



John Kerry and John Edwards' Strategy to Support Sound Science and Reinvigorate American Innovation

Turning Back George W. Bush's Policy of Putting Politics Over Science

George W. Bush has led one of the most anti-science administrations in our nation's history. He has politicized science, putting his conservative, ideological agenda before sound science and crucial research. This Monday marks the 3rd anniversary of the Bush decision to gut federal stem cell research by setting an arbitrary limit on what stem cells can be used for. His approach not only limits the research that our scientists are doing today, it undermines important discoveries of tomorrow and threatens America's critical edge in innovation. John Kerry and John Edwards have a comprehensive strategy to restore America's leadership in science and research, reinvigorating American ingenuity. Kerry will embrace America's tradition of looking forward to the next great discovery, invest in scientific research and end the ban on stem cell research. His commitment to scientific research based on fact – not ideology – will put America back on the path of scientific excellence.

JOHN KERRY AND JOHN EDWARDS' STRATEGY TO RESTORE AMERICA'S SCIENTIFIC LEADERSHIP:

Endorsed by 48 Nobel Laureates for Embracing Science. John Kerry was endorsed in an open letter by 48 Nobel Laureates for his commitment to scientific research over politics. The laureates wrote, "Unlike previous administrations, Republican and Democratic alike, the Bush administration has ignored unbiased scientific advice in the policy-making that is so important to our collective welfare. John Kerry will change all this. He will support strong investments in science and technology as he restores fiscal responsibility." [Open Letter from 48 Nobel Laureates, 6/21/04]

Lift the Ban on Stem Cell Research. Given the enormous promise of stem cells to the development of new treatments for the most devastating diseases, John Kerry and John Edwards believe our medical researchers should be permitted and encouraged to simultaneously pursue embryonic stem cell research. As president, Kerry will overturn the ban on federal funding of research on new stem cell lines, and he will allow doctors and scientists to explore their full potential with the appropriate ethical oversight. Patients and their families should no longer be denied the hope that this new research brings.

Embrace America's Tradition of Looking Forward. John Kerry and John Edwards remembers a time when American Presidents led the nation in looking forward to see what comes next. They know that the scientific discoveries of the future will drive the economy of our future just like the discoveries of electricity, the combustion engine and the internet drove our economies in the past. It is important to keep America's edge on science and technology to assure America is economically competitive. Kerry and Edwards will invest in our nation's scientific research with the aim of making new discoveries to help cure diseases and keep America's economy on the cutting edge.

Assure That Science Not Politics Dictates Government Policy. Again and again the Bush Administration has put politics over science to please their right wing constituency. They have ignored bipartisan consensus on issues like stem cell to please their right wing base and have



frequently edited the real facts out of scientific reports. The Kerry-Edwards administration will embrace empirical science based on facts, not ideology. They will turn to our nation's scientific leaders and listen to their advice to make decisions based on expert advice.

GEORGE BUSH'S BATTLE AGAINST SCIENCE:

George Bush Stands in the Way of Important Stem Cell Research. George Bush's August 2001 stem cell policy allegedly made available more than 60 suitable stem cell lines to federally funded researchers. However, this claim has proven to be false. Many of the cells have turned out not to be genuine stem cell lines or turned out to have no scientific value. As of today, there are only 19 lines available – less than a third of the number originally promised.

Scientists and Nobel Laureates Say Bush Administration Has Censored Reports: In late February, more than 60 influential scientists, including more than 20 Nobel laureates, signed a statement saying the administration had disbanded scientific advisory committees, placed unqualified people on other panels and censored reports by others when their scientific conclusions conflicted with administration policies. [[New York Times](#), 3/30/04]

Bush Proposed Cutting Non-Defense Research and Development Programs Across the Board. George Bush has proposed cutting research and development in most non-defense research programs through FY 2009. Bush's cuts would reduce the National Science Foundation's budget by 4.7%, the EPA's research budget by 15% and the Veterans' Affairs budget by 15.1%. These cuts will stymie important scientific discoveries. [AAAS, AAAS Analysis of the Outyear Projections for R&D in the FY 2005 Budget, 5/7/04]

White House Redacted Global Warming Threat From 2003 EPA Report. The anticipated Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) report "intended to provide the first comprehensive review of what is known about various environmental problems" with a target release date of June 27, 2003 was greatly redacted by the White House, according to the [New York Times](#), such that "a long section describing risks from rising global temperatures [was] whittled to a few noncommittal paragraphs." Nowhere to be found were references to studies proving that smokestack and tail-pipe emissions contribute to global warming, which threatens health and ecosystems. [[New York Times](#), 6/19/03]

Federal Study Reporting Harm in Arctic Refuge Drilling Ordered Changed to Reflect Bush Position. Only one week after issuing a report detailing environmental damage that would be caused by oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the US Geological survey issued a second report stating that drilling would have no impact on wildlife. The revised report was "commissioned by Interior Secretary Gale A. Norton almost immediately after the initial report came out," and "bolsters the Bush administration's case..." The [Washington Post](#) reported, "Interior [Department] sources acknowledged that Norton's political aides were behind the request..." [[Washington Post](#), 4/7/02; [New York Times](#), 3/30/02]

Removed Safe Sex Information From Government Web Sites: Web sites for the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control removed fact sheets on the "effectiveness of condoms" and a sex education program curriculum called "Programs that Work" which focused on HIV and highlighted several proven programs that involve condom use. [[Washington Post](#), 10/22/02]