE: Arizona LD17 Representative

ELECTION DATE: 2 Nov., 2010

CAMPAIGN WEBSITE: <http://www.gregorknauer.com>

SOCIAL NETWORK SITES (TWITTER): gregor knauer

Please answer the following questions as completely as possible and to the best of your knowledge. Completed questionnaire may be returned to the NLGC Secretary at: time2@sbcglobal.net . Thank you for considering a National Lavender Green Caucus endorsement.

1 Do you support the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity plank of the national Green Party Platform <http://www.gp.org/platform/2004/socjustice.html#999077> ?

Yes.

2 GLBT people in the U.S. are twice as likely to not have healthcare coverage as the rest of the U.S. population. What will your office do to help ameliorate this disparity in coverage while simultaneously working towards universal single payer healthcare?

Full equality means same-sex marriage, with the spousal health coverage entailed. That's something. (On the topic of coverage, I applaud Arizona for not requiring insurers, since 2003 or so, to pay for the brutal practice of male circumcision. Consequently, the percentage of cut baby boys is way down.)

3 What are the biggest issues facing women and girls within the LGBT community? How would you address gender disparity in political representation, funding priorities, healthcare, job discrimination, issues relating to parenting, and so forth?

Women and girls generally face barriers in equal pay and advancement on the job. Greens always advocate for greater gender parity. This Nov. in AZ we're combating a ballot proposition to eliminate affirmative action. Role models are especially helpful, as in pop culture. (I don't know Madonna's music, but I've heard that she firmly manages every aspect of her career. Also there were video award kisses that got lots of attention. What made her a real heroine and role model was a quotation once attributed to her, "If you're in an abusive relationship, get out of it.") I guess adoption is an area that needs advocacy.

4 Do you support the inclusion of transgender people in all federal non-discrimination and hate crime legislation?

Yes. And Intersex, although I don't know how frequently this phenomenon occurs.

5 What is your position regarding the inclusion of the trans community in the federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) ?

The Trans community may need more protection from discrimination than any and all others.

6 What would you do about the high poverty and low employment rates for transgender persons?

In my fantasy life, I imagine myself getting elected and hiring a transgendered office assistant/staff person.

7 Would you install a written policy in your office regarding sexual-orientation and gender-identity discrimination?

Good idea: yes.

8 Do you support an age-appropriate public school curriculum that teaches awareness and sensitivity regarding sexual orientation and gender identity?

Yes.

9 What steps would you take to curb the discrimination and violence directed at LGBT youth in public schools?

We must recognize, confront and end bullying. Educate the teachers and administration and parents and students. Zero tolerance.

10 Would you support or oppose using the sexual orientation and/or gender identity/expression of caretaking adults as a factor in determining the best placement for a child for child custody, foster parenting, or adoption?

Support placement of LGBT foster child with similarly manifesting caretaking adult(s).

11 Do you support needle exchange programs to reduce transmission of HIV?

Yes.

12 Would you support an expansion of Federal funding for HIV and AIDS programs, including HIV/STD prevention education in our public schools?

Yes. In Ethiopia a few years ago I was startled and impressed by big frank billboards advocating condom use. Just this month at a Sept. 11th event here in AZ I walked away from donating blood because the questionnaire asked if I'd had sex with a man since 1977. I think some states disallow this sort of screening. (Isn't HIV blood testing sophisticated and quick enough these days?)

13 The impact of the domestic HIV/AIDS epidemic is hardest on racial minorities. How do you propose addressing those populations?

Generate some info campaigns. Needle hygiene awareness may be low, for example, on the rez. I asked my fellow workers about HIV in the African-Am. community, and consensus was that Magic Johnson is an ambassador for unsafe sex: he's got bucks, and stays healthy. We need heavy PR to combat that player image.

14 Have you started or would you start sensitivity training for your staff members regarding LGBT issues?

Yes.

15 Would you support mandatory diversity training for public employees that includes LGBT issues?

Yes.

16 Do you support marriage equality for LGBT people?

Yes.

17 If your jurisdiction does not allow same sex marriage, do you support the inclusion of domestic partner benefits in all employee contracts?

Yes.

18 Would you support Congressional repeals of the Defense Of Marriage Act (DOMA) and the military's Don't Ask, Don't Tell (DADT) policies?

Yes. DOMA is hateful, and DADT is weaselly. The military can sometimes serve as harbinger for societal change. Integration of the armed forces after WWII came first, and other institutions followed. I have a hard time advocating for the patriarchal and predatory military, though.

19 Do you support "charitable choice" or "faith based" programs that allow public dollars to be used to subsidize social services offered by religious organizations that are allowed to disregard civil rights laws in hiring and public services?

No.

20 What are the biggest issues facing queers of color?

Maybe the Christian church disapproval/shame. In Uganda, imprisonment and execution. And in Muslim countries, too.

21 What are the biggest issues facing LGBT people with disabilities?

I don't know. Maybe caregiver phobias and prejudices.

22 Please describe (briefly) what your top goals will be if elected to this office.

Sorry, not necessarily LGBT issues on the front burner. Education, healthcare, broadening our tax base, conservation of our natural resources.

23 In the past, what LGBT related events, activities, or organizations have you participated in or been a member of or are currently a member of?

Precious little. A rally this summer hosted by H.E.R.O. at Sen. McCain's office against DADT. Another rally at the state capitol against SB1070 (anti-Hispanic law.) I'm a card-carrying member of the ACLU, strong advocates for LGBT rights.

24 As a candidate how will you get LGBT voters to vote for Green Party candidates?

It's so obvious, in contrast with the Dems and Repubs. We have LGBT equality as a solid plank in our platform. I'll mention it door-to-door.