

From Gene:

What characteristics would I look for in a presidential nominee?

1. Encourages, even rewards advisors who are comfortable disagreeing or dissenting from the president's policies.
2. Asks "what can go wrong" with presidential initiatives/policies (unintended consequences).
3. Can distinguish facts from value judgments.
4. Does not believe compromise is weakness.
5. Willing to measure and publicize outcomes of presidential initiatives.
6. Does not confuse causation with correlation.
7. Does not look upon the president as the "center of the universe."
8. Does not need constant reinforcement.
9. Can articulate and implement presidential policies.
10. Is an emotionally stable and mentally healthy leader.
11. Reads books.

How would I "vet" a presidential nominee?

1. Interview everyone who has ever worked for or was supervised by the nominee: housekeepers, lawn service providers, staff, the nominee's closest advisors, etc.
2. Interview everyone the nominee has worked for.
3. Determine if there is a significant difference between questions 1 and 2.