

2008 Bulen Symposium
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Gender, Race, and Religion in the 2008 Elections

The 2008 elections have been memorable for several reasons. A woman emerged as a serious presidential contender during the primaries and another was chosen as a vice-presidential candidate. An African-American was nominated by a major political party to run for president. High profile primary candidates included a Mormon and an ordained Southern Baptist minister. How much or how little does the gender, race, or religion of a candidate matter? This year's Bulen Symposium explores the relevance of these categories for electoral politics. It also provides assessments of the 2008 elections at the national, state, and local levels.