

FACTSMATTER.ORG SEPARATES “SPIN” FROM TRUTH ON KEY ISSUES OF HEALTH CARE, EDUCATION REFORM AND THE ENVIRONMENT

*Americans Urged to Stop Settling For Political “Spin” and Empty Rhetoric;
Issues Include Cheaper Canadian Drugs, Support for NCLB, Global Warming Harms.*

WASHINGTON, D.C.//October 21, 2004//To help Americans see through the hype and distractions put forward by the spin masters in both major political parties, a new Web site (<http://www.FactsMatter.org>) is quite literally putting key issues – health care, education and the environment -- under the microscope. The new Web site is a project of the Results for America (RFA) project of the nonprofit and nonpartisan Civil Society Institute.

Visitors to the FactsMatter.org Web site use a Flash-animated magnifying glass to “look” at the three key issues areas. Under each issue heading, a visitor using the magnifying glass sees a rotating list of key facts that can be examined in greater detail. By clicking on the key fact, the FactsMatter.org site user goes directly to the pertinent information.

Civil Society Institute President Pam Solo said: **“America’s most critical issues are getting spin dried and fluffed up for voters, but almost nothing is coming out of the wash in terms of real solutions that will work. Results For America is dedicated to the proposition that the way to bring about real change is to start talking about real solutions – without regard to political party labels and the turf staked out by one candidate or another. If America remains the captive of spin doctor hype and empty political rhetoric, the public discourse about our major issues will get steadily coarser and remain deadlocked, with our unattended problems growing steadily worse.”**

In its first batch of key facts for Americans to consider, FactsMatter.org features the following issues and resources:

Most Americans want government-guaranteed health coverage
http://www.resultsforamerica.org/calendar/files/09.15.04_news_release.pdf

Stem cell research enjoys strong bipartisan support
<http://www.resultsforamerica.org/calendar/files/061604%20RFA%20Reagan%20stem%20cell%20research%20survey%20news%20release.pdf>

You can save hundreds of dollars with Canadian prescription drugs
<http://www.drugsavingscalculator.org>

There is a growing grassroots backlash against NCLB <http://www.nclbgrassroots.org>

Only a third of Americans say NCLB is "excellent" or "good"
<http://www.jointcenter.org/publications/details/opinion-poll/nop-Politics.pdf>

There is only a 50% chance a minority student in the U.S. will graduate from high school
<http://www.resultsforamerica.org/calendar/files/1022504%20minority%20graduation%20news%20release%20FINAL2.pdf>

Global warming may be cooking your retirement nest egg <http://www.cookingyournestegg.org/>

The asthma epidemic among U.S. youths is linked to our pollution problems

<http://www.resultsforamerica.org/calendar/files/042904childhoodasthmaGWreleaseFINAL.pdf>

America's food supply could be at risk from climate change

http://www.resultsforamerica.org/media/press_030929.php

All of the highlighted links on FactsMatter.org set forward solid information in the form of such things as opinion surveys, new academic studies, financial research and the views of America's leading experts on key questions. New issues and facts related to education, health care and the environment will be posted on the FactsMatter.org Web site on a regular basis.

ABOUT RESULTS FOR AMERICA

Results For America (<http://www.ResultsForAmerica.org>) is a project of the Civil Society Institute, which is based in Newton, Massachusetts. The mission of CSI is to serve as a catalyst for change by creating problem-solving interactions among people, and between communities, government and business, that can help to improve society. You may visit Civil Society Institute on the Web at <http://www.CivilSocietyInstitute.org>. RFA seeks to shape and tap the tremendous amount of community-level knowledge, experience and innovative action that could solve America's problems in four key areas: health care reform/medical research, the environment/clean energy, education reform and national security.

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