

U.S. Senate candidates Cory Booker (left) and Steve Lonegan spar in their second televised debate on Wednesday night. Moderator Jim Rosenfield of NBC 10 is in the middle at Pfleeger Concert Hall at Rowan University in Glassboro. (Michael Bryant/Pool Photo/Philadelphia Inquirer)

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## U.S. SENATE SPECIAL ELECTION 2013

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have multiplied. "That is not progress," he said.

Lonegan also pounced on claims that Booker has distorted stories he has told in speeches that he watched a man in Newark die in his arms from a gunshot wound and that he became friends with a man named T-Bone who once threatened to kill him.

"I find it deeply disturbing when an elected official uses the death of someone to boost himself up," Lonegan said. "It really shows a lack of judgement."

Booker called the allegations "distractions."

The two clashed sharply on just about every issue, including gay marriage and abortion. Booker said he supports same-sex marriage, saying "We are all equal under the law."

Lonegan said "marriage is the greatest institution made by man" because "it's about the children."

Asked whether he believes gay couples should have children, he quipped: "That would be a biological phenomenon."

He then added: "I have mixed feelings about that."

Lonegan didn't only argue with Booker. At one point he chided a panelist for not checking his facts, and accused the moderator, NBC 10 anchor Jim Rosenfield, of giving "the edge to my opponent throughout the whole debate."

After the debate, Lonegan told reporters he "clobbered" Booker, who he said was "coached" and had "pollsters telling him what to do."

*Star-Ledger staff writer **Brent Johnson** contributed to this report.*

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Eclipse last week

Fox news reported 59% Blame GOP. This is FOX NEWS WOW! That's like 95% in real world News! GOP IN Trouble

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mi austin last week

Judge the candidate by their records... Cory Booker's record at Newark at two term mayor suggests he is not even qualified to be a mayor, let alone get promoted to higher office. It is all image, no substance. His debate performance sounds so rehearse, a lot of empty sentences fill with the usual "extremist", "tea party" name calling. Pretty sad debating skills for a supposed rhode scholar.

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spaghetti last week

Longean then added: "I have mixed feelings about that." (regarding gay adoptions) This coming from the arch conservative that leftists have tried to lampoon for years is HUGE. Better be careful Dems, at this point, anything is a victory for Steve. A ballot box victory will be a crushing defeat and a sign of your looming shellacking next year.

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spaghetti last week

"Do we want to send more tea party down there who are so obsessed with Obamacare that they want to shut down the entire government to stop the expansion of health care?" Booker said. Yes, Cory, yes I do. I am in my early 20s and I want there to be a country left to raise my children in. And you and your clone in the White House and your buddies in Congress must be stopped. I voted for Obama in 2008 and I supported you for a few years, but you have shown yourself to be a complete fraud. Lonegan isnt just the alternative, he makes his own name and personality, and bucks the general conservative trend in a way I like. I voted for him to spoil Christies vote in 2009 and now I will vote for him for real.

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JimB last week

The difference between Booker and Lonegan is that Booker is an image and Lonegan is a man. We've already got an image in the White House, when what the U.S. needs is real men.

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koosman69 last week

Its is really no contest. In every way shape and form Lonegan is the clear better choice for the US Senate. Booker as a mayor of a major city has done NOTHING to curb the drug and gang violence there, yet the media ignores this fact. Hollyweird loves Booker and that tells you something right there. Electing Booker will just bring more of the same to Washington and DC clearly needs a change in philosophy. Lonegan deserves my vote and he will get it. Hope more of you get out there and do the same. Let's pull this off and send a message to every LIEBERAL in the country! Do what's right for NJ.

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dco3080 last week

I care more about economic issues that these silly social issues that the parties use to drive a wedge between people. The

democrats could have legalized gay marriage throughout the country (or even in NJ in 2009) but failed to because it would take away that 'issue' and voting block. The republicans could have outlawed abortions in the 2000s but failed to because it would remove that voting block as well.

Lets talk about the (wel2Msck)-23.2ockLea.w5 block as well.







campus. Just sayin...

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pezro last week

I went to NJIT as well and while the campus is safe, the campus police (Newark cops, not rent-a-cops) told us to stay on campus and the places not to go to). It's a great school, but awful area. I'm not surprised though considering it's right near MLK Blvd.

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UnionRepublican last week

I sense a lot of folks don't like Lonegan especially, because he answered the questions that were asked. Many like Booker because he did not answer the questions directly but went off on some tangent. So, if you are ever going to run for office, learn to spin. Holding onto a position and saying so, will not garner you votes.

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TrafficCircle last week

Yes, even when the moderator tried to put him back on point, he still just recited a memorized, off point, speech.

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UnionRepublican last week

He did, and did you notice he went over time, often?

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mi austin last week

maybe he was getting acting lesson with affleck and damon in hollywood while his city burn.

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TrafficCircle last week

I loved Bookers come back on celebrity enorsements. He sited political supporters for Lonegan. Someone needs to tell him that is not the same thing!

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mia1013 last week

Sarah Palin is a celebrity. She spent two years governing Alaska, and 4 years on reality shows.

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Mostly heads the Tea Party movement, still political.

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ThisIsIt last week

Ummm...Menendez won in this state. You really think a conservative is going to win????

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TrafficCircle last week

Think? No. Hope? Yes.

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Iris, what would your political platform be? I don't really agree politically with either booker or Lonegan. Maybe you would be a better choice.

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PPala last week

Corey booker is the poster child of what is wrong with society, he has served none but himself, has been garnering attention and if he had a backbone and admitted what the REAL Problems were in newark I think he would win hands down...but he is faking and lieing saying newark is such a great place...what a shame.....its about time someone spoke of the elephant in the

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