

JOE KENT - BRENT HENNRICH

Larson: Welcome back to the Lars Larson show and welcome back to the Radio Northwest Network. You know, for a long, long time -- I mean, I've been doing this show almost 25 years in the Northwest -- people have said, why don't you do more debates? And I said, we try to, and you say, what do you mean, you try to? I say, well, we try to have arranged debates, but here's the thing, it takes two to tango, and if I invite one side on and then I invite the other side, the other side doesn't show up, then you can't have a debate.

And that happens far too often. We invite democrats every single day of the week. We're asking democrats and liberals and progressives -- whatever label you want to put on them -- to come on the show and most of them they don't do that.

So today we've got kind of a unique opportunity. As you know, I've taken the position that I think my member of Congress, 3rd district congresswoman, Jaime Herrera Beutler, who is also welcome back on this show, just not today, I think she ought to be replaced. I think she's turned into a RINO or worse. In fact, I think the GOP ought to kick her out. So I'd like to see her replaced. And there are a great number of people on both the left and the right who are seeking that position, and I have two of them with me today. Joe Kent, who you've heard before, is a retired Special Forces Warrant Officer and the Gold Star husband of fallen soldier, Shannon Kent, who was killed by ISIS. He's the one of the GOP candidates.

The democrat -- and I have to say it's great to get a democrat to come on the show -- is Brent Hennrich, who is a husband, father, former project manager and a cinema executive.

Gentlemen, can you both hear me? And can the audience hear you? Joe?

Kent: I can hear you just fine, Lars, thank you.

Larson: Brent?

Hennrich: You're coming in 5 by 5.

Larson: Very good. So here's what I want to do. We're going to have a little debate here -- and people have said, Lars, you're going to be unfair, you're not going to give Brent a chance because it's a democrat. No, it's going to be the same questions. We're going to start out, I'm going to afford each candidate an opportunity to do 90 seconds -- you can do less if you want -- as an open. And then we'll get into some specific issues that I think are important in this race for the 3rd district member of Congress from Washington State.

So, because folks are going to accuse me of pro-GOP bias, I'm going to let the democrat go first. Brent Hennrich, the microphone and the floor is yours. You've got 90 seconds.

Hennrich: Well Lars, I just want to thank you for this forum, and I've never spoken with Joe Kent before. Joe, I'm well aware of your service, and I just want to say thank you for your service, and I'm sorry for your loss of your wife in service. But let's move on.

I'm Brent Hennrich. I'm running for Congress. Our nation was founded on the principle of the government of, for and by the people. I am ready to listen to you. While we emphasized "by the people", we need to be doing more for the people in southwest Washington and across our great nation. We must address our current climate crisis, make sure people have access to good paying jobs, and provide equitable access to whole person health care.

There was a time in our history when memory of our political leaders give us true, meaningful inspiration to make our country a better place. We looked up to them, our children aspired to be like them. They had integrity and courage, they were worthy of our respect, they worked hard for you. Many still do, but far too many don't. I'll work for you, the people of Southwest Washington. I will join the broader effort of nationwide, responsible service to the people of the United States, by working with other congressional leaders.

We all have strengths, and one of mine is compassionate listening and leading with empathy. I want to know what matters to you so I can work for your interests as your interests are mine. You're the reason government exists, and it's time for leaders to work on their behalf.

Larson: Brent Hennrich, that's your 90. Joe Kent, would you like to take 90 seconds to tell the people why they should give you that seat in Congress?

Kent: Absolutely! First off, Lars, thank you so much for hosting this debate and thank you very much, Brent, for agreeing to participate. According to recent polling, Brent and I are far and away the front runners in this race. We're going to advance past the primary into the general. Congrats to Brent on his grassroots campaign so far.

My name is Joe Kent and I had the honor of serving this country for a little over 20 years as a green beret. Most of that was in combat. Did 11 combat deployments for this nation. I also served as a foreign policy adviser to President Trump after my late wife was killed fighting ISIS in Syria. After that, I returned here to Yakima, Washington to raise my two sons.

I'm running against Jaime Herrera Beutler because she has betrayed our values and neglected her responsibilities. Not only did she side with the democrats to impeach President Trump, she voted against building a wall to protect our southern border. She voted against repealing Obamacare. She voted in favor of illegal immigrants, and continues to vote for endless foreign wars that have cost so many great Americans their lives, including my late wife.

As "antifa" was burning down Portland and marching into Vancouver, she voted to prevent President Trump from responding and restoring law and order with the National Guard. And right now, as many Washingtonians are facing the choice between taking the job or losing their jobs, she's absolutely silent because she's taking money from big corporate PACs. It's been five years since she's held a public town hall where voters can hold her accountable. She's failed to deliver real solutions to fix the I-5 corridor, revitalize our ports, and restore our fisheries and timber industries. Those are issues that I will lead on. I look forward to discussing those issues and others. Thank you.

Larson: Absolutely. Now, gentlemen, I want to start you off with something general. I'm not going to do the cutie pie question that some people do. But Brent, I'm going to start with you because Joe just went. I'm going to ask you -- do you believe America is headed towards socialism and communism because of the kinds of things like Build Back Better and the other initiatives of the Biden administration? And then I'll get Joe Kent's response in just a moment. Are we headed for socialism and communism? And is that a good thing? And if so, why?

Hennrich: Well, I absolutely do not believe we're headed for socialism or communism. Social Security is a social program. Medicare is a social program. Expanding on social programs is in no way leading us to a path of socialism.

Larson: Alright. Joe, how would you respond to that? Are we headed towards socialism? And is that a good or a bad thing?

Kent: We are on a very slippery slope right now towards socialism, communism, and really just authoritarian control. With the COVID-19 pandemic, the far left got to jump start a lot of their most devious plans, from shutting down the vast majority of independent businesses and shifting that over to a corporate oligarchy like we've seen, no major corporations have been affected by COVID, whereas we've had the largest transfer of wealth from individual entrepreneurs to this corporate class. We're also looking at the way that big tech is working in conjunction with government to silence dissenting voices. And right now we're seeing the weaponization of the Department of Justice to go after, you know, just moms and dads who have the audacity to show up at their children's school board meetings. So I think right now we are heading towards being a very authoritarian state, which is what the end game for all communist or socialist types of regimes are. So I'm very concerned about the state of this country right now. And I think Jaime Herrera Beutler is not fit to defend us.

Larson: I agree. I want to ask you both a yes/no question as we head toward the break and then we'll come back. We're going to spend the whole hour doing this.

Brent, first for you. House of Representatives voted for the so-called, Build Back Better. It adds up to \$60,000 in new debt for every single American family. If you were a member of Congress, would you have voted for Build Back Better as the House did last night?

Hennrich: I disagree on the \$60,000 per person debt increase. I would have voted for it.

Larson: You would have voted for it. Joe Kent, would you have voted for that Build Back Better, which is \$6 trillion at the end of the day, and is going to add about 60,000 per family. Yes or no?

Kent: No, absolutely not.

Larson: Absolutely. We're conducting a debate. The candidates are Joe Kent, the Republican, Brent Hennrich, who is the Democrat. It is about the 3rd congressional district in Washington State, and we'll be back in just a moment on First Amendment Friday. You've got the Lars Larson show.

Welcome back to the Lars Larson show. It's First Amendment Friday. And just for one hour, we're going to have a debate between two of the candidates seeking the office, the 3rd congressional district office currently held by RINO Republican, Jaime Herrera Beutler. As I said, congresswoman Beutler has been on this program many times before. She's been on since I suggested that she ought to be replaced, and I hope she'll be on before the voters make the final decision. But today I have the opportunity to have both GOP candidate Joe Kent, and Democrat candidate, Brent Hennrich.

And Brent, I have to give you some props. There aren't a lot of Democrats that will come on this program, and you've got the guts to do that.

Just before the break, I said we were going to talk about different subjects. I brought up Build Back Better, and I want to ask you about that.

But before I ask you that, you expressed some doubt about how I got to the \$60,000 per family that in debt that is going to be brought about by this Build Back Better passed by the House last night. Here's how you do the math. Every time the federal government spends a trillion dollars, a trillion divided by all the people in this country, 330 million, is

\$3,000 each for every man, woman and child in this country. This is going to cost over five trillion. I rounded it off. \$5 trillion, times five, times \$3,000 per every man, woman and child is 15,000 bucks. So if you have a family of four, that is \$60,000, and I just wanted to make sure that you knew it wasn't just throwing out funny math.

Are we ready for something that borrows \$60,000 on behalf of every single family of four in this country to provide what the President says is a way to build America back better? So about the subject of Build Back Better, I hope it gets -- I have a bias, I hope it gets stopped in the Senate -- but I want to ask you Brent, and since Joe went last before the break, I'll let you go first on this one. Is that amount of spending for the things they propose to spend it on good for America?

Henrich: You're talking about the spending without the revenue portion though. So that's comparing apples and oranges. The CBO has not scored it that way. So the numbers you are making up are using only part of the equation.

Larson: Well, I'm not... Okay, but we can debate the numbers if you want, because the total amount of spending the Biden administration proposes this year if Congress approves all of the 1.8 trillion already spent in March, the 1.2 on infrastructure, this one officially at 2 trillion, although they did some accounting magic in there to get it down from 5, it's really 5 trillion, and then you have the regular bill for running the federal government, about 3, it totals up to between \$8 and \$9 trillion this year. They don't begin to have that much money coming in, which means that they have borrow it to make it happen.

But if we're going to spend that amount of money, is it a smart thing? Is that that amount of spending good for America or bad for America? You're free to argue either way for one minute.

Henrich: We need to get America back on track and going forward again. That's what the Build Back Better plan is for. I support the Build Back Better plan.

Larson: Okay, let me ask Joe Kent. Is spending that amount of money a good idea?

Kent: No, spending that amount of money that we can't pay for is absolutely irresponsible to put on the backs of our children and our grandchildren. Look, we do need a vast amount of infrastructure improvement in this country. But the current Build Back Better plan only has about somewhere in the ballpark of 10% that actually goes to physical infrastructure. The rest, especially the rechargeable car stations, all of that is nothing but a \$300 billion payday for the Chinese Communist Party, the people that crashed our economy by sending us COVID. That is a payday for them because they manufacture all the raw materials that make a lot of these batteries.

What we need to focus on to get our economy back on track is bringing back American jobs here in the United States. That is the systemic issue that we're seeing right now with this debacle with our supply chain. The biggest issue we have right now in our economy is that we don't produce anything here. Our number one geostrategic foe, the Chinese Communist Party, who is in an economic war with us right now, controls our means of production and our supply line. And we also rely on them to buy off our debt bonds. So we're counting on the Chinese Communist Party to continue to fund this by buying off our debt bonds. We can't print enough money, we're not going to bring in enough money. Our only solution then is to take out more debt and we're going to rely on the Chinese Communist Party for that. It's completely and totally reckless and irresponsible.

Larson: Okay, let me let Brent go next on the next one. About Built Back Better, Joe Biden made the promise as candidate, he doubled down on it as President to say "I will not raise taxes

for those below 400,000 individual income," not even household, the individual income. The latest scoring of this plan says it's going to raise taxes on 20% to 30% of the middle class.

Let me ask you Brent. I'm guessing you probably voted for Joe Biden. I don't think Joe Kent voted for Joe Biden, but I believe you might have, and you can tell us if you choose, does this break Joe Biden's promise not to tax below 400,000?

Henrich: I know what you're saying, and I believe that Joe Kent said he did or didn't -- actually I can't remember. When he was a Democrat in Oregon in the last election, in the primary, and I understand and fully believe his Rush Limbaugh idea of registering as a Democrat to play around in primaries, and that's fine.

I don't believe Joe Biden has broken a promise. The numbers you're talking about are, there are certain situations, 20% of people under 400,000 may have their taxes go up by \$100. I did see those four numbers last night. People are pouncing on them as if it was a penny or \$100 or \$5,000. I don't believe that's a broken promise. It wasn't intentional. It's just how the math broke down. And there wasn't a way to be able to to make it equitable for everyone. And yes, some people are going to pay \$100, \$220 a year more that are in that \$75,000 to \$400,000 range of income. But I don't believe that's a broken promise in any way.

Larson: Joe, do you think it's a broken promise? Joe Kent.

Kent: No, absolutely. It's 100% a broken promise. The problem is it's not just the taxes that will be raised. Everything is more expensive right now with inflation due to Biden's irresponsible behavior. Shutting off the Keystone XL Pipeline. Look at the price at the pump. The price of gas has gone up in our cars. And that results in the foods that we consume and every single service that we use that's imported, all those costs have gone up. So really, the folks that are in the working class that are struggling to get in the middle class, middle class families, folks that are just now on two incomes probably earning that \$400,000 because they worked hard their entire life, not only are their taxes going to go up, but everything else is more expensive. So Joe Biden has broken promises and he's breaking our economy.

Larson: Both of you, I'm going to have to give you 30 on each of these. But it should be easy. Should we give, as this bill does, effective amnesty to 11 million illegal aliens? Brent, should we do that?

Henrich: I haven't seen totally that portion, but I am aware of the fact of the people that were covered by DACA are getting the ability to have work permits in the United States for a five year period and they can renew those permits. I have not gone through every line of that portion of the bill.

Larson: Joe. Joe, do you have a 30-second answer for me?

Kent: I do. No, absolutely not. We should not be giving amnesty to any illegal immigrants ever, under any circumstances. Not only is there a national security implication here, but there's also a major economic security implication. These illegal immigrants are coming in and are taking jobs away from the working class, the most diverse class that we have that's struggling to make ends meet every day. That is who the illegal immigrants take jobs from. And that's why the corporate donor class from the left and the right love illegal immigration so much. Because they can virtue signal about minimum wages, but never pay it.

- Larson:** When we come back in a moment, we'll continue our debate. Brent Hennrich and Joe Kent running for Congress will talk about vaccines and masks and mandates. Coming up next on the Radio Northwest Network and the Lars Larson show.
- Welcome back to the Lars Larson show it's First Amendment Friday. I'll get back to your calls a bit later, but I have a great opportunity today, and believe me, we'd love to do more of these, not just during election time, but even on specific subject matter, whether it's a "Floridation", whether it's global warming, climate change, whatever, I'd be glad to have debates on this show on a regular basis. The sad thing is that many times the left does not want to step forward and actually take tough questions. But today, we have great opportunity because Democrat Brent Hennrich is with me. Husband, father, former project manager, cinema executive, running for Congress in the 3rd congressional district in Washington, currently held by RINO Republican, Jaime Herrera Beutler. And Joe Kent, one of the GOP candidates who is running for that seat as well.
- Gentlemen, I want to move to masks and mandates and vaccines. Let me start with Joe Kent. Joe, should any government -- and let's start just in isolation -- should any government mandate the wearing of masks, either in public places, in private places like restaurants and stores, should any government mandate that citizens must wear a mask to be out in public?
- Kent:** No, absolutely not. I mean, I think we've just seen the government overstep their bounds consistently with these mask mandates. They cannot dictate what you put on your face and they shouldn't be able to dictate access to public facilities that our taxpayer dollars go to. Right now, the government has been so dishonest with everything involving COVID. There's just such a lack of public trust that everything right now just appears to be another control measure to see how much more control the government can get and the masks are just the most overt symbol of that.
- Larson:** Alright, let me ask Brent Hennrich, the Democrat. Brent, should any government -- and I'm talking about Joe Biden, Jay Inslee, Kate Brown -- or a mayor or a county commission, should any of those governments mandate the wearing of masks to go out in public?
- Hennrich:** Well, I believe all of those people you spoke of have a duty to protect the overall population. They're using the best data they can get from public health experts that show that wearing a mask slows the spread, doesn't completely stop it. And yes, they are well within their rights to protect the general population by saying wear a mask. It doesn't harm anyone, and it helps the overall population.
- Larson:** I've got to ask you a clarifying question. You mentioned they're well within their rights. Can you tell me where they get the authority to tell me to slap a mask on my face to go out in public? Because I can't find it, and I've been looking for it for a year. Brent, can you tell me where you find that authority? You said they're within their rights.
- Hennrich:** We elect them to protect and defend and use their role for the overall good of the citizens, and that's what they're doing.
- Larson:** I want to get Joe's answer in a moment. But I think "protect and defend" is the cops. Most of the state officials we're talking about take an oath that says "I will faithfully execute the laws of the states." Can you tell me where a governor or a mayor or a city council gets the authority, and in faithfully executing the laws, to tell me to put a mask on my face before we even get to vaccines? Where do they get that authority?
- Hennrich:** I do not have the line. So I'm not going to try and make it up. You and I both know.

- Larson:** No, no, go ahead Brent. Tell me, what do we both know? Because I don't know that Jay Inslee has that authority. They keep talking about mandates, but a mandate is not a law passed by the lawmakers. You still believe in that part of the system, right?
- Hennrich:** Yes, I believe in that part of the system. But they are the executives of the State, and they are making decisions for the overall betterment of their citizens.
- Larson:** Alright. Before I go to Joe, let me ask you, Brent. Do they have the authority to tell you to stick a needle in your arm? And another one, and another one, as boosters are required? Do they have that authority too?
- Hennrich:** In certain scenarios, yes. I mean --
- Larson:** No, no, we're not talking about certain scenarios. They're extending vaccine mandates to say -- you can't work, you can't go to places, you can't check into a hotel, you can't go anywhere unless you're vaccinated -- do they have that authority? And if so, where do they get it? And how far can they go with it, Brent?
- Hennrich:** Again, they are looking out for the general well being of the overall population, and they are doing everything they can to help the overall population. And I believe they do have the authority to make that decision.
- Larson:** Okay. Joe. I want to get your response. I have a feeling it might actually mirror mine. I mean, I do have a bias here, not just in favor of Joe Kent. But Joe, do these elected elites have the authority to tell you to wear a mask or take a jab or two or three or six?
- Kent:** No, absolutely not. It's nowhere in the Constitution, the federal constitution, the state constitution. It's an absolute infringement upon our rights. Day one that I'm in Congress, I am going to present legislation that outlaws vaccine mandates tying your vaccine status to your employment. We have to start standing up and saying no. If we continue to bend the knee and let these tyrants continue to tell us what to do with masks and vaccines, we are going to be on that continuous slope towards authoritarianism.
- Larson:** Alright, let's go to energy. Brent Hennrich, the Democrat. Let me ask you this -- should we move away from fossil fuels that currently provide two thirds of our electricity and all of our transportation in America, when we don't have replacements for them? Should we do that?
- Hennrich:** We should be working towards that, and that's in Build Back Better to address climate change. To move to renewable energy, we need to move our vehicle fleets to electric that can be powered by renewable energy that does not add to the global climate crisis.
- Larson:** Well, I'm curious about that. These electric cars that we're going to buy all hundreds of millions, hundreds of billions of dollars worth of car chargers for, where are they going to get the electricity when two thirds of the grid comes from fossil fuels right now?
- Hennrich:** That's why we're talking about increasing solar and wind energy. New advancements in battery technology will allow us to generate solar and store it for use in the evenings, and for when the wind is blowing, to store it for those days when everybody wants to talk that it's not windy.
- Larson:** Let me ask Joe what he thinks of that. Joe, does that make sense to you?
- Kent:** No, we should not be killing off our fossil fuels industry. I mean, Joe Biden is completely reckless on a national security standpoint from killing off the Keystone Pipeline. We need

to continue to explore and go back to being energy independent, and become a net exporter of our resources, like natural gas and oil. This strengthens our economy, this also strengthens our nation and makes it so that we don't need things from OPEC, from the Middle East, from Russia. It takes away a lot of power from a lot of bad actors. I'm for exploring new means of green production, but that needs to be done here in America, and not until it is ready to replace what we have at hand with fossil fuels.

Larson: Alright, let me move to an event today. The jury came back today in the "self defense" shooting case of Kyle Rittenhouse. The jury decided he was not guilty of any crime and they said "you can now go, Mr Rittenhouse."

Let me start with Brent. Brent, did the jury make the right decision or the wrong decision? And why?

Henrich: I wasn't on that jury. And in this country, we have the presumption of innocence until proven guilty in a court of law. I saw things on social media that were presented in one way. What the jury saw directly, I did not watch every moment of that trial. I trust that our judicial system is set up, that you get a jury of 12 of your peers to look at evidence that's presented, and to look at the defense, and they made that decision. It doesn't necessarily comport with what I've seen, but I was not on that jury and if I'm ever in this situation, I would like a jury of 12 of my peers to look at all of the evidence and make their decision based on that evidence presented at the trial.

Larson: Joe, about 30 seconds. It's going to have to be quick. Did the jury make the right decision?

Kent: Yes, the jury made the right decision. What I want to point out is that obviously, Kyle acted in self defense. But the reason why Kyle Rittenhouse had to be out there defending his community is because our establishment failed. The democrats egged on and even paid for "antifa" to go out and riot in these communities. And representatives, Republicans like Jaime Herrera Beutler, voted against stopping that violence. They tied President Trump's hands during a time of crisis. So this is a man-made catastrophe by our establishment, and this is why we need to get rid of people like Jaime Herrera Beutler.

Larson: We're going to be back in just a moment with Joe Kent, one of the GOP candidates for Congress, and Democrat Brent Henrich are with me. We'll continue this debate and you'll hear their closing arguments in just a moment.

Welcome back to the Lars Larson show. We're having a little debate for an hour. And then next hour we'll get to calls on a First Amendment Friday. I've got Joe Kent with me, the GOP candidate, one of them, running to replace Jaime Herrera Beutler, who I think richly deserves to be replaced. We also got Brent Henrich, who is a Democrat, and I applaud him for being a Democrat with the guts to come on the program.

Gentlemen, I want to afford up to two minutes for closing statements. But before we get to that, let me start with you, Brent. Is China a threat to the US economically, militarily and culturally? And if not why not? If so why so? And then we'll give the question to Joe. And if you can keep it to about a minute, I think we can still get you about a minute and a half for a closing argument. What do you say about China?

Henrich: Right now, I believe "China" is more of a talking point and a buzzword than anything else. I agree with Joe -- our economy is currently dependent upon goods manufactured in China. I do not see them as the geopolitical adversary that he portrays them as. We have a symbiotic relationship right now. Is that good or bad? It definitely needs to be looked at. But I don't see them as storming our shores, as it seems he believes is happening.

- Larson:** Joe, what's your response to that? Is China a threat to the US economically, militarily, and even culturally?
- Kent:** China is at war with us right now. It's not a war where they're going to storm our shores, by any means. China is, they are the masters of asymmetrical warfare. So they are in an economic war with us right now. And using their bridge through the economy, they have gotten into our culture. And what they're doing right now is they have the control of world manufacturing. They're also the ones that we rely on to buy off our debt bonds. So really, at a time and place of the Chinese Communist Party's choosing, they could threaten our status as a prime reserve currency holder. That would bring down our economy and make 2008 look like a walk in the park, really. But right now, China has issues of their own. And what's happening is our elites, some of our hedge funds on Wall Street, are using our pension money to bailout China. So we have a major issue with our elites in our country and how they are deferential to China in this global system. That's why I am an America First advocate. We must on-shore and produce everything that we need here, so that we do not rely on our number one geostrategic foe, who has been at war with us ever since we allowed them into the world community.
- Larson:** Brent, one of these days, I want you to come back on the show. Not that I don't love Joe, but I'd love to have you come back on the show and we could talk about some of these issues at greater length. But I'm going to give you a minute and a half to do your wrap up, and then I'll do the same for Joe. Since you got started first, Joe gets the last word. Brent, go right ahead.
- Henrich:** Well, thank you again, Lars, for having me on your show to discuss these important topics and issues, and allowing me to present what I can offer to Washington's 3rd district and its constituents. Joe, again, it was nice to meet you and have somewhat of a discussion, and again, thank you for your service.
- I think if nothing else, this debate has shown how very different Joe and I are, and about the only thing we agree on is we both want to represent this district.
- I've been accused of being a single issue candidate. And in a way, I suppose I am. My single issue I'm running for the people of the 3rd, to work every day to improve their lives. We're stronger together. Division and strife will not build this country back better. We can't let ourselves slide backwards. We must keep working to move forward with a firm result. It takes action. It takes all of us working together. I can't do this without you. No one person can. I need all of you to join with me and help me flip Washington's 3rd.
- Larson:** Joe, would you like to make your final closing argument to voters about why they should vote for you if you end up in that position in the general election next fall? Joe go ahead.
- Kent:** Thank you, Lars, for hosting this debate, and thank you, Brent, for the spirited conversation. I think, while we don't agree on most things, I think we can agree that the people of our district know that Jamie Herrera Beutler must go. Jamie represents the corporate establishment that has done nothing but fail us, from shipping our manufacturing jobs overseas to crippling our timber industry, to spilling our blood and treasure in endless wars, to failing to secure our elections. Jaime Herrera Beutler has failed to look out for anyone but herself and the corporate ruling class of the donors. All of Jamie's failures have resulted in the left, led by Joe Biden, and Jay Inslee, assaulting our sovereignty at every level, from vaccine mandates to our kids being forced to wear masks at school, as their top anti-American doctrine, to the assault on our southern border. As your congressman, I will end these assaults and lead an American revival in our district. At the center is strengthening the American family. To protect our individual sovereignty, I

will introduce legislation on day one to make vaccine mandates illegal. To restore the sovereignty of families, I will fight for school choice and school vouchers, putting parents in charge of the children's education and not the state. To strengthen families, I'm going to fight for enhanced child tax credit deductions of up to \$10,000 per child, for families that have one parent working a full time job and not receiving state assistance. This is going to allow one parent to stay home if they choose to do so. We also have to strengthen our families and our economy by bringing back manufacturing, and deregulating our natural resource industries. We have everything we need at our hands here to lead a great American revival of the economy and of national spirit. Please join our movement at joekentforcongress.com. I humbly ask for your support and your vote. Thank you. God bless.

Larson: That's Joe Kent. He's running as a Republican for Jamie Herrera Beutler's seat. Brent Hennrich is the Democrat.

Brent, I want to ask you a question outside of the debate. What should voters make of the fact that nearly every democrat in the northwest is afraid to come on and simply answer hard questions like you just did for half of this last hour?

Hennrich: Well, I can say that every Democrats in this area advised me not to. But I have to be able to talk to every voter if I'm going to try and represent every voter in Congress. And this was the forum I was given and I am taking every chance to talk to everyone I can.

Larson: Well, why don't you go back and tell your democrat friends to stop being cowards, and we'll be glad to have you on the air. You're listening to First Amendment Friday.