

Tennessee Federation of Democratic Women – Summer 2024 Picnic and Project 2025 Highlights

Friday, August 2nd 2024 – Norris State Park

Our East Tennessee TFDW VP, Glenda Whitfield, organized a great celebration of Democratic Women and empowerment through information. The picnic was very well attended by women from all over Eastern Tennessee, including members of the ACDWC.

If you have not heard of Project 2025, please download the document from TFDW.org (scroll down on the Home page) or from the link on the ACDWC.org Home page.



Project 2025: Mandate for Leadership is a far right-wing plan to fundamentally reshape America into a white, Christian, patriarchal regime. This is the blueprint for the 2nd American Revolution. The document was spearheaded by the ultraconservative Heritage Foundation, and includes input from 110 conservative groups. The document is a ready-made plan for the next conservative President to implement on day-one, and comes with a recruited and trained army of replacement government agency leaders. Trump spoke in 2022 that the Heritage Foundation was taking on the plan, and that it aligned with his vision.

Page 3 of the document lays out four promises:

- “1. Restore the family as the centerpiece of American life and protect our children.
2. Dismantle the administrative state and return self-governance to the American people.
3. Defend our nation’s sovereignty, borders, and bounty against global threats.
4. Secure our God-given individual rights to live freely—what our Constitution calls “the Blessings of Liberty.” “

The 920 pages of the document include specific plans on how to accomplish those promises. The speakers at the picnic summarized specific chapters of the Project 2025 document.

Education: The Federal Department of Education should be eliminated. The plan indicates the job would be better done via charter schools as a competitive business. The speaker relayed

that in Michigan, charter schools accept state funding; however, they don't follow the same requirements (including teacher certification) as public schools. Those charter schools also tend to be in poor and immigrant neighborhoods – and few are found in affluent neighborhoods.

Healthcare: The document describes how only families comprised of a married mother and father have validity. It pushes ideas that would make abortion virtually illegal in all states, and would end all Federal funding (e.g. Medicaid) to any medical facility that provides abortion care. The goal is to move back to a time when women can't control their own bodies. The speaker noted that the vast majority of Americans, across all political views, are concerned about restrictive healthcare and abortion rights.

Worklife: Chapter 18 describes their desire to restore the family as a center of American life. They would do this through a variety of policy changes, such as letting companies stop paying overtime, banning unions for civil service workers, eliminating child labor laws, cutting retirement for federal workers, eliminating OSHA, and cutting or eliminating Medicare/Medicaid coverage.

Dept. of Justice: The current mission of the DOJ is to uphold the rule of law. The plan indicates that the DOJ is currently too political, corrupt, and is not to be trusted. It plans to dismantle the current DOJ and remake the organization so that everyone in the agency would report to the President. Some of the policy changes would be to end DACA, conduct mass deportations using the military and local law enforcement (and punish local officials who do not comply), and push capital punishment and speedy executions.

Environment: The Project 2025 authors want to eliminate all programs related to climate change, including NOAA and all spending related to climate change and sustainable energy. The plan would reduce food assistance and shrink economic support to farmers.

Summary: The document describes how 20,000 agency leaders will be replaced with Project 2025 loyalists. The Heritage Foundation is already recruiting and training those loyalists, so they are ready to go on day one. The goal is to reshape America into a yesteryear vision of a working father and a stay-at-home mother, where there is no climate change, no no-fault divorce, no LGBTQ in the public view, no women's rights, no Black rights, and where the Bible is an official textbook in schools.

You can find the Project 2025 document on the [ACDWC.org](https://www.acdwc.org) site, the [TFDW.org](https://www.tfdw.org) site, or on the [BBC site](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-60888888). Please take the time to download the document and begin educating yourself on what might be the next American Revolution if we are not successful in November.