



COMMITTEE FOR A  
FAIR JUDICIARY

DEMAND  
JUSTICE

INDIVISIBLE

TAKE BACK  
THE COURT



October 14, 2019

To Anderson Cooper, Erin Burnett, and Marc Lacey,

From health care to climate change to guns and voting rights, the Supreme Court has the potential to impact - and strike down – any ambitious legislation the next Democratic president signs into law.

Yet in the three rounds of debates – *nearly 15 hours* of discussion around bold policies every candidate promises to enact if elected – **zero questions** have been asked about what candidates would do to ensure their agenda is not stymied by an activist conservative court that was rigged against them when Mitch McConnell and the Republicans manipulated the size of the court in 2016/17 to steal a seat.

During the 2016 Presidential election, President Donald Trump released a shortlist of names he would consider for the Supreme Court, locking in conservative support. He regularly cites the Justices he nominated – Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh – as his greatest presidential achievement. You don't need to look any further than the [“Back-to-Back Supreme Court Champs”](#) t-shirts for sale on his joint reelection website with Senator Mitch McConnell to know this is a central issue in this election and the future of this country.

Yet, with a solidified conservative majority on the court, sexual misconduct allegations against two justices, and a Republican presidential campaign totally focused on the Courts, Democrats have not been asked to talk to voters about the Supreme Court during any primetime debates. It's clear: Democratic candidates should be asked how they will approach the Supreme Court in office, including but not limited to: Would they pursue structural reforms? What kind of justices would they appoint to vacancies?

While we all represent different issues, we all know the next Democratic president must have a plan to address the Supreme Court – that's why we are joining forces to ask you to make this a topic on October 15th in Ohio.

We appreciate your time and consideration,

American Constitution Society  
Committee for a Fair Judiciary  
Demand Justice  
Indivisible  
Take Back the Court  
Women's March