**Kentucky gubernatorial candidates Matt Bevin and Andy Beshear clash during debate**

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Gov. Matt Bevin and Attorney General Andy Beshear met in Lexington at the Singletary Center for the Arts on the University of Kentucky's campus for the second of five gubernatorial debates.

Here's what they said:

On education

**Bevin:**While discussing funding for private education, the governor said, "Every single thing we want ... comes out of your pocket." He said whatever money goes to funding higher education has to be taken from some other budget. The state has a "finite amount" of funds, he said, and Kentuckians must "be good stewards of it."

**Beshear:** Beshear, who said he wouldn't be who he is without the public school system, said education is the "key to achieving the American Dream." He also said education should be more accessible and that he's "fighting for people who don't come from money."

**Read more:**[What do Bevin's and Beshear's latest campaign finance reports show?](https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/politics/2019/10/11/kentucky-governor-election-bevin-beshear-file-latest-finance-reports/3945077002/)

On abortion

**Bevin:** When asked about Kentucky's lone abortion clinic, the governor said the people who need options during an unplanned pregnancy "are those who can't speak for themselves." He reminded the audience he's "unapologetically pro-life" and said no one should decide "when an innocent person should die."

**Beshear:**The attorney general, whose office has been adamant in its work with human trafficking, said he works with people "every day" who have been the victims of trafficking and rape. Those people, he said, "deserve options."

On overcrowded jails

**Bevin:**Both Bevin and Beshear agreed overcrowded jails are the result of addiction. The governor said a majority of people sent to jail are there on drug charges and he thinks it's important not to "incarcerate our way out of this."

**Beshear:**The attorney general said the solution is in opting to send people for treatment and not directly to jail over drugs. Doing so, he said, will save state dollars and save people who aren't violent from being placed behind bars.

**Election guide:**[Where Andy Beshear and Matt Bevin stand on key issues](https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/politics/elections/kentucky/2019/10/10/pension-abortion-retirement-system-bevin-beshear-governor-race-2019/1806720001/)

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On water issues in Kentucky

**Bevin:**On getting clean water into every Kentucky home, the governor said it's important to tackle it at the source — making sure pumping is accurate and lines don't leak.

**Beshear:** The attorney general said access to clean drinking water is a "human right." He said if elected, he'd declare a state of emergency and work with federal funds to work on water reports.

A new report on the water crisis in Martin County said its 4,300 households cannot bear the cost burden of much-needed water system improvements, the Associated Press [reported.](https://www.courier-journal.com/story/life/wellness/health/2019/10/01/martin-county-kentucky-residents-cant-afford-cost-water-rate-hike/3827796002/) County residents continue to drink bottled water, and many homes have pressure issues or discolored water.

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