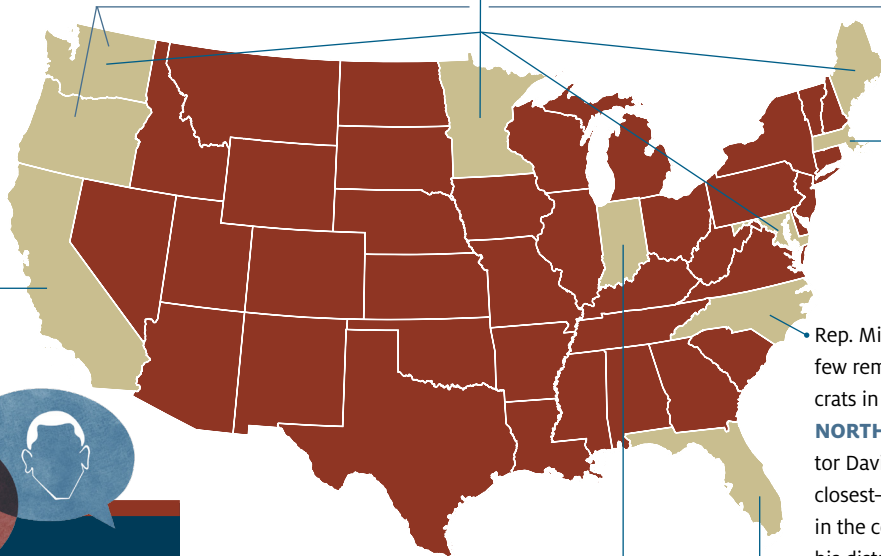


SPOTLIGHT: What to Watch For on Election Night

The campaign for **CALIFORNIA's** Proposition 35, a measure expanding punishments for human trafficking and sexual slavery, was launched by Christian activist and Vietnamese immigrant Daphne Phung. She found a major backer in Chris Kelly, Facebook's former chief of privacy. Polls show support running at about 85 percent.

A few years ago, a major bone of contention was that the first approvals of same-sex marriage came from courts. And even today, American voters have never directly approved same-sex marriage. In November, that's likely to change—in several states, all at once. **WASHINGTON, MARYLAND,** and **MAINE** are all likely to approve same-sex marriages; at press time, **MINNESOTA's** measure was running even in the polls.

MASSACHUSETTS's Question 2 would allow physician- and relative-assisted suicide for terminally ill patients. It's polling with overwhelming support, as high as 2-1. **WASHINGTON** and **OREGON** have similar measures, also passed by ballot initiatives.



Rep. Mike McIntyre is one of the few remaining pro-life Democrats in Congress. His race with **NORTH CAROLINA** state senator David Rouzer is one of the closest—and most expensive—in the country, largely because his district was redrawn to include more Republican voters. McIntyre's campaign bought ads calling him a “strong conservative and Christian who walks his faith every day”—but not a Democrat.

In **INDIANA**, where 4 out of 10 voters identify as evangelical, nearly 1 in 3 evangelicals (32 percent) voted for Obama in 2008. Other states saw higher percentages, but few saw as large a jump from 2004 (John Kerry got only 22 percent). If Obama's evangelical support has weakened, it will likely show up here.

In Amendment 8, **FLORIDA** will once again consider whether to repeal its “Blaine amendment”—its ban on state funds going to religious organizations. A repeal effort in the state legislature failed in 2010, and it's been contested in the courts for years. But the ballot measure faces strong opposition from teachers' unions and others who see it as an effort to introduce school vouchers. Another ballot initiative, Amendment 6, bars state funding of abortion in most instances. Both measures require 60 percent approval.

Pollsters, political scientists, and other observers expect 75 percent of evangelical voters will generally support Romney over Obama. Such Republican support by evangelicals has been steady since 2004. Less certain is whether they'll make up 40 percent of Romney's voters, as they did for Bush and McCain. But the most volatile number will be the percentage of evangelicals in exit polls who say economic issues were the most important factor in their vote choice. In 2008, 52 percent of evangelicals said so; in 2004, it was only 25 percent, and cultural issues dominated.