Written by **<u>Raven Clabough</u>** on September 23, 2010



Tough Senate Race in Delaware

Delaware's Senate race between GOP nominee Christine O'Donnell and Democrat nominee Chris Coons heated up quickly. From highlights of the controversial pasts of both candidates to the possibility of a thirdcandidate by way of a write-in, Delaware proves to be one of the more exciting states to observe throughout this campaign season.

For starters, the stream of political advertisements proves that neither Coons nor O'Donnell is afraid to pack a punch.

A 30-second ad released by the Democrat Senatorial Campaign Committee states:



Narrator: "We don't know a lot about Christine O'Donnell. But here's what we do know."

Narrator: "She'll fit right in, in Washington."

Narrator: "O'Donnell spends money she doesn't have. Hired employees she didn't pay. Stiffed businesses. Didn't pay her taxes."

Narrator: "One of Christine O'Donnell's former employees summed it up: 'We were constantly trying to hold her back from spending. She was financially completely irresponsible.'"

In response to the Democrat's ad, the Senate Conservatives Fund released the following advertisement:

Narrator: "What do we need in Washington?"

Narrator: "Harry Reid calls Chris Coons 'his pet.'"

Narrator: "Delaware doesn't need a Washington career politician's pet."

Narrator: "Christine O'Donnell's not afraid to stand up to the party bosses and power brokers."

Narrator: "Get our economy moving again."

Narrator: "Balance the budget."

Narrator: "Stop the bailouts."

Narrator: "Freedom to choose our doctors and health plans."

Narrator: "Christine O'Donnell stands up for us, not for Washington."

Regardless of the effectiveness of both ads, a new Pulse Opinion Research poll for Fox News shows O'Donnell trailing behind Coons 54 percent to 39 percent.

As if the Senate race was not difficult enough for O'Donnell, Republican incumbent Mike Castle, who lost the GOP primary to O'Donnell, announced this week that he is not ruling out the possibility of mounting a write-in bid.

"I've had a number of people who've asked that I do that," he claims. "I will consider it right up until the final moment but I'm not headed in that direction right now."

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While Castle could not defeat O'Donnell in the GOP primary, he maintains a lead over Chris Coons.

The outcry against Christine O'Donnell from the Left has been monumental, with criticisms ranging from O'Donnell's "<u>witchcraft dabbling</u>" to her "<u>anti-masturbation</u>" stance.

Recognizing the powerful mechanism of the politically Left media, O'Donnell announced that she will no longer do interviews with the national media outlets. She told Fox News' Sean Hannity, "It's off the table because that's not going to help me get votes. I'm not going to do anymore national media because this is my focus: Delaware's my focus, and the local media's my focus, and its frustrating because I've let the local media know they're my priority but our phones are ringing off the hook that they can't get to me. It's actually become an interference with the campaign."

Republicans have attempted to redirect the mainstream media's attention toward the left-wing Coons, who wrote a piece for the Amherst College newspaper entitled "Chris Coons: The Making of a Bearded Marxist." Fox News reports that in his article, "Coons wrote about his political evolution from a conservative college student who founded the Amherst College Republicans into a Democrat suspicious of America's power and ideals. The transformation, he said, came during a trip to Kenya."

However, the mainstream media continues to focus on O'Donnell, whose public appearances on Bill Maher's *Politically Incorrect* in the 1990s where she spoke out against abortion, homosexuality, and premarital sex have labeled her a religious right extremist.

Despite the gap between O'Donnell and Coons, O'Donnell remains confident that it is "a gap that we can certainly close." She adds, "You know, about a month before the primary, I was at least 15 points behind my Republican opponent, so I'm very confident that we can win."

Photo: Republican Senate candidate Christine O'Donnell answers a question during a candidate forum, Sept. 16, 2010, in Wilmington, Del: AP Images



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