

Orly for Senate

Announcement Speech

My name is Orly Benny Davis. Tonight I am proud to announce my candidacy for The united state senate from the great state of South Carolina.

South Carolina needs a fresh, new Republican voice in Washington who understands the needs and dreams of its people.

I am running -- not as a bureaucrat -- but as a businesswoman, who knows what it takes to meet a payroll. I am running as parent who knows the place of moral and religious values in the American family.

I am running as a human being who has seen, first hand, the devastation and horror that terrorism has caused. And I am running as a South Carolinian who realizes all too well that hundred of thousands of American jobs have been sacrificed on the altar of free trade when what is needed is fair trade.

I'd like to talk to you this evening about who I am -- my vision of the future of our State -- and how I see my job as the next junior senator from South Carolina. It is no secret that South Carolina is in the middle of a transformation. Demographically, economically and even culturally, we are growing, adjusting and making ourselves over again. Our population is becoming ever more diverse as we welcome transplants from all corners of our nation, who are discovering the beauty as well as the opportunities and values South Carolina offers.

The big question is where will these changes take us 5, 10, 20 Years down the road.

I am running because I know where we deserve to end up, and, with your help, I know the way to get there! We belong at the top; we deserve to be held up as a shining example of what American values and American know-how can produce.

Let me tell you, I know something about America. Yes, I know all about the bottomless goodwill, endless potential and boundless opportunities we shower on anyone who is determined to make something of themselves.

I saw it firsthand when I came here 20 years ago, and I have witnessed it every day since as a businesswoman, a wife and a mother. My family has been blessed with everything this great country can offer .allowing us to create hundreds of jobs and give something back to our wonderful adopted home state. In addition, most importantly, we have been given five wonderful gifts from God –our children Moshik , Daniel, Leemor, Ethan and Tea’.

Like all South Carolinians, my family is the foundation of my life. And as every parent will tell you, our values are the foundation of our families. People sometimes wonder

what makes our country so great. We are the most powerful nation in history and the most benevolent. We are the richest country in the world and the most charitable.

The answer's simple. America's strength lies in the value system we share as a people. A system rewards individual responsibility with individual opportunity and encourages our compassion and respect for each other. Protestant, Catholic, Jew or Moslem, the foundation of America's greatness is firmly anchored by a belief in God as our Creator.

Of all the pitfalls before our society, none leads to a longer drop than turning our backs on this most fundamental of values. God cannot be locked out of our public schools. Groups doing God's work should not be barred from competing for public dollars. We must stop trying to pry God out of public life! After all nobody seriously suggests depriving our troops in Iraq and elsewhere of spiritual guidance from their chaplains.

My top priority as your voice in the U.S. Senate will be to see that our values are shored up instead of watered down. Just as important will be my fight to protect South Carolina's working families from unfair competition abroad and at home. I will make sure companies get the message that American jobs need to be taken off the export list! We must attract new high paying jobs in manufacturing and technology as well as protect the jobs we have left. "Made in South Carolina" needs to be a fact not a slogan.

In order to realize our true economic potential we must develop the state's infrastructure. With more regional and international airports, new roads and better telecommunications capabilities, we can transform South Carolina into what it is meant to be: The Pearl of the East Coast, and a worldwide tourism destination.

Every year, millions of our tax dollars go toward funding projects like these in other states, isn't it time to demand our fair share? Don't we deserve it? You bet we do, and we deserve a senator who will stand up and make sure South Carolina issues end up on the national agenda! And I will do it.

Republicans and Democrats all have to realize that politics end at the water's edge. It is vital that we continue to support our commander-in-chief and the troops in the field in Iraq and Afghanistan as they wage the war on terror. As someone who comes from the Holy Land, I cannot stress too highly the importance of winning the battle for democracy in the Middle East. America cannot give in to the forces of appeasement any more than we can surrender in the face of tyranny.

I know what is at stake. My husband and I were lucky enough to walk away with our lives after witnessing a double-suicide bombing during a visit to Israel several years ago. I have seen the frontlines of the war on terror firsthand and you can depend on me to never forget that my primary responsibility is to do everything in my power to insure that there will be no more 9-11s here. My family has a proud tradition of military service, as does David's, and I will be a proud supporter and loyal friend of the men and women in our armed forces.

Of course, we cannot leave tonight without bringing up the 600-pound gorilla in the room -- the sorry state of education in our nation.

Our state's education system is overcharging, underachieving and it is not going to get better on its own. I know cynics will tell us the federal government does not play a major role in public education, but I do not think anyone who claims to be a leader should hide behind that excuse while our children drown in a sea of bureaucratic inefficiencies.

As your senator, I will fight for more money to be spent in the classroom – on teachers, books and supplies – instead of more regulations and paperwork.

As a nation we need to be more willing to explore new ideas on how to fix a system that by-and-large has been broken for an entire generation. Whether it is more freedom for charter schools or more funding for the No Child Left behind Act, I will vigorously support a major shakeup of the educational establishment that is failing in its mission to properly prepare our children for their future.

And in order to make sure that future doesn't come with too high of a price tag attached, I will work to reduce costs and reign in spending before the budget deficit spirals out of control. We should not mortgage our children's future to pay for extravaganzas and wasteful projects.

Nor should we force seniors to mortgage their houses to pay for prescription drugs. The legislation passed by the Congress and signed by President Bush is a good start, but we must remember it is only a start. No senior should ever have to choose between medicine and other necessities of life.

In closing, please remember, that no matter what else it may be, this election is about the future of South Carolina, the United States, and, most of all, you and your family. Your next senator -- your representative in Washington -- will help make decisions that will shape the future for generation to come.

If you want that person to be someone who has a vision and knows how to get there and is a true believer in South Carolina Then vote Orly Benny Davis, Republican, for United State Senate.

Thank you so much and May God Bless America.