



Update 11/12/2023

There are Polls, and then there are the POLLS!

If you turned on national Media channels on Tuesday, you were hit over and over with commentary about the latest CNN poll repeating how it's "Bad News for Biden". And that night the media kept repeating it **as they called race after race for the Dems!**

Tuesday's results were remarkably good for democracy:

- Ohio voted to put Reproductive rights in its constitution
- Kentucky reelected a pro-reproductive-rights governor
- Virginia held the Senate and flipped the House, meaning Glenn Youngkin won't get his planned abortion restrictions
- PA flipped a State Supreme Court seat, and reported many flips in downballot races
- "Moms for Liberty" had 12 of 13 candidates go down to defeat in Iowa, with more losses in WA, MN, OH, VA, and NJ.

How did all this good news come about, in spite of the media reports? **Answer:** HUGE TURNOUT, triggered by the unpopularity of extremist Republican policies along with many, many people doing a lot of field work promoting voter turnout.

The 2022 Mid-terms and several special elections in 2023 produced exactly the same trends: **WHEN WE WORK HARD TO GET TURNOUT, WE WIN!**

Make no mistake, we **STILL NEED TO WORRY** about the 2024 election. If Trump is reelected, he has said he will **invoke the Insurrection Act, use the military to suppress dissent** and arrest the people who have spoken against him. He will immediately pardon the people who tried to overturn the 2020 election and they will go back to work doing more of the same.

Media sniping about Biden's age and the "polls" that are neither unbiased nor proven to be reliable will continue to be featured in media soundbites. But we know that we can win, and we know that Biden-Harris accomplishments are POPULAR when people are asked about them. So here's what we all need to do:

- **IGNORE THE MEDIA** harping about Biden's age or popularity polls. They have been wrong so far.
- **REMINDE YOUR FRIENDS** that the only Polls that matter are the ones with **Ballot Boxes!**
- **PITCH IN** when you can. We will send you opportunities to help in the elections coming up. Don't be afraid to try something new like phonebanking. Nobody can do everything, we just need everybody to do a little.
- **REMEMBER** we have proven that when we work hard for turnout, **WE WIN.**

- **TALK IT UP** When you get together for holiday parties, if politics come up in conversation, talk up the accomplishments of the Biden-Harris administration.

We know that green energy jobs, student loan forgiveness, massive investments in infrastructure and the reinvigoration of manufacturing jobs in the US are all popular across party lines. Here is a link to some [accomplishments](#) you can browse.

We'll be sending out more talking points for you in the next several newsletters!



Defend Democracy

The Defend Democracy team meetings will begin again on November 14 at 7pm. We'll discuss the upcoming Maryland Legislative session, Supreme Court reform, 2024 elections and more.

You can see our Defend Democracy plans for 2023-2024 by clicking [here](#).

If you would like to join the meeting, here is the zoom link:

Time: Nov 14, 2023 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84106572335?pwd=dGo2SVBCd0c4UnlOSHV4dElKRVFodz09>

Meeting ID: 841 0657 2335

Passcode: 229508

Fill out the [form here](#) to join the action team. It will add you to the teams mailing list.



**Save the
Date!
November
20**



A Joint Presentation by:

Our Revolution Howard County and Indivisible HoCo MD

"Understanding Fascism and Neofascism Today"

November 20, 2023 at 7:30 pm via Zoom

In early August of this year, **Robert Reich** - professor, author, and political commentator - appeared in one of his short "Inequality Media" videos on the subject of "**Trump and Fascism**." It has received over 1.2 million hits and had more than 15,000 comments!

View his excellent seven-minute video here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9XTJNy_OrjE

His short and understandable video includes five core characteristics for Fascism:

- ***Rejecting democracy for a strongman,***
- ***Stoking rage against cultural elites,***
- ***Nationalism based on a "superior race",***
- ***Glorifying strength and warriors, and***
- ***Disdain of women and LGBTQ+ people.***

At the same time, "Fascism" has also become a loose, almost throw-away word that confuses some people and immediately turns off others. With that situation in mind, Indivisible HoCoMD is going to have a Defend Democracy Team discussion on "***Fascism and Neofascism Today***," held with our friends from Our Revolution Howard County on **Monday, 20 November, starting at 7:30pm**. Paul Baicich, a Defend Democracy Team member and a founding member of ORHoCo, will lead the discussion.

You can join using this Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84011153346?pwd=ZE1Yd2Z3T2RNVnVEWWgwTExaSCszdz09>

Environmental Action Team

The Climate Action Team is now the Environmental Action Team. This change is being made to be more inclusive of the topics we cover and to prevent any confusion with other similarly named organizations.

We want to thank everyone from the team that came out for our happy hour a few weeks ago. It was wonderful to see everyone and catch up and I think we all had a fun time.

Keep an eye out for information about our first meeting to kick off the Maryland Legislative session of 2024, which again will be where we focus our time and energy. We plan to have one some time in the beginning/middle of December.

If you want to contact the facilitators (Peter Alexander, Ruth Auerbach, and Ginny Smith) you can email us at: ind-hoco-env-action-facilitators@googlegroups.com.

Red2Blue

Sending a big **THANK YOU** to all of you who gave up their valuable time to jump into ballot curing for VA and PA in the past two weeks. Even if you only reached 1 voter (and I'm sure you reached more than that), it was 1 more voter that counted.

To those of you who spent the last few months phonebanking, canvassing and/or postcarding, another big **THANK YOU**. It's no fun getting rejected, but now you know by the wins we influenced, how important your work has been!



Now we take a short break to enjoy our successes, and the holidays. **But get ready!** The next big hurdle is coming and we're looking for just as much effort as you can muster to keep our democracy intact. The first meeting of the **Red2Blue Team** is now tentatively scheduled for Monday, January 8, 2024 at 7:00 PM. Mark your calendars and get ready to collaborate!

Thanksgiving will have even more meaning this year!

Lynn Foehrkolb and Tara Carey

Postcard Team



The Postcard Team has completed all campaigns for this election cycle and will be looking for new campaigns in 2024. Our group sent more than 5500 postcards for campaigns mostly in Virginia and some in Kentucky, and more than 4,000 for the Ohio special election!

As I'm sure you all know by now, Ohio passed the amendment protecting access to abortion, despite all the Republican ploys to confuse and disenfranchise voters. In Kentucky, we got a win with Beshear being re-elected governor. Josh Cole won his House seat back in Virginia. Karen Jenkins came close, but lost with 49% of the vote. Kimberly Pope Adams' race in District 82 is still too close to call! She is down 228 votes, with ballots still to be cured as of

Friday evening. We intentionally chose tough races to make a difference. Looks like we succeeded!

Our writing party experience this fall has been wonderful! We have each met new people and it is a wonderful time to commiserate, laugh and just share thoughts and information. We encourage anyone who is interested to host writing parties in 2024!

Thanks to all party-goers and postcard writers for their dedication and impact. You are truly walking the talk!

Join an Action Team

If you are not already affiliated with an Action Team, visit our website at <https://indivisiblehocomd.org/> to identify a team that you want to join. Click "Join an Action Team" at the bottom of the page to get on the mailing list for that Action Team.

The button below will link you to any new events and each Action Team's Meeting times as well as contacts for the Team.

Schedule



{{Disclaimer}}

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