

Hello Everyone,

With this Obamagram, I am forwarding an excerpt from one of the same that Professor Danielle Allen has sent to her friends and colleagues. In it she argues that “the Obama campaign is seeking to re-invent democratic, grass-roots politics for a country with a population of 300 million by inventively and intelligently deploying the powers of new social networking technologies”. This is, in fact, part of what Barack is talking about when he promises “change”.

For those of you who don't remember her from my introduction to a previous message, Danielle is ideally suited to make argument. She is a professor at both the University of Chicago (where she was also Dean of Humanities) and the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. A recipient of a MacArthur “genius” award, she has two PhD's: one from Cambridge in classics and one from Harvard, appropriately, in political science. I am honored to serve with her on both the Amherst College Board of Trustees and the Governing Board of The University of Chicago Charter Schools (interestingly, Austan Goolsbee, Barack's top economic advisor and a professor at the UofC's business school, is also on the latter board.) Danielle has recently written about new forms of citizenship in her wonderfully-incisive book, Talking to Strangers.

Please pass this along to as many people as possible. We are trying to expose Barack's thinking to as many people as we can before the big day of primaries and caucuses on Feb 5.

As always, please pass it on.

Chuck