



## Our core beliefs

### **Right to choose for families with children**

The family is the most important social unit. It is within the family that we are seen and loved for the unique individual that we are. We need the family in order to be able to grow and develop. A family that functions well creates confident children and confident adults. That is why parents are also so important and need all the support they can get in their important roles. We are the only party that wants to preserve the sanctity of marriage as it is today.

Christian Democrats want to support – not govern – families. Everything is based on our children and their needs. Therefore, we are seeking your support in giving parents more power in deciding how they want to live their own lives.

The majority of today's parents wish that they could spend more time with their children. That is why the Christian Democrats would like to introduce a child-care allowance, which will mean that the municipalities will be responsible for economically compensating parents who choose to care for their own small children.

We are against all attempts to forcibly divide parents' insurance. On the other hand, after the parents' insurance, we would like to introduce 300 child days at a value of SEK 60,000. This would make it possible for parents to reduce their work times when the children are small. We also want to improve the finances of families with children through a doubled child allowance that is taxable. Consequently, those that have lower taxes will get to keep more and this will be a more equal and fair allocation.

### **Safety and a positive learning atmosphere in schools**

Unfortunately, bullying, disruptive students, and offensive language are everyday events in many schools. The Christian Democrats want to change that. Schools shall provide every student with knowledge, and together with parents, foster responsible citizens. In addition, schools shall have zero tolerance policy with regard to bullying.

Each child is unique and every student has the right to be viewed and evaluated based on his or her own conditions. It is the responsibility of the schools to recognise students with special learning problems as well as those students with above average learning abilities. Each student must be given assignments that stimulate their development, both intellectually and socially. All students who leave elementary school must be able to speak the Swedish language fluently. Major efforts must be made in order to improve Swedish language skills.

We also aim for a closer cooperation between schools and the home since this is a prerequisite for the success of students. For example, students and parents shall have the right to choose the school and type of pedagogy that is best suited to them.

## **Adequate medical treatment and healthcare**

The Christian Democrats have always fought for, and always will fight, for every person's right to secure and adequate geriatric care, and we are seeking your trust in a policy that focuses on human value.

We want to preserve a secure, humanitarian and mutually financed care system for the individual patient and relatives. Every person's absolute, equal and unique value must always be the guiding principle. This means that all people shall have the right to care and treatment regardless of age or other conditions. The patient shall be the focal point and be guaranteed adequate care.

Older immigrants must be able to live close to or together with people who have the same native language. In recruiting personnel, an advantage should be given to those who can speak the native language of elderly persons.

We would like to introduce a sufficiency guarantee, which among other things, will require that there is sufficient personnel so that no one is forgotten, that everyone will be visible and properly cared for. No one should have to die alone.

## **A flourishing economy provides welfare**

Our country is filled with innovative and hardworking people. Now, a policy is being developed that can take advantage of these possibilities. New jobs are being created when individuals find the courage to start or develop their own companies. The obstacles that hinder the entrepreneurial spirit must be removed, and the Christian Democrats want to free enterprising entrepreneurs from complicated regulations and piles of forms by doing away with needless rules.

Today, employers must pay a portion of the salaries for those who are on long-term disability. This means that those people with poorer health have a harder time finding a job. Companies must be encouraged to hire, not the opposite. Therefore, joint financing of sick pay must be abolished, and the sick pay period that employers are now forced to pay must be cut in half to one week. Special efforts to facilitate business enterprises in the suburbs of our larger cities must be made, for example, with the help of venture capital.

With more new jobs we will also have more resources for necessary investments in healthcare and welfare, etc.

## **The Swedish language and a job is the key to integration**

A society that welcomes the fact that we are all different becomes a richer society. It is when differences complement each other that a better whole is created. However, all too often we forget this and then the fear of what is different leads to discrimination. We see this in the workplace, in the justice system and in lines of people waiting to get into restaurants and nightclubs. This must be combated on every front.

To accept diversity is not to turn a blind eye to the fact that conflicts may arise. These conflicts must be handled with respect for each other based on the mutual cultural and democratic values that our society is founded upon, what we Christian Democrats refer to as "an ethical minimum".

The Swedish language opens possibilities for social fellowship and is the way into the Swedish labour market. Swedish education should be combined with practical training, internships or a job.

There are a deplorably small number of refugees who are able to support themselves even after living in a municipality for five years. Early contact with the Swedish workplace is vital in order to increase their chances of finding a job. Therefore, this effort must be initiated as early as the asylum-seeking stage, regardless of whether the person in question receives a residence permit or not.

The most powerful measure to counteract segregation is to ensure that all housing areas have a mixed type of buildings. To achieve this, more housing is required, but there also have to be more possibilities for people to own their own housing.

## **Safety in the streets**

Many people are worried about being subjected to increasing violence. Police stations are being shut down and elderly people run the risk of being isolated because they are afraid to go out after nightfall. No one should have to be afraid of violence or of being robbed.

That is why the Christian Democrats want to provide the police with sufficient resources to also fight crimes such as theft, burglary and assault so that we can restore a safe environment in residential areas, in our streets and squares, and in our own homes. More police with immigrant backgrounds must be recruited and the police presence must be increased in our suburbs.

Society as a whole must also show, in a clear way, that it will not accept apathy or passiveness towards a person in need. Therefore, the Christian Democrats would like to introduce a law regarding the courage to stand up for one's beliefs, a law which requires each person to help another person in need, based on the situation and their own conditions. Such a law would strengthen the feelings of compassion and reduce crime.

YES! Vote for us on September 17

For me, the election on September 17 is about changing society, about the family's ability to stick together and to have time for each other; about the environment that children grow up in, about the rights of the elderly to feel the wind in their hair and to hear a kind word, about a society without discrimination, about the joy of seeing an enterprising idea succeed, and how someone's eyes shine when they are given the news – you have a job!

You have an important choice to make. With your vote you can choose to support these changes, or you can vote for the social conditions that we see today.

If you, as I do, want to work towards one society for everyone, where there is both security and freedom of choice – then you should vote for the Christian Democrats.

Göran Högglund  
Party leader