Kamala Harris on Fox News with Bret Baier | October 16, 2024

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Notes:

Summary by ChatGPT

- Economic Vision and Critique of Trump's Policies: Harris outlined her plans for the economy, including support for small businesses, affordable housing, and a focus on benefiting middle-class Americans. She argued that Trump's economic policies would lead to tax cuts for the wealthy and potentially worsen the deficit.
- Contrast with Trump's Leadership Style: Harris criticized Trump's rhetoric as divisive and

harmful to American unity, asserting that her leadership would focus on lifting people up rather than creating fear and division.

- Foreign Policy Priorities: Harris emphasized her commitment to preventing Iran from becoming a nuclear power and supporting Israel. She criticized Trump's handling of foreign policy, particularly regarding Iran, and pointed to her administration's approach as more stable and consistent.
- Differences from the Biden Administration: Harris clarified that her potential presidency would bring fresh perspectives and new ideas, differing from Biden's tenure while still acknowledging the achievements of the current administration.
- Addressing National Security and Trump's Fitness to Lead: Harris argued that Trump's actions and behavior demonstrated a lack of stability and fitness for office, referencing former Trump administration officials who have raised similar concerns about his suitability for the presidency.

Bret Baier 00:00:00

M Madam vice president, thank you for the time.

Kamala Harris 00:00:01

Thank you. It's good to be with you, Brett.

Bret Baier 00:00:03

You know, voters tell pollsters all over the country and here in Pennsylvania that immigration is one of the key issues that they're looking at this election, and specifically the influx of illegal immigrants from more than 150 countries. How many illegal, uh, immigrants would you estimate your administration has released into the country over the last three and a half years?

Kamala Harris 00:00:25

Well, I'm glad you raised the issue of immigration, because I agree with you. It is a, uh, topic of discussion that people want to rightly have. And you know what I'm going to talk about.

Bret Baier 00:00:36

Yeah, but just a number. Do you think it's 1 million, 3 million?

Brett, let's just get to the point. Okay? The point is that we have a broken immigration system that needs to be repaired.

Bret Baier 00:00:47

So your homeland security secretary said that 85% of apprehensions.

Kamala Harris 00:00:51

I'm not finished. We have.

Bret Baier 00:00:53

It's a rough estimate of 6 million people have been released into the country, and. Let me just finish. I'll get to the question. I promise you.

Kamala Harris 00:00:59

I was beginning to answer.

Bret Baier 00:01:01

And when you came into office, your administration immediately reversed a number of Trump border policies, most significantly, the policy that required illegal immigrants to be detained through deportation, either in the US or in Mexico. And you switched that policy. They were released from custody, awaiting trial. So instead, included in those were a large number of single men, adult men, who went on to commit heinous crimes.

Bret Baier 00:01:28

So, looking back, do you regret the decision to terminate, remain in Mexico at the beginning of your administration?

Kamala Harris 00:01:36

At the beginning of our administration, within practically hours of taking the oath, the first bill that we offered Congress, before we worked on infrastructure, before the Inflation Reduction act, before the Chips and Science act, before any. Before the bipartisan Safety Communities act. The first bill, practically within hours of taking the oath, was a bill to fix our immigration system.

Bret Baier 00:02:06

Yes, ma'am. It was called the US Citizen Citizenship act of 2021. It was essentially a pathway to citizenship for the Illinois.

Yes, ma'am. May I finish responding? Uh, but you have to let me finish.

Bret Baier 00:02:18

You had the White House, and the House and the Senate, and they didn't bring up that bill.

Kamala Harris 00:02:22

Responding to the point you're raising. Okay, and I'd like to finish.

Bret Baier 00:02:25

Yes, ma'am.

Kamala Harris 00:02:28

We recognized from day one that, to the point of this being your first question, it is a priority for us as a nation and for the american people. And our focus has been on fixing a problem. And from day one, then, we have done a number of things, including to address our asylum system, and put more resources, getting more judges.

Kamala Harris 00:02:53

What we needed to do to tighten up penalties and increase penalties for illegal crossings, what we needed to do to deal with points of entry between border, entry points, that's the work we did. And we worked on supporting what was a bipartisan effort, including some of the most conservative members of the United States Congress, to actually strengthen the border.

Kamala Harris 00:03:18

That border bill would have put 1500 more border agents at the border, which is why I believe the border Patrol agents supported the bill. It would have allowed us to stem the flow of fentanyl coming into the United States, which is a scourge affecting people of every background, every geographic location in our country, killing people.

Kamala Harris 00:03:36

It would have allowed us to put more resources into prosecuting transnational criminal organizations, which I have done.

Bret Baier 00:03:42

Yes, ma'am.

As the attorney general, former attorney general of a border state, Madam vice president a couple of years ago prosecuted trafficking of drugs, guns, and human beings. And don't, but let me just finish.

Bret Baier 00:03:52

Six Democrats voted against that bill, learned.

Kamala Harris 00:03:54

About that bill, and told them to kill it because he preferred to run on a problem instead of fixing a problem. And in this election, this is rightly a discussion that the american people want to have. And what they want are solutions, and they want a president of the United States who's not playing political games with the issue.

Kamala Harris 00:04:15

I hear you, but actually is focused on fixing it.

Bret Baier 00:04:17

Six Democrats voted against that bill. It would have allowed 1.8 million illegal immigrants into the country a year. A lot of conservatives had a problem with it. These are the six Democrats. But more importantly, back to the original premise. JoCelyn Nungarri, Rachel Morin, Lakin Riley they are young women who were brutally assaulted and killed by some of the men who were released at the beginning of the administration well before a negotiated, uh, bipartisan bill.

Bret Baier 00:04:45

Former president Clinton actually referred to Lake and Riley Sunday campaigning for you in Georgia, saying, if those men had been properly vetted, Lakin Riley probably would not have have been killed. So if it wouldnt have happened, this is well before any negotiation. This is well before Donald Trump got involved in the politics.

Bret Baier 00:05:01

This is a specific policy decision by your administration to release these men into the country. So what im saying to you, do you owe those families an apology?

Kamala Harris 00:05:11

Let me just say, first of all, those are tragic cases. Theres no question about that. There is no question about that. And I can't imagine the pain that the families of those victims have experienced for a loss that should not have occurred. So that is true. It is also true m that if a border security had actually been passed nine months ago, it would be nine months that

we would have had more border agents at the border, more support for the folks who are working around the clock trying to hold it all together, Madam Vice president, to ensure that no future harm would occur.

Kamala Harris 00:05:57

And this election in 20 days will determine whether we have a president of the United States who actually cares more about fixing a problem, even if it is not to their political advantage in an election. Because there was a solution. Brett.

Bret Baier 00:06:13

Madam Vice President, it was a policy decision in the early part of your administration. I will let one of the mothers talk about it. Take a listen.

Video 00:06:21

Because of the Biden Harris administration open border policies, catch and release, they were enrolled in the alternatives to detention program. This meant that they were released into the United States. It was not even a full three weeks later that they would take my daughter Jocelyn Nungare's life. I believe the Biden Harris administration, open border policies are responsible for the death of my daughter.

Bret Baier 00:06:45

That's the early days. So do you owe them an apology is what I'm saying.

Kamala Harris 00:06:50

I tell you that I am so sorry for her loss. I am so sorry for her loss, sincerely. But let's talk about what is happening right now with an individual who does not want to participate in solutions. Let's talk about that as well. Do you want to answer that in all fairness? I told you I feel awful for what she and her family have experienced during that time.

Bret Baier 00:07:16

You said repeatedly that the border was secure. When in your mind did it start becoming a crisis?

Kamala Harris 00:07:23

I think we've had a broken immigration system transcending, by the way, Donald Trump's administration even before. Let's all be honest about that. I have no pride in saying that this is a perfect immigration system. I've been clear, I think we all are, that it needs to be fixed. We need more. I was just down at the border talking with border agents, and they will tell you, and I'm sure you probably, I know you investigate and you are a serious

journalist.

Kamala Harris 00:07:51

They will tell you, we need more judges. We need to process those cases faster. We need the support for those cases that should be prosecuted. They need more resources. And Congress ultimately is the only place that that's going to get fixed, Brett. That's how this system works.

Bret Baier 00:08:10

That's the premise of this question. There were 90 plus executive orders that were rescinded in the first days. Many of those were Trump border policies. I'm not going to stay here because there's other things to talk about. But you frequently talked to the Border Patrol union for support of that bipartisan bill. And they did.

Bret Baier 00:08:26

They supported it. But they also just endorsed Donald Trump and said, youve been, quote, a failure with border security. Why do you think they said that?

Kamala Harris 00:08:34

I think theyre frustrated, and I get it. They want support. They want support. And thats what that border security bill would have done. These guys down at the border, these men and women, theyre working hard. Theyre working around the clock. I get it.

Bret Baier 00:08:51

There's a lot of people that look back at what you said in 2019 when you first ran for president. Uh, and there have been changes, and you've talked about some of them when it comes to immigration. You supported allowing immigrants in the country illegally to apply for driver's license, to qualify for free tuition at universities, to be enrolled in free health care.

Bret Baier 00:09:09

Do you still support those things?

Kamala Harris 00:09:11

Listen, that was five years ago, and I'm very clear that I will follow the law. I have make that statement over and over again. And as vice president of the United States, that's exactly what I've done, not.

To mention before you, if that's the case. You chose a running mate, Tim Walls, governor of Minnesota, who signed those very things into state law. So do you support that?

Kamala Harris 00:09:34

We are very clear, and I am very clear, as is Tim Walls, that we must support and enforce federal law, and that is exactly what we will do.

Bret Baier 00:09:46

So decriminalizing border crossings, like you said.

Kamala Harris 00:09:49

In 2019, I do not believe in decriminalizing border crossings, and I've not done that as vice president. I will not do that as president.

Bret Baier 00:09:57

So these are evolutions that you've had.

Kamala Harris 00:09:59

Uh, but let's be very clear. I'm the only person who's running for president who has prosecuted transnational criminal organizations, from the Sinaloa cartel to the Guadalajara cartel to people who have trafficked in guns, drugs, and human beings. I have spent a significant part of my career going after people who present a threat to the safety of the american people and cross our border with the intent of doing us harm and cross our border illegally.

Kamala Harris 00:10:30

And I will do that work as vice president. I take that work quite seriously.

Bret Baier 00:10:35

This is a time when voters, especially here in Pennsylvania, are inundated with commercials and ads. They just want it to stop because it's every commercial, but many of them add noise, but a few of them seem to break through. This particular one from the Trump campaign has gotten a lot of attention.

Kamala Harris 00:10:52

Kamala supports taxpayer funded sex changes for prisoners. Surgery, um, for prisoners. For prisoners. Every transgender inmate in the prison system would have access.

illegal aliens transition to another gender.

So are you still in support of using taxpayer dollars to help prison inmates or detained

Kamala Harris 00:11:14

I will follow the law. And it's a law that Donald Trump actually followed. You're, um, probably familiar with. Now, it's a public report that under Donald Trump's administration, these surgeries, uh, were available to, on a medical necessity basis to people in the federal prison system. And I think, frankly, that ad from the Trump campaign is a little bit of like throwing, you know, stones when you're living in a glass house.

Bret Baier 00:11:42

The Trump aides say that he never advocated for that prison policy and no gender transition surgeries.

Kamala Harris 00:11:47

Well, he had to take responsible for what happened in your administration. Yeah.

Bret Baier 00:11:50

Uh, no surgery has happened in this pregnancy. Would you still advocate for using taxpayer dollars for gender reassignment?

Kamala Harris 00:11:57

I will follow the law just as I say. I think so. Donald Trump would say he did.

Bret Baier 00:12:01

You would have a say as president.

Kamala Harris 00:12:03

Like I said, I think it's. He spent \$20 million on those ads, trying to create a sense of fear in the voters, because he actually has no plan in this election that is about focusing on the needs of the american people. Whereas at, uh, \$20 million on that ad, on an issue that, as it relates to the biggest issues that affect the american people, it's really quite remote.

Kamala Harris 00:12:30

And again, his policy was no different. Look at where we are, though. They say it's a plan for the american people. I'm offering a plan to deal with affordable housing. I'm offering a plan to deal with what we need to do to strengthen small businesses, which are the backbone of America's economy. I am offering a plan that is about taking care of young

parents and giving them the support they need.

Kamala Harris 00:12:51

My plans for the economy will strengthen the economy, as have been reviewed by 16 Nobel laureates, Goldman Sachs, Moody's, and recently the Wall Street Journal, which have all studied our plans and have indicated my plans for our economy would strengthen our economy. His would make them weaker. Why do you think would ignite inflation and invite a recession by the middle of next year?

Kamala Harris 00:13:13

Those are the facts.

Bret Baier 00:13:14

Why do you think more people say they trust him on the economy than they trust you?

Kamala Harris 00:13:18

I think that when you look at an analysis of our plans for what we would do as president of the United States, it has been clear to those who study and understand how economic policy works that, uh, moving forward, because I do believe the american people are ready to turn the page on the divisiveness and the type of rhetoric that has come out of Donald Trump, people are ready to chart a new way forward.

Kamala Harris 00:13:44

And they want a president who has a plan for the future and a plan that is sound and will strengthen our country. My plan for the economy does exactly that. His plan would be, again, to give tax cuts to billionaires and the biggest corporations in our country and blow up our deficits.

Bret Baier 00:14:02

It's interesting, you said, turn the page. Madam Vice president, you were asked on two different shows last week what, if anything, you would do differently than President Biden. Here's what you said.

Kamala Harris 00:14:10

Would you have done something differently than President Biden? During the past four years, there has done a thing that comes to mind in terms of, and I've been a part of most of the decisions that have had impact under a Harris administration.

What would the major changes be and what would stay the same?

Kamala Harris 00:14:31

Sure. Well, I mean, I'm obviously not Joe Biden. I notice. And so that would be one change in terms of. But also, I think it's important to say with, you know, 28 days to go, I'm not Donald Trump.

Bret Baier 00:14:44

So you're not Joe Biden, you're not Donald Trump, but nothing comes to mind that you would do differently.

Kamala Harris 00:14:50

Let me be very clear. My presidency will not be a continuation of Joe Bidens presidency. And like every new president that comes in to office, I will bring my life experiences, my professional experiences, and fresh and new ideas. I represent a new generation of leadership. I, for example, am someone who has not spent the majority of my career in Washington, DC.

Kamala Harris 00:15:15

I invite ideas, whether it be from the Republicans who are supporting me, who were just on stage with me minutes ago, and the business sector and, uh, others who can contribute to the decisions that I make about, for example, my plan for increasing the supply of housing in America and bringing down the cost of housing.

Kamala Harris 00:15:35

Addressing the issue of small businesses, which is about working with the private sector to bring more capital and access to capital to our small business leaders, including my plan for a \$25,000 down payment assistance for first time homebuyers, and for small businesses, extending the tax deduction from \$5,000.

Bret Baier 00:15:55

Robert, you've heard a lot about those plans in recent days. Your campaign slogan is a new way forward, and it's time to turn the page. You've been vice president for three and a half years. So what are you turning the page from?

Kamala Harris 00:16:08

Well, first of all, turning the page from the last decade in which we have been burdened with the kind of rhetoric coming from Donald Trump that has been designed and implemented to divide our country and have Americans literally point fingers at each

other. Rhetoric and an approach to leadership. That suggests that the strength of a leader is based on who you beat down instead of what we all know, the strength of leadership is based on who you lift up.

Kamala Harris 00:16:37

The strength of an american president, which is one who understands that the vast majority of us have more in common than what separates us.

Bret Baier 00:16:46

Madam Vice president, more than 70% of.

Kamala Harris 00:16:48

People that is turning the page on rhetoric that people are frankly exhausted of.

Bret Baier 00:16:53

Brett, more than 70% of people tell the country is on the wrong track. They say the country is on the wrong track. If it's on the wrong track, that track follows three and a half years of you being vice president and President Biden being president. That is what they're saying. 79% of them.

Bret Baier 00:17:11

Why are they saying that? If you're turning the page, you've been in office for three and a half.

Kamala Harris 00:17:16

Years and Donald Trump has been running for office since, but you've been the.

Bret Baier 00:17:21

Person holding the office.

Kamala Harris 00:17:22

Come on, Madam President, you and I both know what I'm talking about. You and I both know what I'm talking about.

Bret Baier 00:17:27

I actually don't. What are you talking about?

00:17:28

What I'm talking about is that over the last decade, people have become. But listen, over the last decade, it is clear to me, and certainly the Republicans who are on stage with me, the former chief of staff to the president, Donald Trump, uh, former defense secretaries, national security adviser, and his vice president, one, that he is unfit to serve, that he is unstable, that he is dangerous, and that people are exhausted with someone who professes to be a leader, who spends full time demeaning and engaging in person grievances, and it being about him, american people are tired of that.

Bret Baier 00:18:13

If that's the case, why is half the country supporting him? Why is he beating you in a lot of swing states? Why, if he's as bad as you say, that half of this country is now supporting this person who could be the 47th president of the United States, why is that happening?

Kamala Harris 00:18:28

This is an election for president of the United States. It's not supposed to be easy.

Bret Baier 00:18:33

I know, but it's not supposed to be.

Kamala Harris 00:18:36

It is not supposed to be a true story.

Bret Baier 00:18:38

So are they misguided, the 50%? Are they stupid?

Kamala Harris 00:18:41

What is God, I would never say that about the american people. And in fact, if you listen to Donald Trump, if you watch any of his rallies, he's the one who tends to demean and belittle and diminish the american people. He's the one who talks about an enemy within. An enemy within. In talking about the american people, suggesting he would turn the american military on the american people.

Bret Baier 00:19:07

We asked that, uh, question to the former president today. Harris Faulkner had a town hall, and this is how he responded.

Video - Donald Trump

00:19:15

I heard about that. They were saying, I was, like, threatening. I'm not threatening anybody.

They're the ones doing their threatening. They do phony investigations. I've been investigated more than Alphonse Capone. He was the greatest gangster.

Bret Baier 00:19:27

No, it's true.

Kamala Harris 00:19:28

Think of it.

Video - Donald Trump

It's called weaponization of government. Terrible thing.

00:19:29

00:19:32

So, Brett, I'm sorry, and with all due respect, that clip was not what he has been saying about the enemy within that he has repeated when he's speaking about the american people. That's not what you just showed.

Bret Baier 00:19:45

He was asked to.

Kamala Harris

Kamala Harris 00:19:46

That's not what you just showed.

Bret Baier 00:19:48

In all fairness and respect, that we asked him.

Kamala Harris 00:19:51

You didn't show that. And here's the bottom line. He has repeated it many times. And you and I both know that, and you and I both know that he has talked about turning the american military on the american people. He has talked about going after people who are engaged in peaceful protest. He has talked about locking people up because they disagree with him.

Kamala Harris 00:20:12

This is a democracy, and in a democracy, the president of the United States, in the United States of America, should be willing to be able to handle criticism without saying he'd lock people up, uh, for doing it. And this is what is at stake, which is why you have someone like the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff saying what Mark Milley has said about

Donald Trump being a threat to the United States of America.

Bret Baier 00:20:43

He's quoted in the Bob Woodward book that way. Yes. Let me ask you this, Madam Vice president. You call Donald Trump. You call Donald Trump, um, he's misguided. You say now he's unstable. He's unstable. He is unstable, but he's not well. You say he's mentally not stable.

Kamala Harris 00:21:01

He's not stable.

Bret Baier 00:21:01

Let me ask you this. You told many interviewers that Joe Biden was on his game. That ran around circles on his staff. When did you first notice that President Biden's mental faculties appeared diminished?

Kamala Harris 00:21:15

Joe Biden, I have watched from the Oval Office to the Situation Room, and he has the judgment and the experiment and experience to do exactly what he has done in making very important decisions on behalf of the american people.

Bret Baier 00:21:33

Concerns raised.

Kamala Harris 00:21:33

Brett? Joe Biden is not on ballot.

Bret Baier 00:21:35

I understand.

Kamala Harris 00:21:36

And Donald Trump, um, Donald Trump.

Bret Baier 00:21:38

But you talked about it.

Kamala Harris 00:21:39

And Donald Trump, after George Clooney said.

Bret Baier 00:21:41

Within a few minutes of talking to President Biden at a fundraiser, that he thought this was not the same Joe Biden that we saw on the debate stage.

Kamala Harris 00:21:48

Trump is on the balance.

Bret Baier 00:21:49

I understand you met with him at least once a week for three and a half years. You didn't have any concerns.

Kamala Harris 00:21:57

I think the american people have a concern about Donald Trump, which is why the people who know him best, including leaders of our national security community, have all spoken out. Even people who worked for him in the Oval office, worked with him in the Situation room, and have said he is unfit and dangerous and should never be president of the United States again, including his former vice president, which is why the job was open for him to, uh, choose another running mate.

Kamala Harris 00:22:32

So that is a fact. That is a fact.

Bret Baier 00:22:37

Madam Vice President, two more things. You were asked on 60 minutes about the biggest threat that the world faces, that the US faces. This is what you said. Which foreign country do you consider to be our greatest adversary?

Kamala Harris 00:22:54

I think there's an obvious, um, one in mind, which is Iran. Iran has american blood on their hands. Okay. This attack on it. Israel, 200 ballistic missiles. Um, what we need to do to ensure that, um, Iran never achieves the ability to be a nuclear power, that is one of my highest priorities.

Bret Baier 00:23:18

A number of experts thought you would say China. Um, the FBI director had said that. But you said Iran. If thats the case, what do you say to critics, uh, who look at the actions of

your administration and say, youre not acting like Iran is the number one threat?

Kamala Harris 00:23:34

Well, I, uh, will tell you most recently, whether it was in April or in October, in the several hours on each occasion that Iran posed a threat to Israel, I was there, uh, most recently in the Situation Room, in the most recent attack, working with the heads of our military in doing what America must always do to defend and to support Israel in its requirement to defend itself and to give american support, to be able to allow Israel to have the resources to defend itself against attack, including from Iran and Iran's and terrorist proxies in the region.

Kamala Harris 00:24:23

Right, and that. But those proxies were getting funded, and my commitment to that is unyielding and unwavering.

Bret Baier 00:24:31

Critics just say that you either relaxed or failed to enforce sanctions on Iran, allowing all of this money to flow into Iran like billions of people.

Kamala Harris 00:24:39

Well, let's go back to Donald Trump, who pulled out of a deal that would have actually put Iran in check. The estimates in billions, during Donald Trump's administration regime, that we had an american military base that was attacked, where american soldiers suffered traumatic brain injuries, and Donald Trump dismissed them as headaches. Not to mention Madam security, how Donald Trump has treated and talked about America's military and military service people.

Bret Baier 00:25:11

Critics say that suckers and losers Hamas.

Kamala Harris 00:25:14

Has diminished and who diminishes talking over each other. I apologize. I would like that we would have a conversation that is grounded in full assessment of the facts, which includes, I think this interview is supposed to be about the choices that your viewers should be presented about this election. And the contrast is important.

Bret Baier 00:25:37

Yes, ma'am.

And on the subject of Iran, I am offering what should be an important contrast that is presented for folks to make a decision who look at what.

Bret Baier 00:25:50

The administration did and say and think differently. Madam Vice President, theyre rapping me very hard here. I hope you got to say what you wanted to say about Donald Trump. There are a lot of things, theres more to say. There are a lot of things that people want to learn about you and your policies.

Kamala Harris 00:26:06

And that's why I invite everyone to go to kamalaharris.com, and you will see that I have 80, uh, pages of policies that are quite comprehensive and should be, um, accessible to anyone who would like to read them. And it includes what I intend to do about affordable housing, what I intend to do about small businesses, what I do.

Bret Baier 00:26:27

And that's why we invited you here to see where you were in 2019.

Kamala Harris 00:26:31

And where you are now, uh, as military and ensure we have the most lethal and best fighting force in the world.

Bret Baier 00:26:37

Madam Vice President, they're giving me a hard wrap.

Kamala Harris 00:26:39

Well, I thank you for the time.

Bret Baier 00:26:40

I thank you for the time.

Kamala Harris 00:26:41

Good to meet you.

Bret Baier 00:26:42

Thank you very much.

00:26:43

Thank you.