

Santa Cruz for Bernie questionnaire for **Rojina Bozorgnia
2020 Bernie Delegate to the Democratic National Convention (DNC)
Candidate Questionnaire - CA Congressional District 20**

(Just start typing after the >> cue)

1. Your full name >> **Rojina Bozorgnia**
2. Your city and county of residence >> **Marina, Monterey County**
3. Length of residence in CD20 >> **June 2016-Present**
4. Your occupation or avocation >> **Student**
5. Significant memberships and affiliations (political, labor union, public service, etc.) >> **UC Santa Cruz Student Union Assembly, UC Student Association, California Democratic Party, Worker Student Solidarity Coalition, Students for Bernie**
6. Which of Bernie's policy proposals are you most passionate about? >> **College Affordability**
7. Do you consider support for Medicare for All single-payer healthcare to be an essential conviction of a true progressive? *Yes or No* >> **Yes**
8. During 2019-2020, approximately how many hours were you engaged in campaigning for Bernie in these activities?
 - door-to-door canvassing >> **3** hours
 - phonebanking >> **3** hours
 - tabling >> **4** hours
 - other >> **5** hours Describe campaign activity >> **voter registration**
9. Were you active in Bernie's 2016 campaign? *Yes or No* >> **Yes**
If so, how? >> **Registered voters, canvassed, phone banked**
10. In what other campaigns, organizations, or movements have you been active, and what role did you play? >> **Jimmy Panetta for Congress (intern), Tyler Williamson for City Council (intern), Ian Oglesby for Mayor (intern), John Laird for State Senate (SC campaign coordinator)**
11. If you were eligible to vote in the 2016 Primary, who did you vote for for President? >> **Ineligible**
Who did you vote for in the 2016 General Election? >> **Ineligible**
If not in California, in what state? >> **Ineligible**
12. At the DNC, in addition to supporting Bernie's platform and voting for Bernie on the first ballot, what do you realistically hope to accomplish as a part of the delegation at the convention? >> **I hope to make real connections with people my age & build a larger network of progressive students & continue my advocacy from CD20 on a larger scale. I hope to speak with & hear from people that can help me learn the skills I need to be a stronger & better leader and changemaker in my community.**
13. If there is a second ballot at the DNC, who would you support for President? >> **Castro**
Who would you never support? >> **Biden**
14. Who do you fancy for Vice President? >> **Anyone who can further Bernie's progressive agenda**
Who would you never support? >> **Harris**
15. Do you do your political work primarily inside the Democratic Party or outside of it? >> **Both**
16. Do you think the U.S. needs a viable progressive third party? *Yes or No* >> **Yes**
If Yes, what are you doing to build it? >> **Garnering student support for local & state politics in order to build the foundation for strong grassroots support from younger voters, and educating students on the importance of political activism and engagement, & how to think outside the 2 party system.**
17. In your opinion, how electable is Joe Biden in November 2020?
(enter a number from 1 to 5, with 1=No Chance to 5=Slam Dunk) >> **2**
18. What do you think are Biden's assets? >> **Experience, strong support in southern states**
What do you think are Biden's liabilities? >> **Voting record, public gaffes, isolating younger voters, lack of support for M4A**

19. What differences if any do you think would result from a Biden administration compared to a second Trump administration? >> **I'm hoping that whoever comes in after Trump can reverse much of the damage he's done when it comes to environmental policies & regulations, foreign policy, reversing the defunding of many government programs that benefit lower income communities.**

20. Give an example of when you spoke truth to power. Who were the players, what were the stakes, and what did you do? >> **An article was released recently detailing that UCSC used FBI & military surveillance technology to monitor the conversations & activity of the graduate students organizing the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) wildcat strikes. As Legislative Director of our campus & a representative of the Student Union Assembly, I felt it necessary to leverage my positions of power & inform the student body of these atrocities and in my eyes, violation of our rights as students. I confronted our Chancellor about these allegations in a meeting with her in my position as a student leader on campus, and she has said that this technology was used so UCSCPD would know where to delegate the hyper militarization police presence (that they had hired from SF & Alameda county) due to the large size of our campus. I was not afraid to speak up and let students know that the police presence was in the same area every single day, and that the university has no trouble in lying to students & faculty about their intentions when it comes to protecting their reputation. Additionally, I informed students that the university used this technology to find out what the Sanders campaign schedule was after he tweeted in support of the COLA movement & against the firing of striking TAs, and prevented Bernie from coming to campus and meeting with strikers.**

21. Why should Bernie supporters vote for you to be their DNC Delegate? *(max 50 words)* >> **I have been a passionate and dedicated supporter of Bernie since before I even moved to the U.S. at the age of 15. While I have not dedicated as many hours to the campaign as I would have liked as I hold *six* part time jobs in addition to being a full time student, I have always participated in the ways that I could with my limited availability & busy schedule. Additionally, as a student leader, many students, former co-workers, and other folx in my network in Monterey & Santa Cruz county come to me for guidance when wanting to get politically involved in their communities, and I serve as a mentor to them & refer them to YDSA, SC4B, and other progressive avenues for involvement. I believe that helping other young people & students get involved is just as important as the hours I've spent physically knocking on doors.**