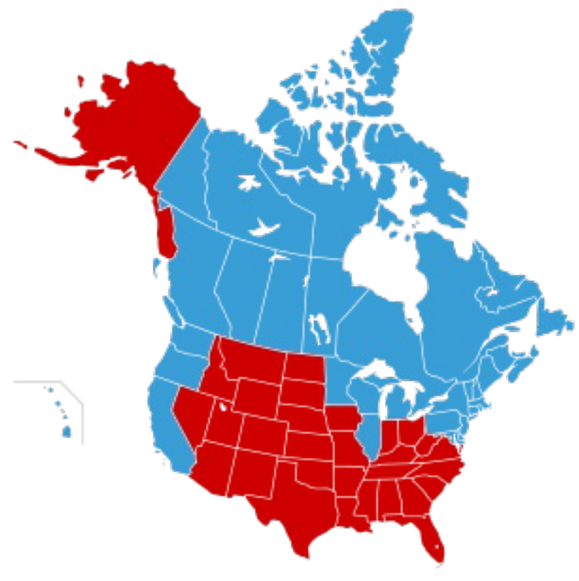
# Jesusland map

The **Jesusland map** is an Internet meme created shortly after the 2004 U.S. presidential election that satirizes the red/blue states scheme by dividing the United States and Canada into "The United States of Canada" and "Jesusland".[1] The map implies the existence of a fundamental political divide between contiguous northern and southern regions of North America, the former including both the socially liberal Canada and the West Coast, Northeastern, and Upper Midwestern states, and suggests that these states are closer in spirit to Canada than to the more conservative regions of their own country. (The meme ignores conservative regions of Canada and American United States of Canada states that might not want to join the hypothetical new country.) The Freakonomics blog opined that the map reflected the "despair, division, and bitterness" of the election campaign and results.[2] *Slate* also covered the image and posited that it might be the reason the Canadian immigration website received six times its usual page views the day after the election.[3]



A recreation of the Jesusland map; the colors differ from the original, and state lines have been added (Some versions of the map include Ohio in Canada or Alberta in Jesusland)
"United States of Canada", Canada, plus blue states
"Jesusland", red states

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## Origin

The original image was created on November 3, 2004 by G. Webb, a poster on yakyak.org, an Internet message board for fans of the work of Jeff Minter.[4] It quickly became an Internet meme, which *The New York Times* described as an "instant Internet classic".[5]

## Geography

The meme is in the form of a map of the U.S. and Canada which depicts a new hypothetical national border between the two countries. The "blue states" from the 2004 election (New England, the Mid-Atlantic states, the Pacific coast, and the Great Lakes states of Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin) have been merged with Canada to form a single contiguous nation of more than 170 million inhabitants, which is labeled the "United States of Canada." The remaining "red states" are labeled as "Jesusland".

## Variations

Similar maps give different labels to the geographically separated blue states. The northeastern states are alternately referred to as "Eastern Realitania", "Northeastistan", "Western France", or "The New American Republic"; the central blue states near the Great Lakes are labeled "Central Realitania" or "Minniwillinois"; and the blue states along the Pacific Coast are called "Western Realitania", "Pacificstan", "Southern Canada" or "Baja Canada" (with Hawaii being separately labeled "The Tropic of Canada"). Another has chosen the overall name "Realistan", and another has chosen "The United States of Liberty and Education". The red states in these variant maps are called "Jesusistan", or "the United State of Texas" in reference to Bush's home state. Some maps purport to show a capital city of Crawford, Texas, then the home of former U.S. President George W. Bush. One map shows Alaska as having been returned to Russia, while a Canadian variant had the province of Alberta, commonly regarded as the most conservative Canadian province, marked as part of Jesusland instead of Canada.



2004 United States presidential election by county, on a color spectrum from Democratic blue to Republican red

## Changes from 2004 to 2016 electoral map

### Switch from red to blue

- Colorado
- New Mexico
- Nevada
- Virginia

### Switch from blue to red

- Michigan
- Pennsylvania
- Wisconsin

## See also

- Bible belt
- Cascadia movement
- Ecotopia
- Soviet Canuckistan

## References


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2. Mengisen, Annika (November 9, 2009). "Maps: Fighting Disease and Skewing Borders" (http://freakonomics.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/11/09/maps-fighting-disease-and-skewing-borders/). Freakonomics blog, from *The New York Times*. Retrieved 13 December 2009.
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4. the original discussion (http://www.yakyak.org/viewtopic.php?t=26994)
5. Jack Hitt (December 12, 2004). "Neo-Secessionism" (https://www.nytimes.com/2004/12/12/magazine/12NEO.html). The New York Times Magazine. Retrieved 13 December 2009. "A proposed map showing the United States of Canada just above *JesusLand* has become an instant Internet classic."



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