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races, the black vote will be critical in determining the final outcome. Blacks, who have been disproportionately hurt by "Reaganisms" ill-conceived social and economic policies, have a real stake in the future composition of the House and Senate, and can play a pivotal role in changing this nation's political course.

The following checklist provides a summary of critical issues blacks and other voters may use to guage the potential effectiveness of a candidate.

Where does the candidates stand on U.S. indistrial policy? Since black Since black economic and social progress is inextricably linked to the overall performance of the national economy, a viable candidate must be committed to protecting and expanding basic industries, many of which have been decimated by Reagan economic and trade policies.

Where does a candidate stand on education and federal vocational and job training programs.? Blacks and other workers face an increasingly specialized and competative job market. The government must play an active role in easing the transition of workers displaced by structural changes in the economy, cybernational and other technological advances, and in developing a more highly skilled workforce better able to compete in international marketplace.

Does the candidate have a comprehensive strategy for reducing poverty and easing the suffering of the underclass? Clearly, there must be a renewed commitment to social spending for the poor and ill trained to help break the hopeless cycle joblessness, poverty, family social dissolution and pathology that threatens future generations of young people

Is the candidate firmly committed to safeguarding civil rights and anti-discrimination laws and regulations? The government needs to once again reclaim its role as a guarantor of social justice for all.

Is the candidate committed to the advancement of democracy and human rights around the world? Our government must be prepared to support the growth of democrary around the globe, be it is South Africa, Poland, Chile or elsewhere in the Third World.

