

Know Your Presidential Facts?

**Ayush Patwari, Dan Goldwasser,
Saurabh Bagchi
Purdue University**



Slide 1/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Rules of the Game

- The following are 20 statements made by our Presidential candidates during the Primary Debates in 2016
 - The statement to consider is in **blue**; the rest of the text provides context
- For each statement, determine if the statement is:
 - Check-worthy
 - Not check-worthy
- Ground truth will come from if the statement was checked by any of 9 reputed fact-checking organizations: Washington Post, Factcheck.org, Politifact, PBS, CNN, NYTimes, Fox News, USA Today
- If you determine that a statement is check-worthy, indicate on the following scale the result of the check:
 - True, Mostly true, Partly true-partly false, Mostly false, False



Slide 2/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [1]

CLINTON: Guns, in and of themselves, in my opinion, will not make Americans safer. We lose 33,000 people a year already to gun violence, arming more people to do what I think is not the appropriate response to terrorism.



Slide 3/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [2]

CLINTON: You know, I was a senator from New York after 9/11, and we spent countless hours trying to figure out how to protect the city and the state from perhaps additional attacks. One of the best things that was done, and George W. Bush did this and I give him credit, was to reach out to Muslim Americans and say, we're in this together. You are not our adversary, you are our partner.



Slide 4/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [3]

O'MALLEY: No, Martha, I would not. And that's not what we did in Maryland. But you know what we did in Maryland? We overcame the NRA's objections. We overcame all of the crowds that were coming down there.

We did our own rallies. And at least if we enact these laws in a prospective way, we can address a major vulnerability in our country. **ISIL videos, ISIL training videos are telling lone wolves the easiest way to buy a combat assault weapon in America is at a gun show.**



Slide 5/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [4]

O'MALLEY: All through the recession, we defended the highest median income in America and the second highest median income for African American families. **How? By actually doing more for education. We increased education funding by 37 percent.**

We were the only state in America that went four years in a row without a penny increase in college tuition.



Slide 6/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [5]

TRUMP: We are not talking about isolation. We're talking about security. We're not talking about religion. We're talking about security. Our country is out of control. People are pouring across the southern border. I will build a wall. It will be a great wall. People will not come in unless they come in legally. Drugs will not pour through that wall.



Slide 7/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [6]

CRUZ: We're looking at a president who's engaged in this double-speak where he doesn't call radical Islamic terrorism by its name. Indeed, he gives a speech after the San Bernardino attack where his approach is to try to go after the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens rather than to keep us safe. And even worse, President Obama and Hillary Clinton are proposing bringing tens of thousands of Syrian refugees to this country when the head of the FBI has told Congress they cannot vet those refugees.



Slide 8/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [7]

RUBIO: I use to sit on the porch of our home and listen to my grandfather tell stories as he smoked one of three daily cigars.



Slide 9/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [8]

TRUMP: A month ago things changed (referring to Paris attacks). Radical Islamic terrorism came into effect even more so than it has been in the past. People like what I say. People respect what I say. And we've opened up a very big discussion that needed to be opened up.



Slide 10/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [9]

CHRISTIE: On September 10th, 2001, I was named chief federal prosecutor in New Jersey and on September 11th, 2001, my wife and my brother who are in the audience tonight went through the World Trade Center and to their offices just blocks away from the Trade Center. I lost touch with them for six hours that day and prayed that they were alive. Luckily, they were sent home. But many of our friends and others in our neighborhood lost their lives that day.



Slide 11/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [10]

BLITZER: We're going to talk about Assad in a moment.

Mr. Trump, are Americans safer with dictators running the world in the Middle East?

TRUMP: In my opinion, we've spent \$4 trillion trying to topple various people that frankly, if they were there and if we could've spent that \$4 trillion in the United States to fix our roads, our bridges, and all of the other problems; our airports and all of the other problems we've had, we would've been a lot better off. I can tell you that right now.



Slide 12/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [11]

SANDERS: Twenty-nine million people have no health insurance today in America. We pay, by far, the highest prices in the world for prescription drugs. One out of five Americans can't even afford the prescriptions their doctors are writing.



Slide 13/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [12]

SANDERS: In other words, very rich are getting richer. Almost everybody else is getting poorer. What I believe is the United States, in fact, should join the rest of the industrialized world and guarantee health care to all people. Our Medicare for all single payer proposal will save the average middle class family \$5000 a year.



Slide 14/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [13]

SANDERS: You know, you judge a nation not by the number of millionaires and billionaires it has but by how you treat, we treat, the most vulnerable and fragile people in our nation.

And by those standards, we're not doing particularly well.

We have the highest rate of childhood poverty among almost any major country on Earth.



Slide 15/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [14]

CLINTON: You know, after 9/11, one of the efforts that we did in New York was if you see something or hear something suspicious, report it.



Slide 16/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [15]

MODERATOR: But when he started to criticize you, your message changed, and you suddenly started to portray him as the voice of the Washington cartel, and suggested he would do the Democrats' bidding. Which is it?

CRUZ: Well, let me be clear, if Donald engages in insults or anybody else, I don't intend to reciprocate. I have not insulted Donald personally and I don't intend to.



Slide 17/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [16]

PAUL: You know, Ted didn't show up. We had an audit-the-Fed vote, which was the biggest thing my dad had been advocating for, for 30 years, Ted didn't have time to show up. He was the only Republican that didn't show up for it. And so I think really that vote is going to stay in the Paul household. I think more of it is coming and it's going to grow.



Slide 18/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [17]

TRUMP: The fact is, I built a net worth of more than \$10 billion. I have a great, great company. I employ thousands of people. And I'm very proud of the job I did.



Slide 19/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [18]

HUCKABEE: And, if Congress wants to mess with the retirement program, why don't we let them start by changing their retirement program, and not have one, instead of talking about getting rid of Social Security and Medicare that was robbed \$700 billion dollars to pay for Obamacare.



Slide 20/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [19]

HUCKABEE: Well, lets all be reminded, 60 million Americans are on Social Security, 60 million. A third of those people depend on 90% of their income from Social Security. Nobody in this country is on Social Security because they made the decision when they were starting work at 14 that they wanted to trust some of their money with the government.



Slide 21/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Statement [20]

KASICH: I was the chairman of the House Budget Committee and one of the chief architects the last time we balanced a budget, and it was the first time we had done it since man walked on the moon. We had a \$5 trillion surplus and we cut taxes.



Slide 22/22

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY