

Your Personal Plan  
to help  
**SAVE OUR DEMOCRACY**

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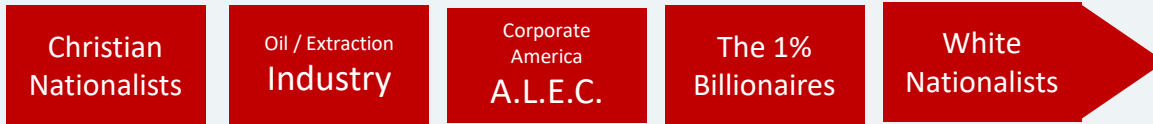
*From a Democracy Worrier  
to a  
Democracy Warrior*

Dale Anderson



# Can We Save Our Democracy?

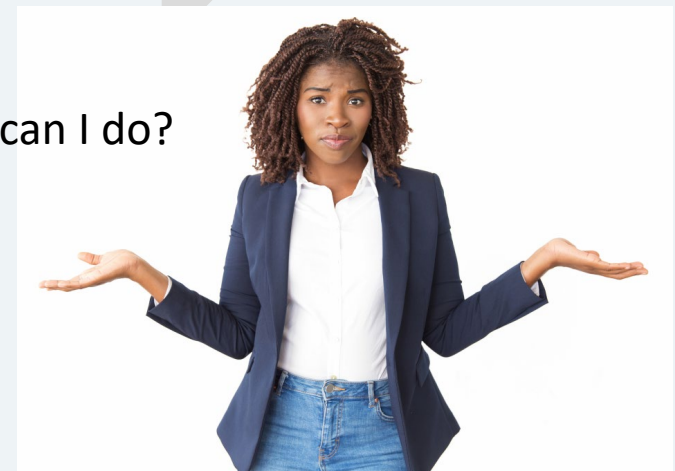
## THE ONGOING THREAT



- Abandonment of democratic norms
- Voter suppression and intimidation
- Extreme state gerrymandering
- Appointment of partisan judges
- Abandonment of the rule-of-law
- Undermine citizen power (local control, etc.)
- Rightwing anti-democratic propaganda machine
- Threats of violence

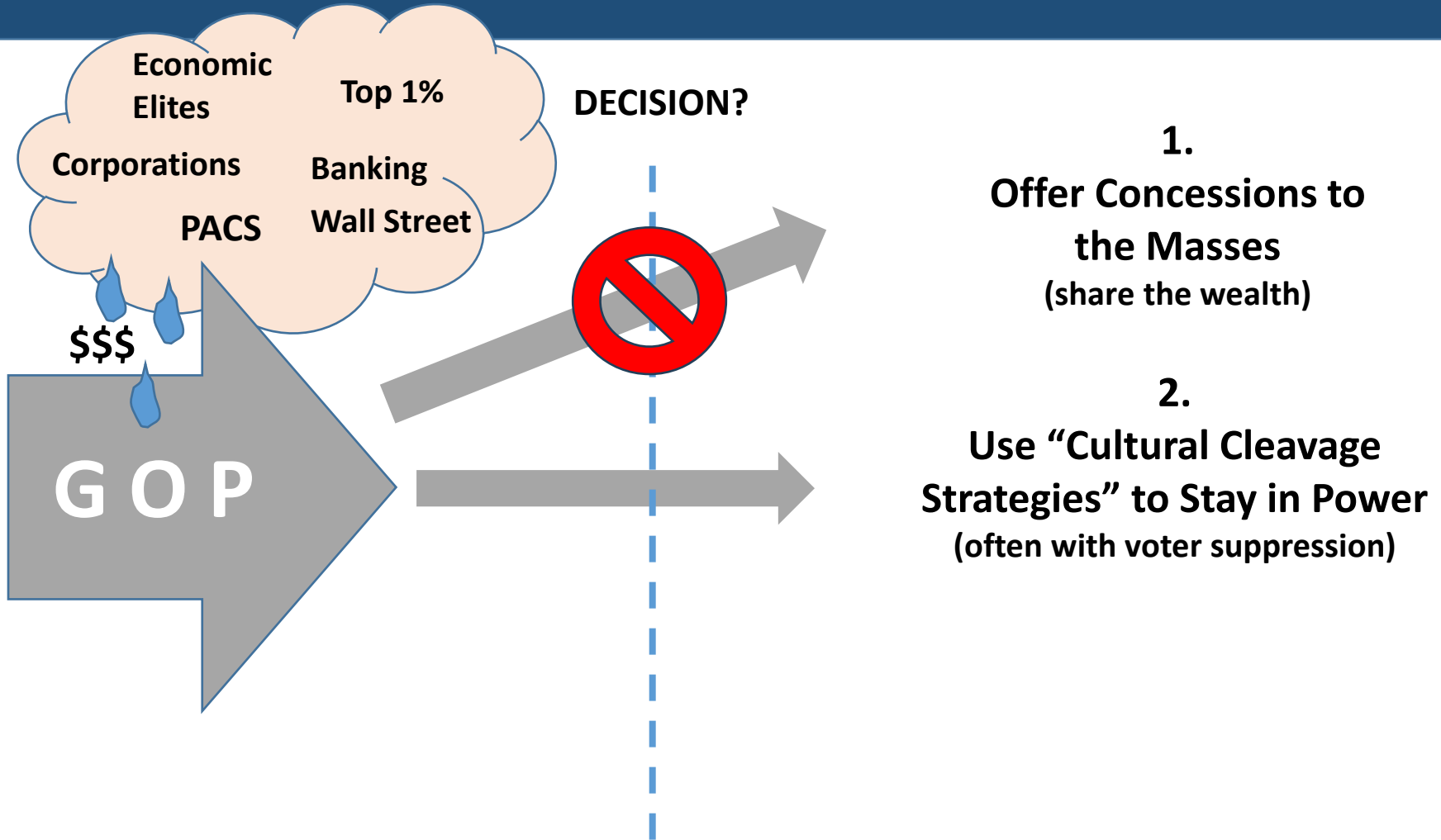
**GOAL**

**PERMANENT  
MINORITY  
PARTY IN POWER**



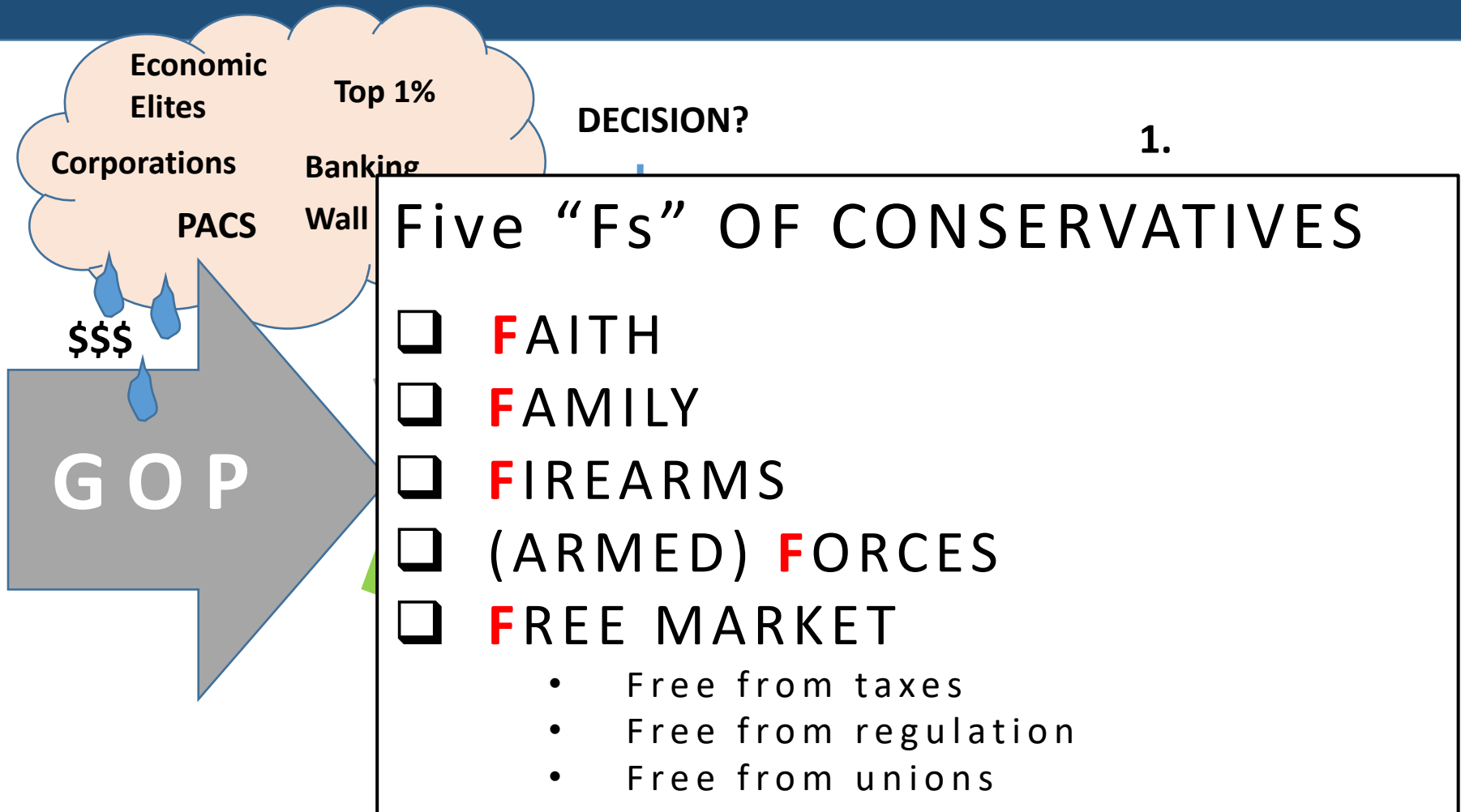
# The CONSERVATIVE DILEMMA

(which strategy to maintain power?)



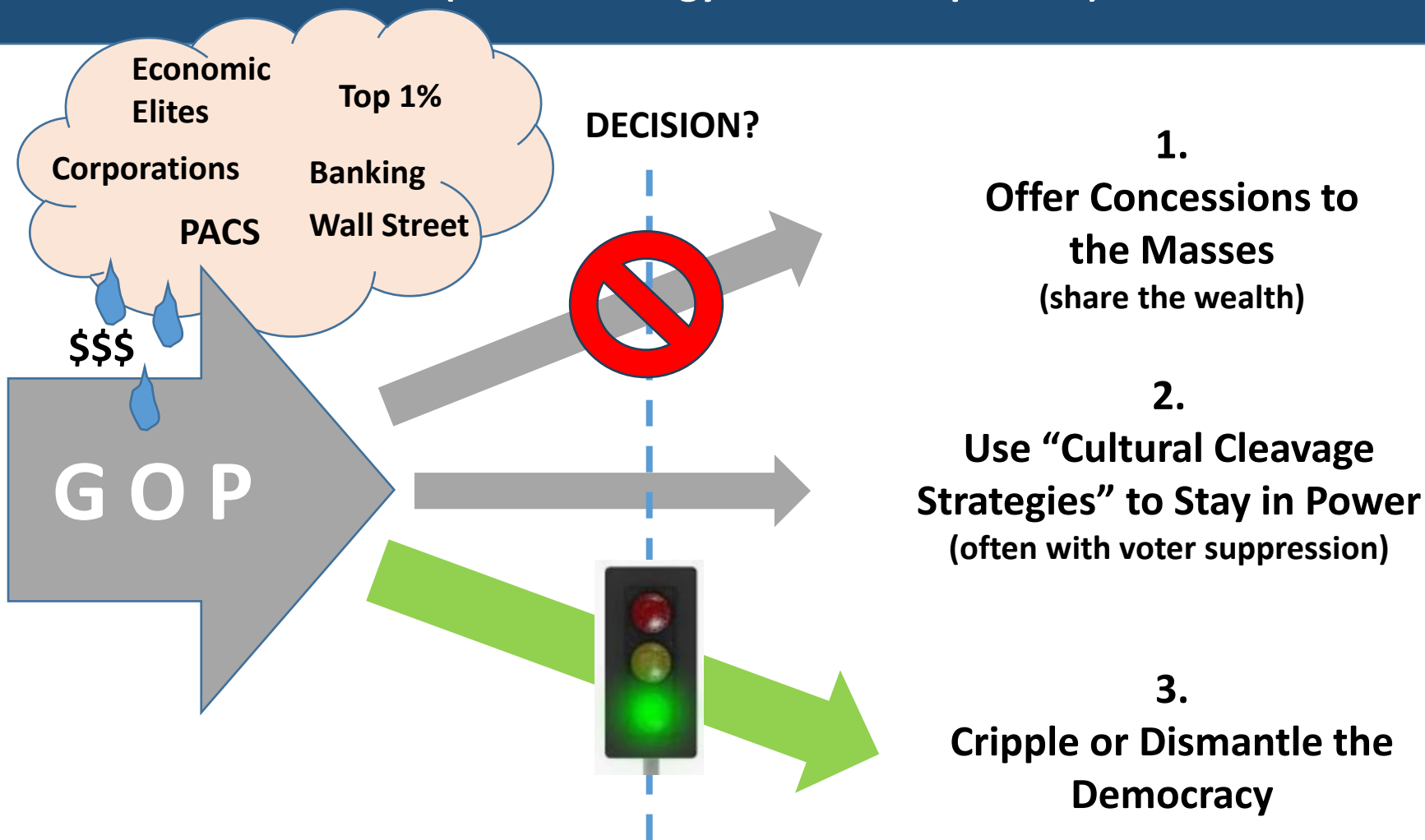
# The CONSERVATIVE DILEMMA

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# The CONSERVATIVE DILEMMA

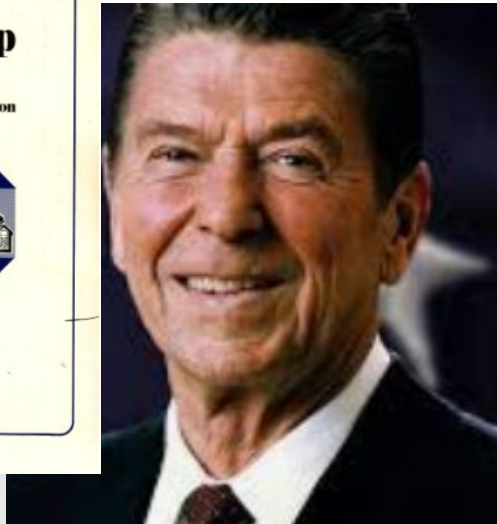
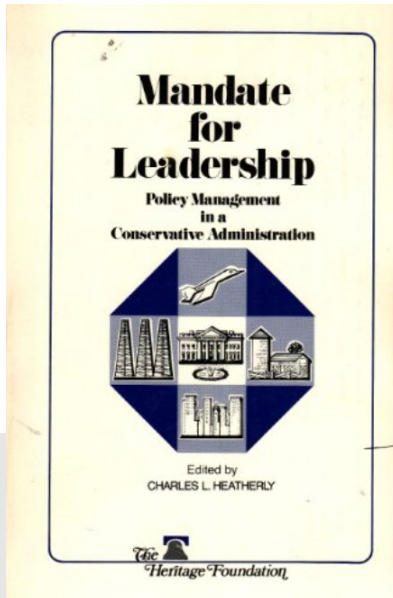
(which strategy to maintain power?)



# Conservative Playbook

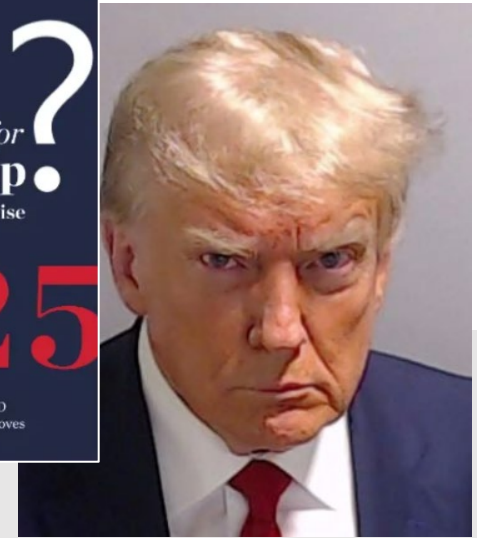
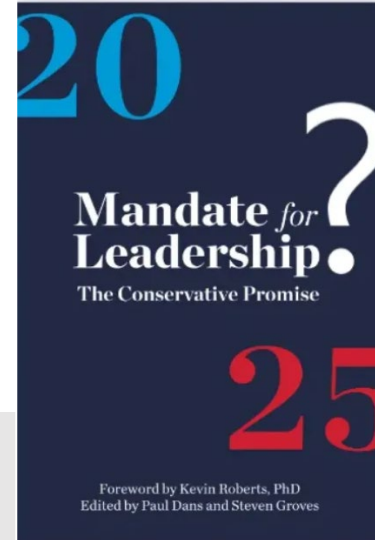
(first 180 days)

## HERITAGE FOUNDATIONS “MANDATE FOR LEADERSHIP”



### Reduce Size & Scope of the Federal Government

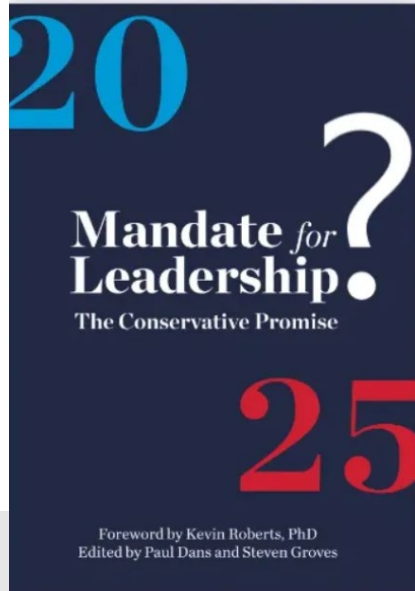
- **Mandate for Leadership 1981**
- 20 volume, 3,000-page publication.
- 2,000 individual suggestions to move the federal government in a conservative direction
- Focus on management and administration.
- Explicit plan for reshaping public discourse on civil rights issues



### Goal: Dismantle the Administrative State

- **Mandate for Leadership 2025**
- Nearly 1,000-page
- Reshape and do away with the “deep state”
- Fire as many as 50,000 federal workers.
- Replace with “loyalists”
- Dramatically increase executive power

# First 180-Days of a Trump Presidency



**HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION**

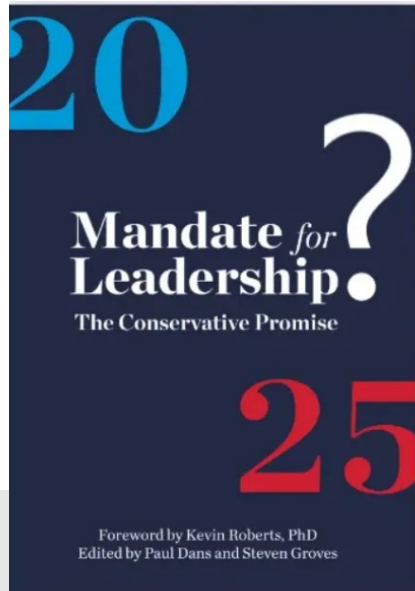
## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

- Abolish the Department of Education, devolve all functions to states.
- Expand school voucher programs and religious school funding.
- Eliminate student loan forgiveness programs.
- *Risks gutting protections for disadvantaged students, reducing educational opportunities, and increasing inequality.*

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Review and terminate FBI investigations deemed contrary to partisan interests.
- Prosecute leaks aggressively.
- Eliminate or constrain internal oversight bodies.
- *Politicizes impartial law enforcement, obstructs legitimate oversight, and increases potential for abuse of power.*

# First 180-Days of a Trump Presidency



**HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION**

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

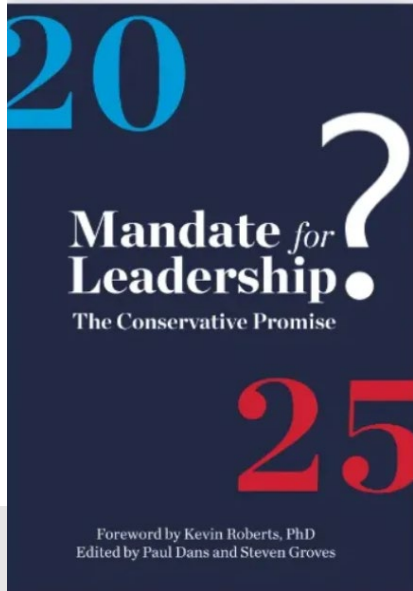
- Appoint pro-life leadership to restrict access to abortion and contraception.
- Reverse protections for transgender patients.
- Transfer food stamps and Medicaid administration to states.
- *Infringes on reproductive rights, guts safety net programs for the most vulnerable populations, and strips healthcare protections.*

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

- Empower states to set environmental standards over federal EPA.
- Focus only on core statutory missions, not climate or environmental justice.
- Open scientific advisory boards to industry representatives.
- *Threatens national standards for clean air, water, opens doors for undisclosed corporate influence over public safeguards.*



# First 180-Days of a Trump Presidency



## HERITAGE FOUNDATION

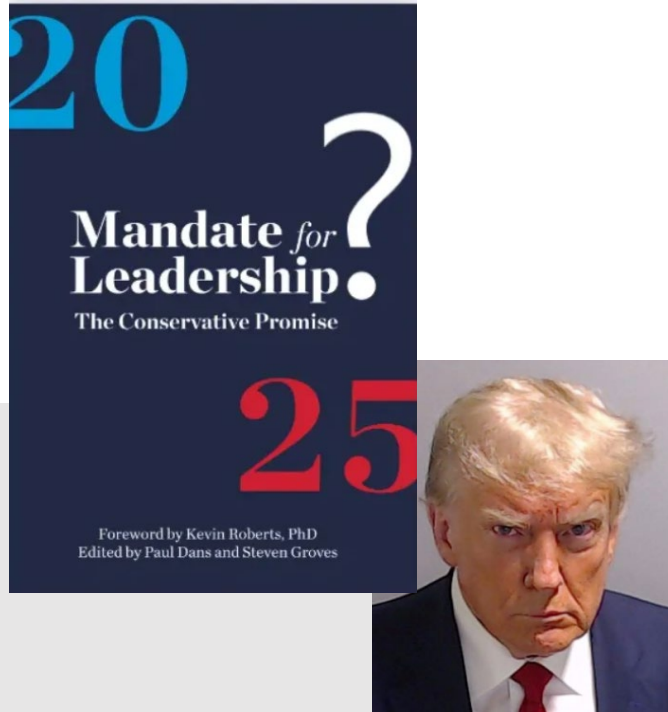
### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

- Assert U.S. interests unilaterally over compromising in global institutions.
- Confront China, Russia, Iran more forcefully with sanctions and military deterrence.
- Link foreign aid tightly only to short-term American interests.
- *Undermines US global leadership and cooperation, inflames tensions with adversaries, and compromises America's image abroad.*

### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

- Restructure or break up DHS agencies like FEMA, TSA, Border Patrol.
- Prioritize immigration enforcement over humanitarian concerns.
- Eliminate cybersecurity and intelligence functions.
- *Raises issues of loss of coordination, unchecked immigration actions, and US vulnerability to cyber threats.*

# First 180-Days of a Trump Presidency



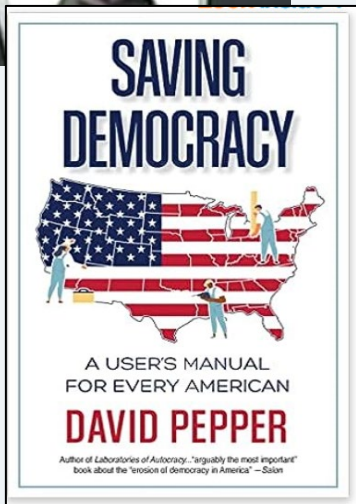
**HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION**

## **POLICY IMPACT CONCLUSIONS**

**If fully implemented, the agenda proposed in  
Mandate for Leadership would:**

- **Fundamentally damage America's system of checks and balances, consolidated power in the executive.**
- Lead to underenforcement of environmental, financial and other protections important to public wellbeing.
- Increase healthcare inequality, educational disparities, and discrimination against women, minorities and LGBTQ individuals.
- Severely reduce access to food, housing, and other critical services for low-income families.
- Escalate global conflicts and undermine America's global leadership and competitiveness.
- Politicize institutions essential to democracy like law enforcement, intelligence agencies, and the civil service.

# To Win this Battle We Need a Wave of Pro-Democracy Activists



2023

## The Forces of Autocracy are Winning

- They are using their governing positions of power to undermine our democracy
- They are competing everywhere in all states (ALEC)
- They are better organized and supported by a powerful propaganda network.
- They have deep, deep pockets



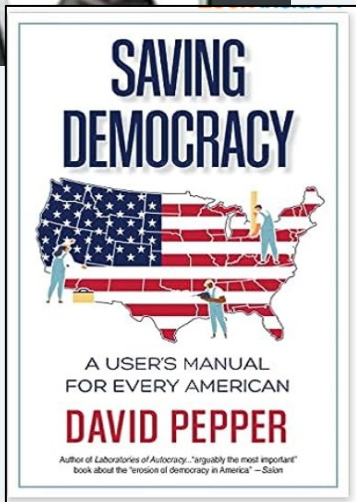
Team A Scale

A = autocracy  
D = democracy



Team D Scale

# To Win this Battle We Need a Wave of Pro-Democracy Activists



2023

## STRATEGIC ADJUSTMENTS NEEDED

1. The Battle for Democracy Must be Fought in **All Fifty States**.
2. State Legislatures are the Front Lines of Democracy – **Contest Every District**.
3. The Battle for Democracy is a **Long Battle**.
4. Local Offices Impact Democracy in Huge Ways.
5. **Always Fight for Democracy**.
6. Redefine the Teams.
7. **Accountability** is Everything.

# Become a Pro-Democracy ACTIVIST

Spectator



From a  
Democracy  
**WORRIER...**

...to a Democracy  
**WARRIOR**



Handwringer



Cynic



"Election Day: knocking on doors" by AFL-CIO Field is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

Avoider ...



"Older Citizens, Retired Persons and" by U.S. National Archives is marked with CC0 1.0.



Hand

# How to Become a Pro-Democracy Activist

OPPORTUNITIES TO CONTRIBUTE	
I	GET STARTED
II	MOTIVATE FAMILY AND FRIENDS
III	DEEPEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING
IV	DEFEND DEMOCRACY WITH YOUR PEN
V	SPEAK UP & SHOW UP FOR DEMOCRACY
VI	REGISTER VOTERS
VII	WORK ON ELECTIONS
VIII	WORK FOR PRO-DEM PARTIES & CANDIDATES
IX	USE YOUR DOLLARS TO LIFT DEMOCRACY
X	OWN YOUR FOOTPRINT



# ACTION I GET STARTED

Things you can do on your own at  
minimal cost, right now

# I. GET STARTED

## SIMPLE EASY THINGS TO DO

- 1a. \_\_\_ Your Mission . . . “To Defend Democracy”
- 1b. \_\_\_ Schedule time
- 1c. \_\_\_ Register to vote (now)
- 1d. \_\_\_ Join **Floridians for Democracy**
- 1e. \_\_\_ Sign key petitions
- 1f. \_\_\_ Create your “footprint”
- 1g. \_\_\_ Pledge to protect elections
- 1h. \_\_\_ Display a pro-democracy bumper sticker

### EACH ACTION

Cost = Nothing

Time = 5 - 30 min.

Skills - No special skills





# 1a. Make It Your Mission



David Pepper

## QUESTIONS

- What have you done in your life to lift democracy?
- What more can you do beyond what you are doing?

### Step 1 – Change Your Mindset

Make one simple decision:

Incorporate “saving democracy” into your personal mission statement

# 1a. Make It Your Mission



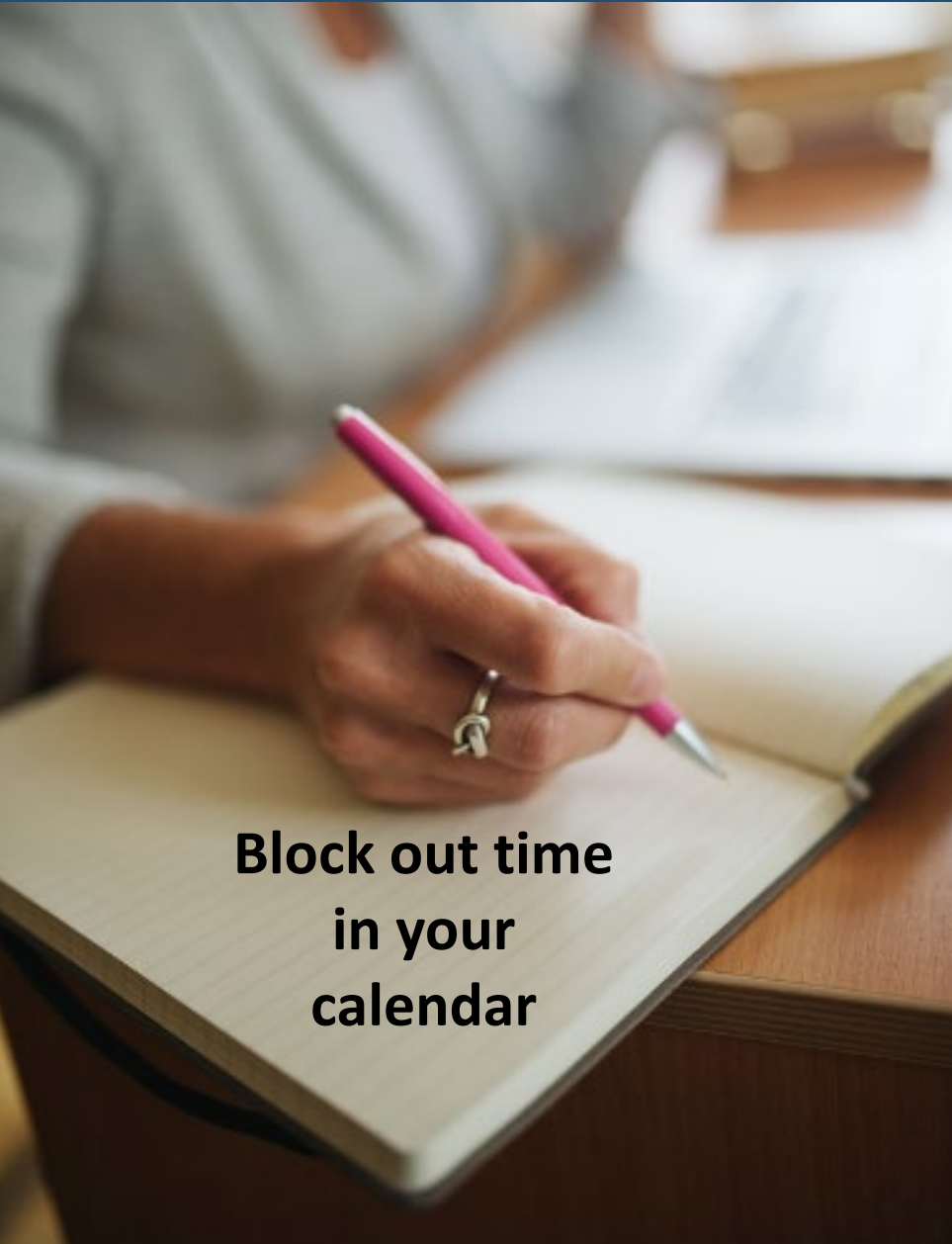
**David Pepper**

## **YOUR MISSION**

**(“ should you choose to accept it ” )**

- Make saving democracy a priority in your life
- Decide what to give up in terms of time and dollars . . .
- Tell people of your new commitment – it will make it real.

## 1b. Schedule Time for Democracy



**Block out time  
in your  
calendar**

**The single most important  
action you can take?**

**Carve out whatever time you can afford.**

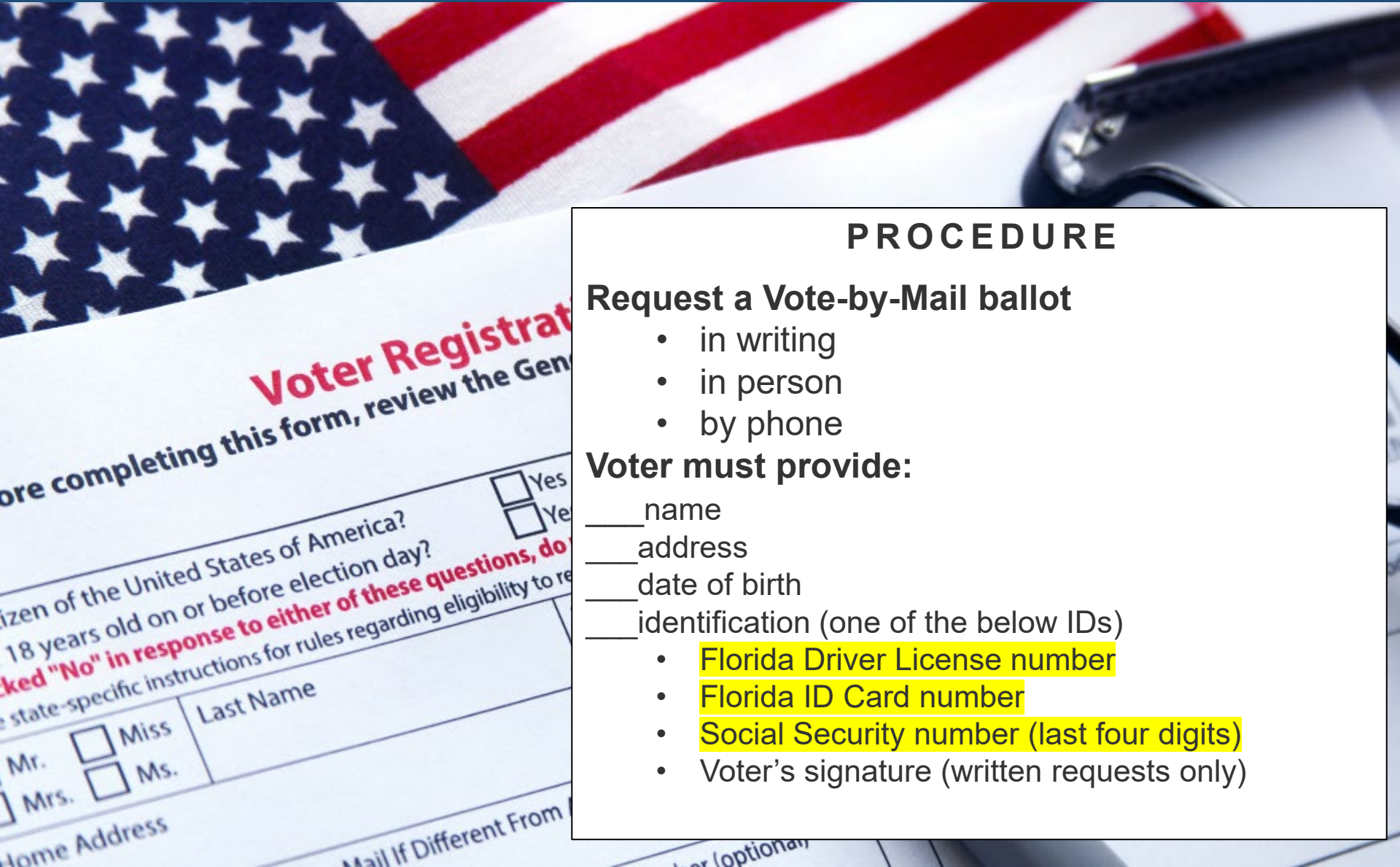
- **An hour a week?**
- **Three days a week?**



"Hands of a senior woman in uniform writing notes in her planner closeup." by shixart1985 is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

# 1c. Register or Re-register to Vote

[registertovoteflorida.gov](http://registertovoteflorida.gov)



## PROCEDURE

### Request a Vote-by-Mail ballot

- in writing
- in person
- by phone

### Voter must provide:

\_\_\_ name

\_\_\_ address

\_\_\_ date of birth

\_\_\_ identification (one of the below IDs)

- Florida Driver License number
- Florida ID Card number
- Social Security number (last four digits)
- Voter's signature (written requests only)

# 1d. Join Floridians for Democracy

and other Pro-Dem Orgs

## A STATEWIDE NON-PARTISAN PRO-DEMOCRACY PLATFORM

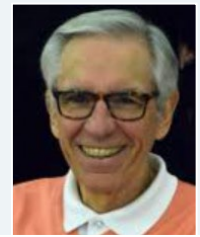
### FFD pledges to:

- Develop Partnerships to Drive Change.
- Educate Florida Residents on Issues Impacting Democracy.
- Motivate and Encourage People to Vote.
- Consistently Communicate Important Issues to Voters.

[floridiansfordemocracy.org](http://floridiansfordemocracy.org)



Jim Nathan



Bill Petrarca

Scope	NP	OTHER ORGANIZATIONS	WEB ADDRESS
N	x	The ACLU of Florida	<a href="https://www.aclufll.org">https://www.aclufll.org</a>
N	x	League of Women Voters of Florida	<a href="http://www.lwvfl.org">www.lwvfl.org</a>
N	x	Common Cause Florida	<a href="https://www.commoncause.org/florida">https://www.commoncause.org/florida</a>
Fl	x	Florida Veterans for Common Sense	<a href="https://floridaveteransforcommonsense.org">https://floridaveteransforcommonsense.org</a>
Fl	-	Choose Democracy Now	<a href="http://choosedemocracynow.org">http://choosedemocracynow.org</a>
Fl	x	Mi Vecino	<a href="http://mivecinoflorida.com">http://mivecinoflorida.com</a>
Fl	x	Florida Rising	<a href="https://floridarising.org">https://floridarising.org</a>
Fl	x	Equality Florida	<a href="https://www.eqfl.org">https://www.eqfl.org</a>

# 1e. Sign Citizen-initiated Petitions

## SIGN PETITIONS

Protect freedoms, citizen authority, and the environment.

1. Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion (600K of 900K - Sept 8, 2023)
2. The Right to Clean and Healthy Waters

### Limiting government interference with abortion

Except as provided in Article X, Section 22, no law shall prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion before viability or when necessary to protect the patient's health, as determined by the patient's healthcare provider.

The image shows two overlapping forms. The top form is titled "CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT INITIATIVE PETITION FORM - VOLUNTEER" and contains "Amendment Information" for "Right to Clean and Healthy Waters". The bottom form is titled "CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT FULL TEXT" and contains the full text of an amendment to limit government interference with abortion, including the ballot title, summary, and the specific text of the amendment.

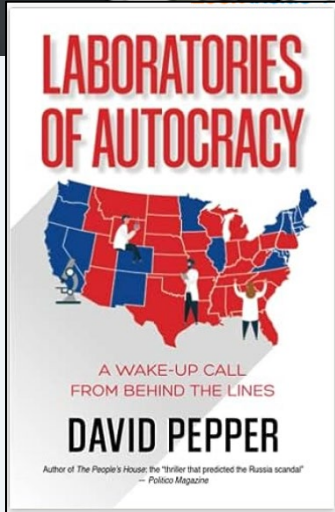
- Target full collection - Dec 31, 2023
- Formal submission by Feb 1, 2024

# 1f. Create Your Personal “Footprint”

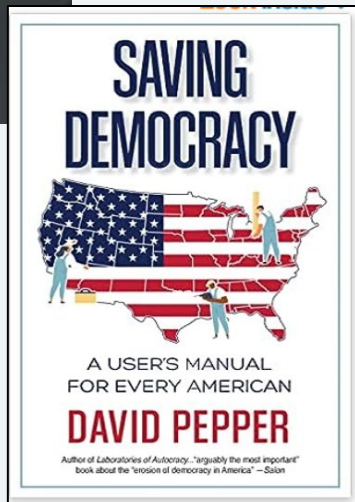


## David Pepper

- Author
- American politician
- Form Chairman of the Ohio Democratic Party



2021

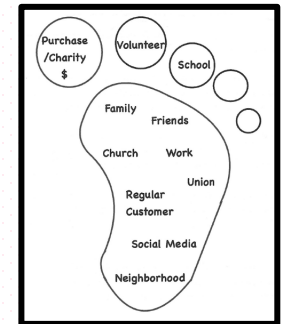


2023

## YOUR FOOTPRINT is a powerful force.

It represents your potential impact and influence across all aspects of your life, including:

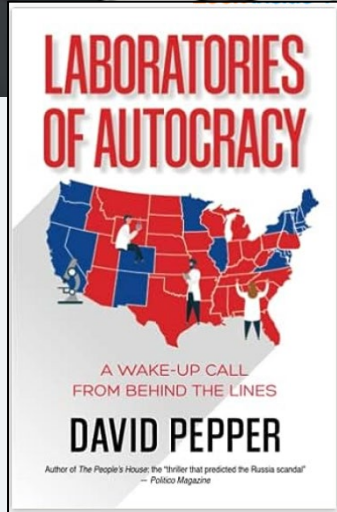
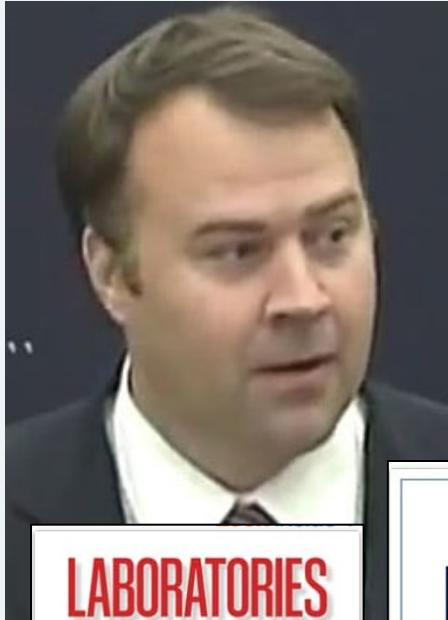
- **your family,**
- **neighborhood,**
- **workplace,**
- **schools,**
- **Organizations,**
- **social media**



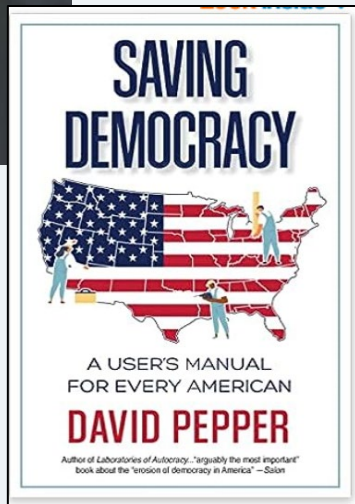
# 1f. Create Your Personal “Footprint”

## David Pepper

- Author
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2021



2023

## YOUR FOOTPRINT is a powerful force.

“You already contribute to these areas by investing your time, intellect, finances, reputation, networks, voice, passion, creativity... but for many of us, political activities like voting, volunteering, or donating remain separate from the rest of our lives.”

– David Pepper



# Your Footprint

## UNIVERSE OF INFLUENCE

- Which specific citizen engagement activity can be applied to each element of your footprint in order to protect our democracy?

### Your Church

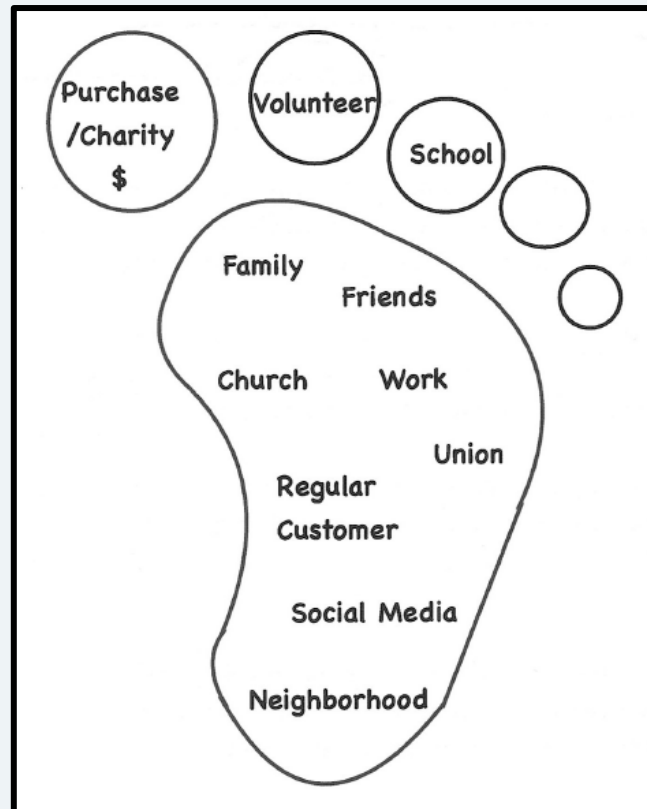
- Opportunities to speak
- Opportunities to share info
- Potential activists

### Your Clubs

- Opportunities to speak
- Opportunities to share info
- Potential activists

### Your School

- School friends
- Classmates
- Clubs
- Frats / Sororities
- Teachers / Profs
- School staff



### Your Family

- Immediate
- Extended
- Out-of-state (red)
- Out-of-state (blue)

### Your Friends

- Close friends
- Social acquaintances
- Contacts in your phone

### Your Work

- Teammates
- Superiors
- Allies

### Your Neighbors

- Condo residents
- Street neighbors

### Social Media

- Facebook friends

# 1g. Pledge to Protect Elections

## Democracy Election Protection Pledge

- I believe that everyone should have safe access to vote and that everyone's vote must be counted, without interference or intimidation. This is an essential human right and a core commitment of any healthy democracy.
- I pledge to vote if I am eligible to do so and to stand against voter suppression all its forms.
- I pledge to nonviolently protest to protect our democracy if election results are declared before all votes are counted.
- I pledge to nonviolently protest to protect our democracy if a duly elected official is denied a peaceful transfer of power.
- I pledge to work nonviolently to protect those in my community under threat from election related or racist motivated violence.



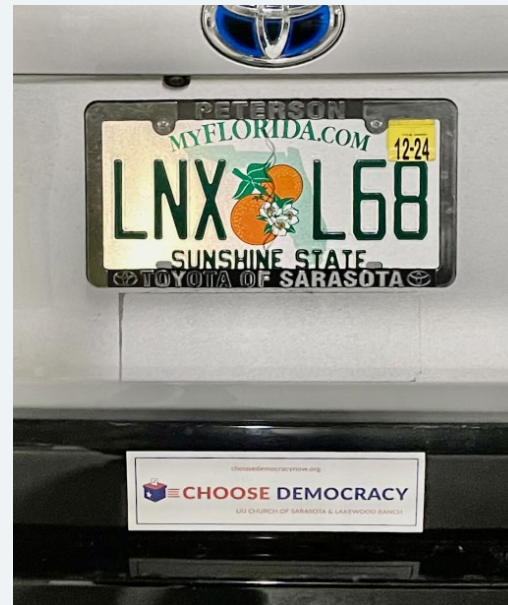
**A VOTE  
IS THE DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN**

**A CITIZEN  
AND  
A SUBJECT**

# 1 h. Display a Bumper Sticker

## BENEFITS

- Shows public support for democracy (both individual and organizational).
- Low-risk action allowing you to take a public stand.
- Reminds you daily of your mission and commitment.
- Signals the public the stakes of the upcoming elections.
- Unlikely to precipitate vandalism or confrontation.
- Non-partisan election recommendation.



# I. GET STARTED - SUMMARY

1a. Make it Your Mission



1b. Schedule Time on Your Calendar



1c. Re-Register to Vote (by Mail)



1d. Join *Floridians For Democracy*



**Become a  
DEMOCRACY  
ACTIVIST**

1e. Sign Citizen-initiated Petitions



1f. Pledge to Protect Elections



1g. Create Your Personal Footprint



1f. Display a Bumper Sticker on your Car



\* = Pro-Democracy



## ACTION II

# MOTIVATE FAMILY & FRIENDS

Use your footprint to recruit F&Fs  
to join a pro-democracy activist  
wave.

## 2. Motivate Family & Friends

### *CREATE THE WAVE*

- 2a. \_\_\_ Create Your Family & Friends Data Base
- 2b. \_\_\_ Create a “information packet” for your F & Fs
- 2c. \_\_\_ Practice Elevator Speech #1 and #2
- 2d. \_\_\_ Create Your F & F’s Work Plan
- 2e. \_\_\_ Ask Family & Friends to take First Steps.
- 2f. \_\_\_ Invite F & Fs to Attend a Pro-Democracy Session

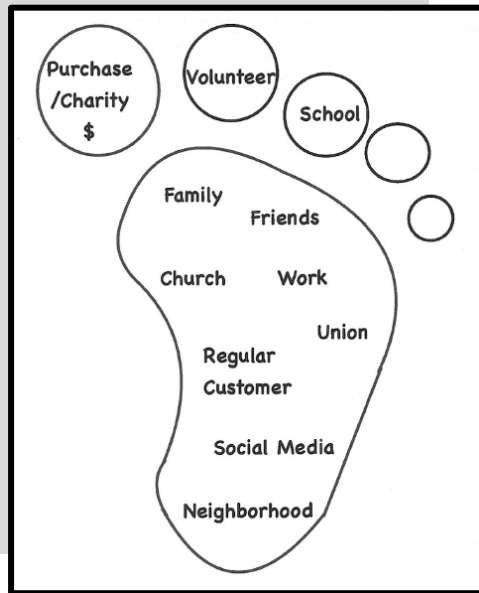


"Gertrude Daunhauer and Extended Family" by Merelymel13 is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0.



# 2a. Create Your Footprint Data Base

## FOCUS FIRST ON FAMILY & FRIENDS



Generic Categories

**DALE'S FOOTPRINT**

	Estimate # Contacts
<b>Democracy Related Organizations</b>	
Choose Democracy Now	145
Florida Veterans for Common Sense	8
UU Church of Sarasota	500
Manasota Antiracism Coalition	30
League of Women Voters (Sarasota County)	5
Floridians for Democracy	600
The Nations Group	15
Boxer Diversity Initiative	8
PEO (wife's women's group)	40
<b>NFP Organizations in Sarasota</b>	
Sarasota Concert Association (Board and Staff)	20
<b>Services</b>	
Fitness Trainers	2
Medical / Dental care	3
Hair Care	1
<b>Friends and Acquaintances in Sarasota</b>	
Residents of Kanaya Condominium Association	24
Fogartyville Community Center / WSLR Radio	12
Play reading group	8
<b>Family and Friends (outside of Florida)</b>	
Iowa (sister, brother-in-law, niece, nephews)	8
Indianapolis, Indiana (son, his family and in-laws)	5
Seattle (daughter, her family, and in-laws)	7
San Francisco (brother, his wife, and nephew)	4
Bellingham, Washington (sister-in-law and her husband)	2
<b>Total potential contacts I could influence</b>	<b>1447</b>

Personal (named)  
Categories

**List of Members of my Church**

John Doe  
Jim Smith  
Jane Smith  
Doris Good  
William Burn  
Brad Friendly  
Tim Scott  
Lisa March  
Vern Best

**Condo Residents**

John Doe  
Jim Smith  
Jane Smith  
Doris Good  
William Burn  
Brad Friendly  
Tim Scott  
Lisa March  
Vern Best

**Golf Club Members**

John Doe  
Jim Smith  
Jane Smith  
Doris Good  
William Burn  
Brad Friendly  
Tim Scott  
Lisa March  
Vern Best

**Facebook Friend in Florida**

John Doe  
Jim Smith  
Jane Smith  
Doris Good  
William Burn  
Brad Friendly  
Tim Scott  
Lisa March  
Vern Best  
Carol Bailey  
Steve Martin

**Footprint Data Base**

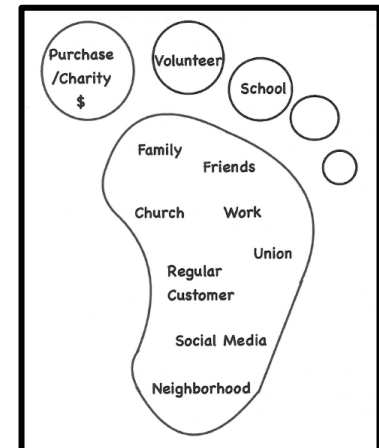
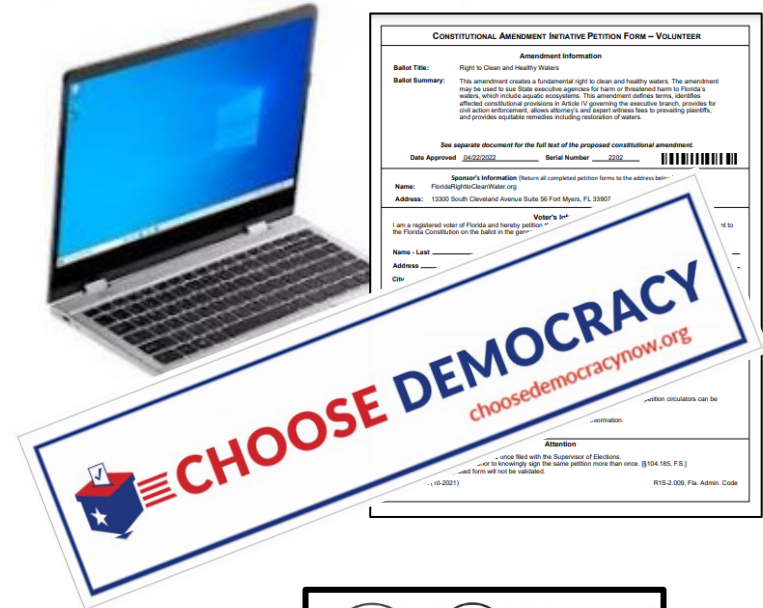
- Names
- Contact Information

## 2b. Create an “Information Packet”

### SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

1. Your personal footprint
2. Voter registration and VBM ballot request online address / phone number
3. Copy of citizen petitions (to sign)
4. Web address of Floridians for Democracy
5. “Choose Democracy” bumper sticker
6. Democracy Activist session times / places

HAVE THIS PACKET WITH YOU WHEN YOU MEET POTENTIAL RECRUITS

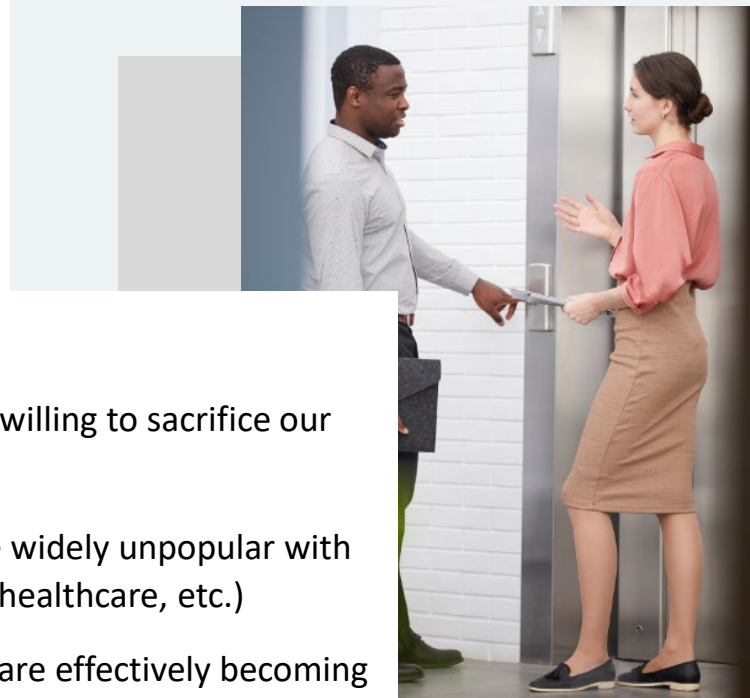




## 2c. Practice Elevator Speeches

**ACTION:** Call close family and friends in your footprint. Practice your “elevator speech” regarding:

1. **The threat to our democracy**
2. **The need for a wave of pro-democracy activists**



### #1 - The Threat to Our Democracy

- **Power at all costs** - The GOP appears willing to sacrifice our democracy in order to stay in power.
- **Unpopular Policies** - GOP policies are widely unpopular with the majority of Americans (guns, abortion, healthcare, etc.)
- **Functional Autocracies** - Red states are effectively becoming autocracies with little accountability to the local people.
- **A Bleak Future** - Once lost, democracy and its associated freedoms, are very difficult to regain.
- **A Personalist Dictatorship** - Trump’s stated goal of consolidating executive power if elected is a blueprint for a “Putin-style” personalist dictatorship.

## 2c. Practice Elevator Speeches

### #2 – A Wave of Pro-Democracy Activists

- **Change Strategy** - As defenders of democracy, we must change our strategy if we want to win.
- **Get All Involved** - Every American who believes in our democracy must get involved.
- **Don't Rely on our Institutions** - Our democratic institutions (legal system, agencies, etc.) will not save us.
- **Make it Our Mission** - To create a “wave” of pro-democracy advocates, we must all make it our mission to work to save democracy.
- **Use Our Power** - We each have more influence and power than we perceive. We must use the power of our relationships to promote democracy (become democracy warriors, not worriers).



## 2d. Set Up Your F&F Work Plan

### THIS IS REAL WORK!

- Schedule Your Planned Interactions with Family and Friends
- Prepare Packets
- Take Notes
- Keep Track of Your Successes
- Refer Potential Recruits to an Overview Meeting
- Report Your Success to the Group (next meeting)



"A woman on a laptop who seems tired from her work" by [shixart1985](#) is licensed under [CC BY 2.0](#).

## 2e. “Ask” Your Family & Friends to Get Involved



### Ask them to:

- Confirm they are registered voters for 2024.
- Join ***Floridians for Democracy***.
- Sign important petitions (clean water, women’s rights).
- Put a pro-democracy bumper sticker on their car (give them the stickers).
- Attend a “Pro-Democracy Activist” session.

## 2f. Invite F&Fs to Join a Pro-Dem Group

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**Your Personal Plan  
to help  
SAVE OUR DEMOCRACY**

From a Democracy Worrier  
to a  
Democracy Warrior



## II. RECRUIT FRIENDS & FAMILY Summary

2a. Create Your F&F's L  
Data Base



2b. Create an Info  
Packet



2c. Practice Elevator  
Speech #1 & #2



2d. Set Up Your F & F's  
Work Plan



2e. Ask Your F & Fs to  
Take First Steps



2f. Invite F & Fs to a  
Pro-Dem Session



**DEMOCRACY  
ACTIVIST**



## ACTION III

# DEEPEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Understand how modern democracies die and the tactics in the authoritarian's playbook

# 3. DEEPEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING

## Educate Yourself on Democracy & Authoritarianism

- 3a. \_\_\_ Study and understand the modern “Authoritarian Playbook.”
- 3b. \_\_\_ Read or listen to three (3) key recommended books.
- 3c. \_\_\_ Attend pro-democracy webinars (e.g., *Floridians for Democracy*).
- 3d. \_\_\_ Listen to a pro-democracy podcast weekly.
- 3e. \_\_\_ Re-read core US founding documents.
- 3f. \_\_\_ Support pro-democracy periodicals.

Consider forming a “Save Democracy” book club or discussion group

“Hello Kitty Headphones”  
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# 3a. Understand the Authoritarian Playbook

## Step 1: Know the signs and red lines

The first step to defending our democracy is learning to differentiate:

- **Genuine political disagreement**  
from
- **Authoritarian behaviors designed to consolidate power and undermine majority rule.**
- Healthy democracy has room for disputes (even ugly fights) on:
  - policy
  - Rhetoric
  - Values
  - Politics
  - Candidates
  - priorities.

Only by separating

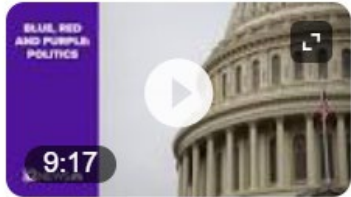
- **democracy vs. authoritarianism**  
from
- **left vs. right,**
- **progressive vs. conservative,**
- **Republican vs. Democrat,**

can we learn to police the boundaries of healthy democracy in our own politics, communities, and conversations.



Source: How to Protect Democracy  
[protectdemocracy.org](https://protectdemocracy.org)

# 3a. Study the Authoritarian Playbook



What the 'Authoritarian Playbook' can teach us

YouTube · 12 News  
Aug 28, 2022

[www.youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com/watch) › watch

Trump's moves are right out of the authoritarian playbook



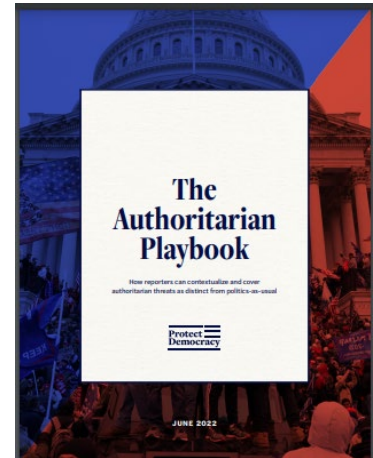
Ruth Ben-Ghiat joins Jonathan Capehart to discuss Donald Trump's use of **authoritarian** rhetoric as he faces down a federal indictment.

YouTube · MSNBC · Jun 17, 2023



The Authoritarian's Playbook

YouTube · UChicago Institute of Politics  
Nov 15, 2022



Find this summary at  
[protectdemocracy.org](https://protectdemocracy.org)

[www.nonviolent-conflict.org](https://www.nonviolent-conflict.org) › fostering-a-fourth-democr...

Fostering a Fourth Democratic Wave: A Playbook for ...



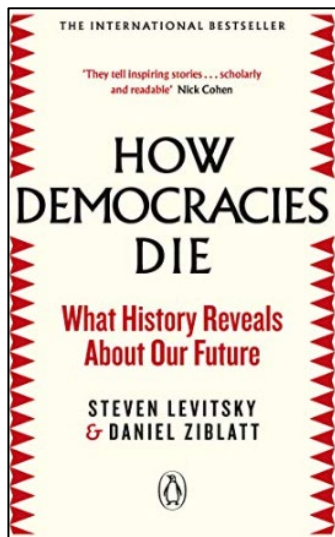
Fostering a Fourth **Democratic** Wave: A **Playbook** for Countering the **Authoritarian** Threat ... Purchase an e-book (Nook | Kindle) Watch the...

International Center on Nonviolent Conflict · AtlanticCouncil · Mar 15, 2023

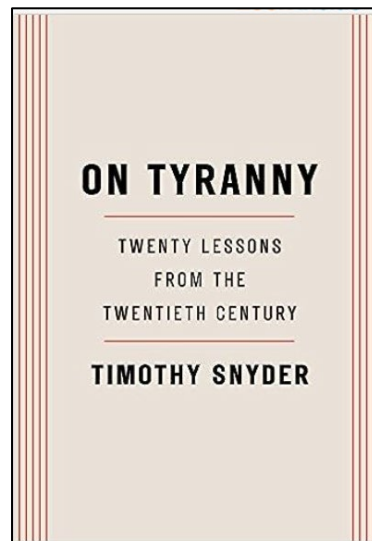
## 3b. Read or Listen to Key Books

### The Authoritarian Playbook\

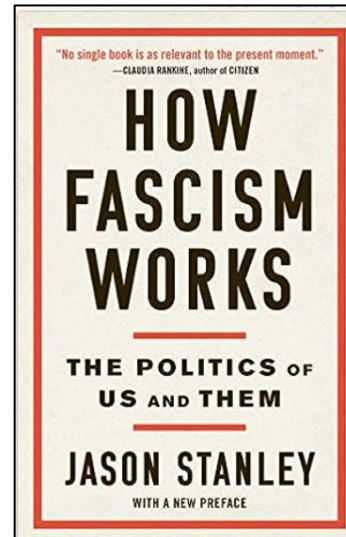
- Dive deeper into refreshing your knowledge of democracy, tyranny, authoritarianism and fascism.
- Listen to interview of authors on YouTube,



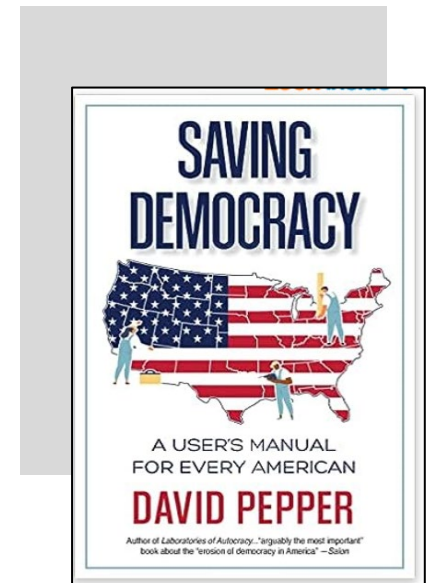
**Paperback \$11.59**  
**Kindle \$12.99**  
**Audiobook**  
**8 hrs. 24 min.**



**Paperback \$6.30**  
**Kindle \$8.99**  
**Audiobook**  
**1 hrs. 47 min.**



**Paperback \$15.39**  
**Kindle \$7.99**  
**Audiobook**  
**5 hrs. 44 min.**



**2023**

# 3c. Attend P-D Webinars / Follow P-D Bloggers

## Floridians For Democracy Events

**HELP SAVE AND PROTECT DEMOCRACY**

"Join Us In Action"  
Next Zoom meeting of Floridians for Democracy

**HELP SAVE AND PROTECT DEMOCRACY**


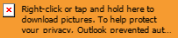
**"Education Under Siege!  
How Should We Respond?"**  
Next Zoom meeting of Floridians for Democracy

**Tuesday, September 19 (Corrected from previous Email)**  
7:00 - 8:15 PM EST  
(Note: Start time has changed to 7 PM)




**ZOOM LINK:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84928251950?pwd=WEhuN1FsbStRdC9qREQyNnlhbVJxQT09>

**Principal Presenters:**  
**Principal Presenters:**

**Pat Okker, PhD**  
Academic Consultant and former President of New College of Florida.  
• See article: "[I Was President of Florida's New College. Then I was Fired.](#)"  
• Learn more about Pat by [clicking here](#).

 Pat Okker, PhD  Pat Okker and her Golden Retriever, Blu.

**Kamela Patton, PhD**  
Academic Consultant and former Superintendent of Collier County Public Schools.  
• Learn more about Kamela by [clicking here](#).

 Kamela Patton, PhD  Kamela Patton with a group of sled dogs.  Kamela Patton worked with the Bee Gees for 2 years.

Tuesday Sept 19 at  
7:00 pm



Heather Cox  
Richardson



Heather Cox Richardson | Substack  
<https://heathercoxrichardson.substack.com>



Robert  
Reich



Robert Reich | Substack  
<https://robertreich.substack.com>



Thom  
Hartman

Radio show: 11 am-2pm on WSLR  
FM 96.5  
Subscribe to the Hartman Report

# 3d. Listen to Pro-Democracy Podcasts

## EXAMPLES



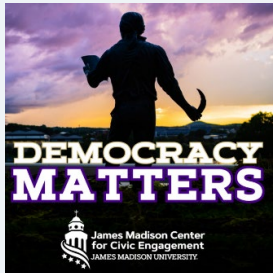
### Future Hindsight Podcast

An award-winning weekly podcast that takes big ideas about civic life and democracy and turns them into action items for you and me.



### DEMOCRACY IN DANGER

An award-winning weekly podcast that takes big ideas about civic life and democracy and turns them into action items for you and me.



### Democracy Matters

Our mission is to educate and inspire people to address public issues and cultivate the common good in our democracy.

As a nonpartisan entity, the Madison Center emphasizes the acquisition of **knowledge** to make one a more informed participant in our democracy, **skills** to make one a more effective participant, and **values** that embrace the common good.



### REFUSE FASCISM

RefuseFascism.org exposes, analyzes, and stands against the very real danger and threat of fascism coming to power in this country.

# 3e. Re-Read Founding Documents

## AMERICA'S FOUNDING DOCUMENTS

### DOCUMENT

### READING TIME

- Declaration of Independence
- US Constitution
- Bill of Rights

10 minutes  
30 minutes  
5 minutes

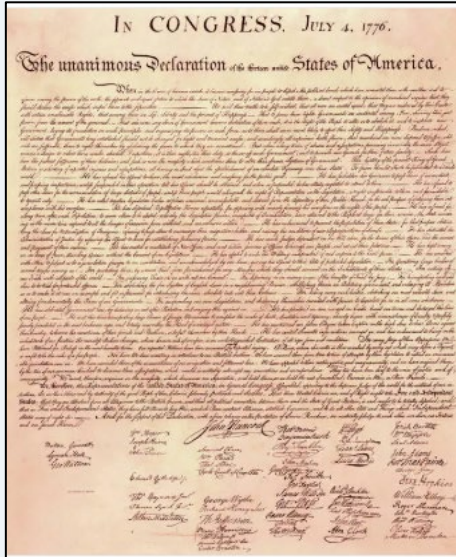
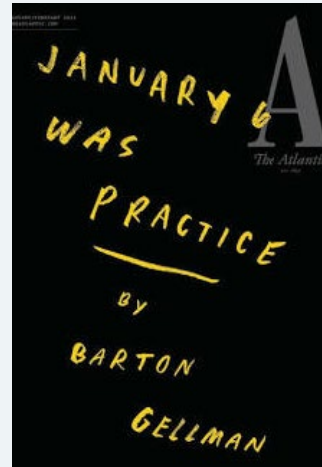


Image: "The Founding Fathers" by DonkeyHotey is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

# 3f. Support Pro-Democracy Publications

- Atlantic magazine
- Washington Post
- Guardian
- New York Times
- Pro-Publica
- NBC news
- MSNBC



The Atlantic  
(monthly)



Washington  
Post



The Guardian  
(weekly)

# III. DEEPEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING

## Summary

3a. Read or Listen to Core Books



3b. Study Authoritarian Playbook



3c. Attend P-D Webinars/  
Follow P-D Bloggers



3d. Listen to Pro-Democracy Podcasts



3e. Re-read Founding Documents



3f. Support Pro-Dem Publications



**DEEPEN  
YOUR  
UNDERSTANDING**

- Democracy
- Authoritarianism
- Fascism





## ACTION IV

# USE YOUR PEN TO PROMOTE DEMOCRACY

Your written words can educate, provide  
new perspective on issues and  
occasionally change minds.

## 4. DEFEND WITH YOUR PEN

Promoting and defending democracy can be done by writing to a variety of media outlets and to your political representatives.

**To the Editor,**

- 4a. \_\_\_ Write a letter-to-the editor each month.
- 4b. \_\_\_ Write an article for a pro-democracy newsletter.
- 4c. \_\_\_ Promote democracy on social media.
- 4d. \_\_\_ Write to your elected representatives.
- 4e. \_\_\_ Thank democracy activists.



## 4a. Write a Letter to the Editor

### Letters to the editor are:

- ❑ **fast, cost-free way** to get an important issue in front of a lot of people at one time.
- ❑ **most widely read** section of a newspaper (after the front page).
- ❑ **tracked by legislators** and other policy makers (keeping their pulse on public opinion).
- ❑ **of interest to editors** of a newspaper (may lead paper to increase coverage of the issue).



**Reading the letters to the editor**

# 4b. Write an Article for a Pro-Democracy Org

## Local Pro-Democracy Publishers:

- Fogartyville's Critical Times (published quarterly)
- Florida Veteran's Common Sense Newsletter
- Choose Democracy Now (blog)

Fostering Community Dialogue and Participation

# CRITICAL TIMES

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 1 SARASOTA FL, APRIL - JUNE, 2023 FREE

## NCF and DEI Under Attack by DeSantis

BY NICKOLAS STEINIG, WSLR INTERN

Gov. DeSantis is in the midst of a political campaign to reform public education and excise "woke" culture through the removal of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) programs and the prohibition of teaching topics related to Black History and gender in public schools. His recent moves to leverage state power to reforge higher education in alignment with conservative ideology are matched by similar political efforts unfolding across the country—an effort that has received strong support from a consortium of conservative financial interests. Florida is among 17 states that have enacted legislation restricting the teaching of race.

In the latest chapter of this saga, DeSantis appointed 7 new conservative members to the Board of Trustees at the Sarasota-based liberal arts

were to terminate the college's sitting president and hire the former Republican speaker of the house as interim president. Richard Corcoran is being paid an annual salary of \$699,000—more than double what his predecessor was paid, and more than three times higher than what the state allows an administrator to be paid using tax dollars. When accounting for additional housing and automobile benefits, that number comes in at just under a million dollars. As such, the school is planning to pull from the non-discretionary dollars donated through the school's foundation to pay for the compensation package.

Even before Corcoran's eventual signing, the fair treatment to, and participation from, populations that have been historically under- the most visible forerunners have been historically under- the most visible forerunners have been historically under- the most visible forerunners have been historically under-

Continued on page 11






 **CHOOSE DEMOCRACY**

HOME ABOUT ACTIONS/EVENTS RESOURCES BLOG SPEAKERS BUREAU

## Democracy for All

Your guide to preserving democracy in the United States



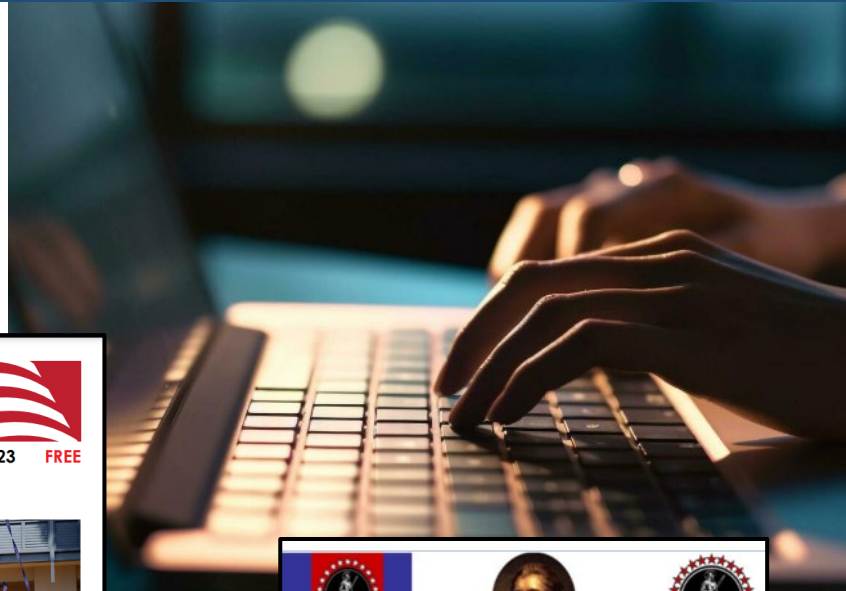
## COMMON SENSE NEWS

Florida Veterans For Common Sense

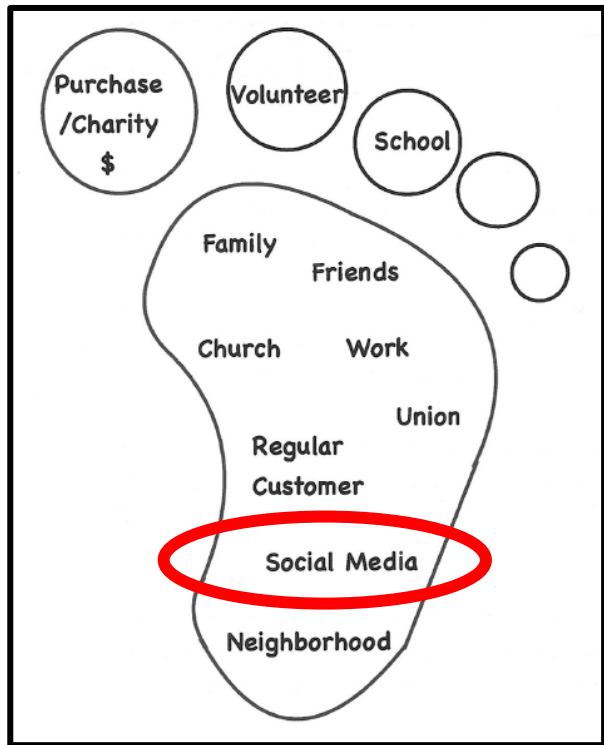
Read the latest news on defending our democracy and taking action on climate change.

[Subscribe](#)

Florida Veterans for Common Sense



# 4c. Promote Democracy on Social Media

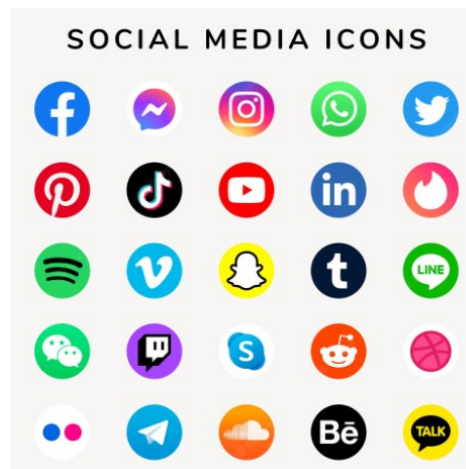


[https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/social-media-icons-vector-set-with-facebook-instagram-twitter-tiktok-youtube-logos\\_17221195.htm](https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/social-media-icons-vector-set-with-facebook-instagram-twitter-tiktok-youtube-logos_17221195.htm)>Image by rawpixel.com</a> on Freepik

## POSTING FOR DEMOCRACY

**“Wherever you engage on social media, that part of your footprint is an efficient place to lift democracy.”**

**“Post a small reminder to your friends and followers to check their voter registration, and include a link on how to register, or request a vote-by-mail ballot.”**



- Facebook
- Messenger
- Instagram
- WhatsApp
- Twitter
- Pinterest
- TikTok
- YouTube
- LinkedIn
- Tinder
- Spotify
- Vimeo
- Snapchat
- Tumblr
- Line
- WeChat
- Twitch
- Skype
- Reddit
- Dribbble
- Flickr
- Friends
- Soundcloud
- Behance
- Google Talk

# 4d. Write or Call Your Representatives

## WHEN TO WRITE OR CALL YOUR REPRESENTATIVE

If you have time, make a call or write a letter to your representative. A call or letter will probably get the most attention, but a personal email can also be effective.

Write to:

- *call attention to an issue or need*
- *thank them for addressing an issue or need*
- *share your disappointment or frustration with their actions*

Florida state legislative session generally begins the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in March and lasts 60 days



**Sen Scott**



**Sen Rubio**



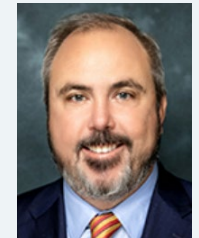
**Rep Buchanan**  
Cong Dist 16



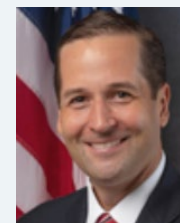
**Rep Steube**  
Cong Dist 17



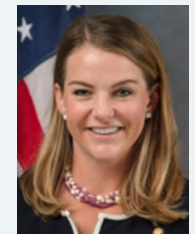
**State Sen Boyd**  
District 20



**State Sen Gruters**  
District 22

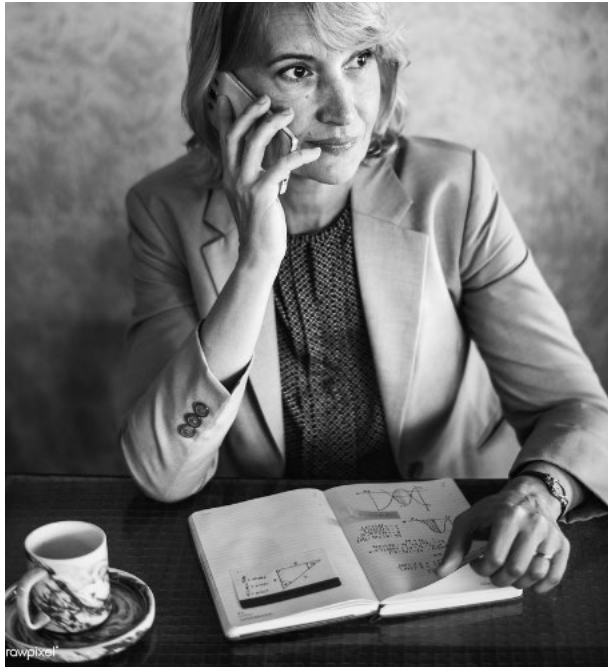


**W. Robinson**  
House Dist 71



**F. McFarland**  
House Dist 73

# 4d. Write or Call Your Local Representatives



"Woman talking on the phone"  
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**Hello, my name is .....**



**Calling your congressperson is the most effective way to influence policy.**



**5 CALLS APP**

**Other kinds of messages take longer.**



**Emails** have to be manually read and sorted.



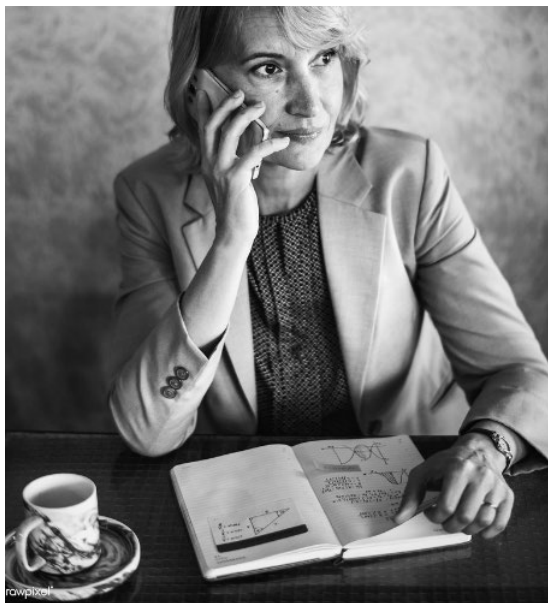
**Faxes** have to be digitized and emailed.



**Letters and postcards** take time to arrive and get processed.

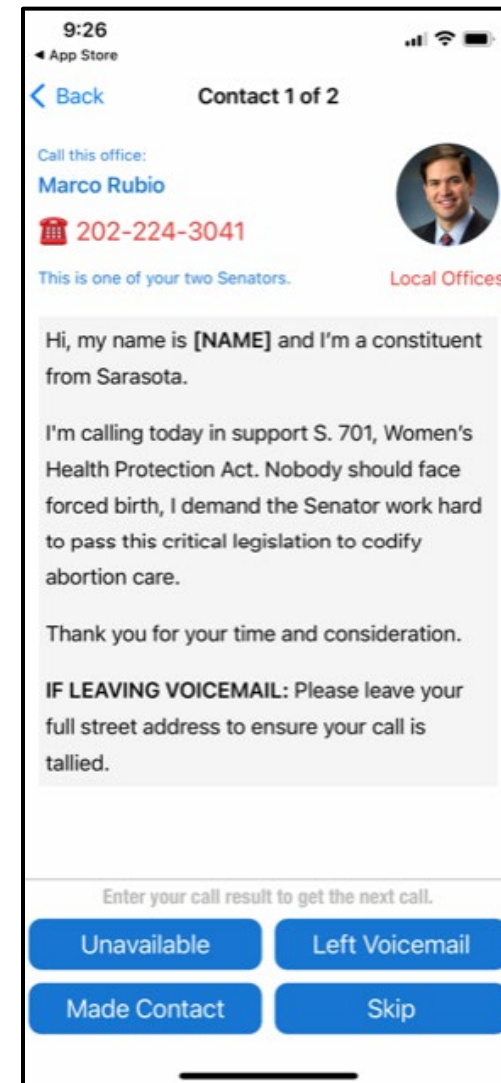
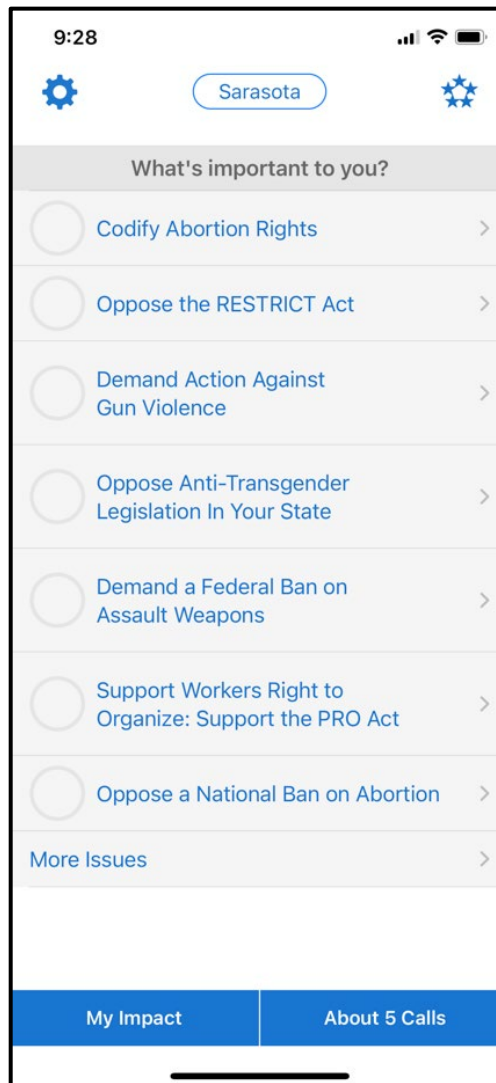
**By contrast, congressional staffers tally phone call right away**

# 4d. Write or Call Your Local Representatives



"Woman talking on the phone"  
by Rawpixel Ltd is licensed  
under CC BY 2.0.

- **Download the free app**
- **Put in your zip code**
- **Choose the issue**
- **Read a summary**
- **Call the representative**
- **Use the script**





## 4e. Thank Other Democracy Activists



Standing up for democracy can feel lonely at times. Activists can sometimes wonder if their efforts are worth the risk.

When you see someone commit their time, talent and energy to defend our democracy, write them a person thank you note. It will be greatly appreciated!

# IV. USE YOUR PEN - SUMMARY

4a. Write a Letter to the Editor



4b. Write an Article for a P-D Newsletter



4c. Promote Democracy on Social Media



4d. Write Your Representatives



4e. Thank other Activists



**BECOMING  
A  
DEMOCRACY  
ACTIVIST**



## ACTION V

# SPEAK UP AND SHOW UP FOR DEMOCRACY

Defend our democracy with your  
presence at meetings, rallies, protests  
and other events

## 5. SPEAK UP & SHOW UP

5a. \_\_\_ Raise your concern about our democracy in every venue.

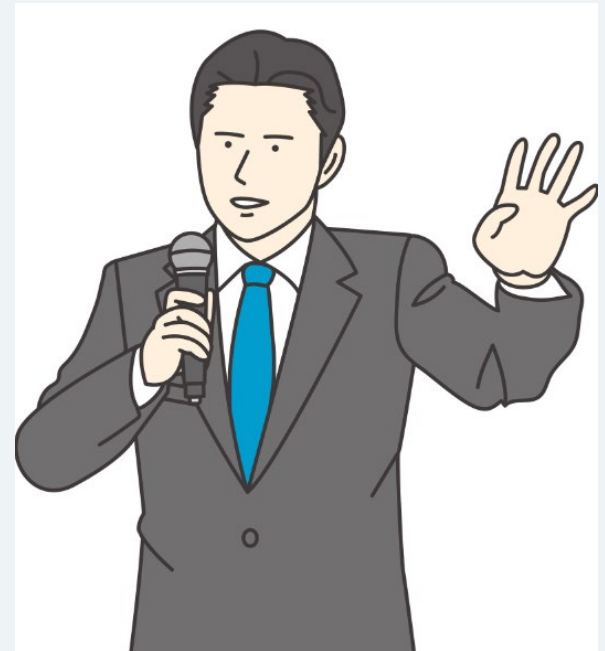
5b. \_\_\_ Arrange a pro-democracy speaker for your club, etc.

5c. \_\_\_ Prepare and present a pro-democracy talk.

5d. \_\_\_ Speak up for democracy in public forums (school boards, county commissions, etc.).

5e. \_\_\_ Speak up for democracy on radio, TV shows and podcasts.

5f. \_\_\_ Show up for democracy at rallies and protests.



## 5a. Raise Your Concern

**In all small group settings, as the opportunity arises . . .**

1. Speak of your concern about the current threat to our democracy.
2. Emphasize the need for an organized pro-democracy response.
3. Talk about your becoming a pro-democracy activist.



[Above href="https://www.vecteezy.com/free-photos">Free Stock photos by Vecteezy</a>](https://www.vecteezy.com/free-photos)



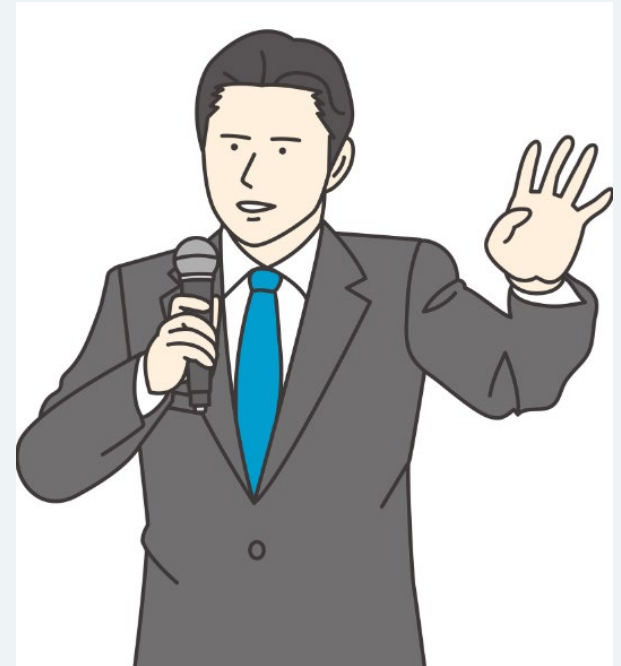
Top [Free Stock photos by Vecteezy</a>](https://www.vecteezy.com/free-photos)

[Free Stock photos by Vecteezy</a>](https://www.vecteezy.com/free-photos)

## 5a. Find Your Voice

### Find your voice, lead a chorus

- ❑ **Talk about democracy** - We can protect our democracy just by talking about it, consistently and often.
- ❑ **Democracy has a constituency** - Speaking up at community meetings can help remind everyone around you that democracy, and not just ideology, has a powerful and motivated constituency in you.
- ❑ **Don't spread disinformation** - As you use your voice, make certain that you – and those around you – never share or amplify disinformation or misinformation, even to debunk it.



Source: How to Protect  
Democracy  
[protectdemocracy.org](https://protectdemocracy.org)

## 5a. Raise Your Concern (continued)



Source: *Messaging: Going on Offense for Democracy - Saving Our Democracy*, chapter 10  
David Pepper 2023

### MESSAGING STRATEGIES

1. Don't be bullied, remember, they are the extremists.
2. Go on the offense.
3. Lead with values; connect with emotion.
4. Explain how it impacts you (the audience).
5. Name who's doing it.
6. Messaging on democracy itself (avoid getting into a debate).
7. Respond to dog whistle messaging.
8. Consider your "meta-message."
9. "Mobi-suation"
10. Repetition – repeat, repeat, repeat.

# 5d. Speak Up for Pro-Democracy Policies In Public Forums



- City Counsel meetings
- County commission meetings
- School board meetings
- Public hospital board meetings



"Update: Columbia Public School Board votes 'Yes' on new start and end times" by KOMUnews is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

"ABSS Board Meeting (2021 Aug 23)" by Anthony Crider is licensed under CC BY 2.0.



"Update: Columbia Public School Board votes 'Yes' on new start and end times" by KOMUnew is licensed under CC BY 2.0.



## 5f. Show Up for Rallies and Protests

### PARTICIPATING IN A RALLY OR PROTEST

- Organize a rally or protest
- Communicate event to allies
- Be a body in the crowd
- Carry a sign / write script for signs
- Speak at the rally
- Arrange protest news coverage
- Take photos and videos
- Provide event security



[Free Stock photos by Vecteezy](https://www.vecteezy.com/free-photos)

# V. USE YOUR VOICE AND PRESENCE

## Summary

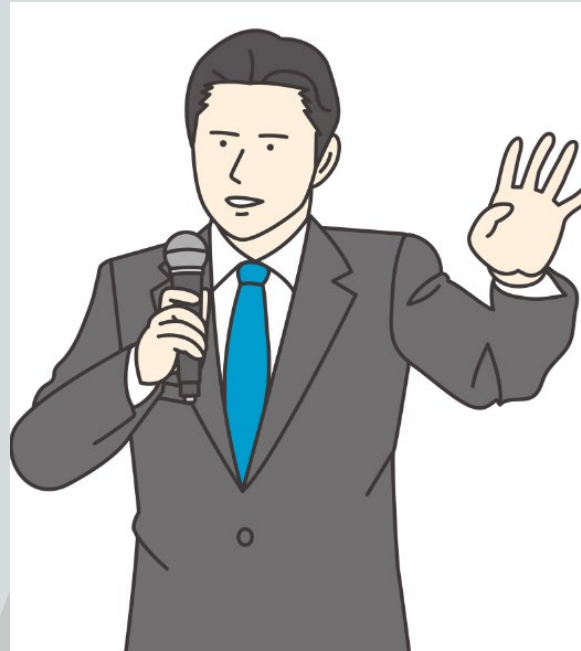
**5a. Defend Democracy in all Settings**



**5b. Arrange PD Speaker for your club, etc.**



**5c. Prepare and Give a Pro-Democracy Talk**



**BECOMING  
A  
DEMOCRACY  
ACTIVIST**

**5d. Speak Up for Democracy at Public Forums**



**5e. Speak Up for Democracy on radio, TV, podcasts**



**5f. Show Up for Democracy at Rallies & Protests**



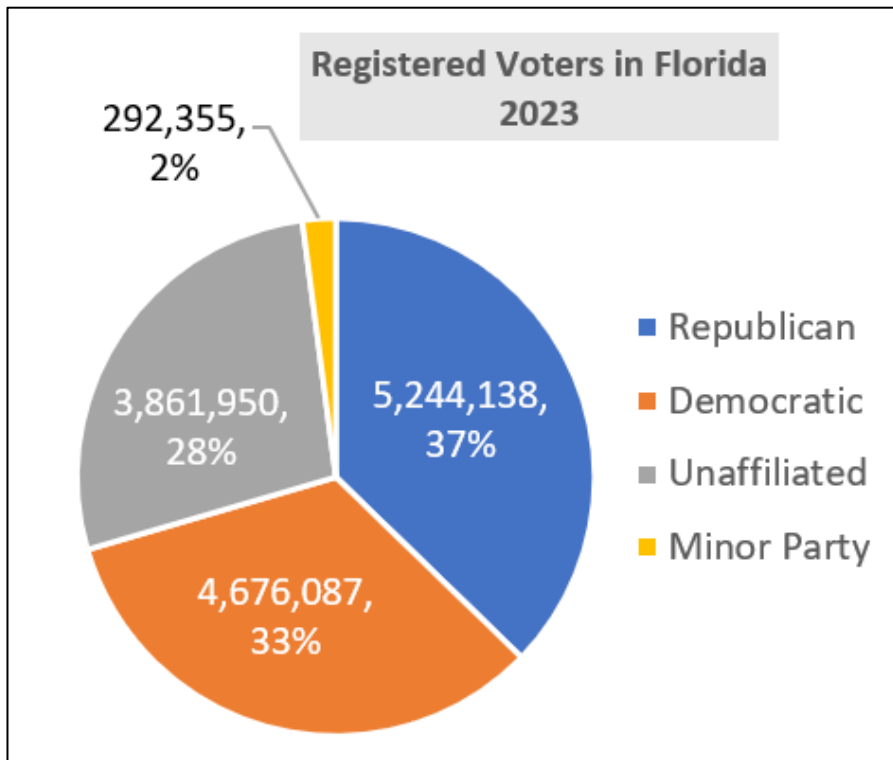


## ACTION VI REGISTER VOTERS

Registering voters must become a continuous activity of pro-democracy supporters . . . It is one of the most important strategies for saving our democracy.

# 6a. Register Footprint Voters

Totals reflect the number of **active** registered voters in the State of Florida – Total registered voters = 14,074,530



Data as of July 31, 2023.

Year	Republican Party of Florida	Florida Democratic Party	Minor Parties	No Party Affiliation	Total
2023	5,244,138	4,676,087	292,355	3,861,950	14,074,530
2022	5,312,122	4,928,168	263,790	4,032,731	14,536,811
2021	5,123,799	5,080,697	253,843	3,829,372	14,287,711
2020	5,218,739	5,315,954	231,246	3,799,799	14,565,738
2019	4,761,405	4,986,520	147,546	3,641,359	13,536,830
2018	4,718,720	4,975,895	113,489	3,588,518	13,396,622
2017	4,544,708	4,807,950	65,526	3,449,005	12,867,189

# VI. REGISTER VOTERS

## Summary

6a. Register  
Footprint Voters



6b. Volunteer for a  
3PVRO



6c. Register Voters  
from Home



6d. Set Up a Voter  
Registration Site



6e. Assist Citizens in  
Obtaining an ID



**BECOMING  
A  
DEMOCRACY  
ACTIVIST**



## ACTION VII

# WORK ON ELECTION DAYS

Take an Official or Volunteer Job to  
Assure Elections Run Smoothly

## 7. WORK ON ELECTION DAYS

- 7a. \_\_\_ Become a paid Poll Worker
- 7b. \_\_\_ Volunteer to be a Poll Greeter
- 7c. \_\_\_ Volunteer to be a Poll Watcher
- 7d. \_\_\_ Volunteer to be a Hotline manager





## ACTION VIII

Support pro-democracy parties and candidates



## 8. SUPPORT PRO-DEMOCRACY PARTIES AND CANDIDATES

- 8a. \_\_\_ Run for office.
- 8b. \_\_\_ Apply to be a precinct captain with a pro-democracy party.
- 8c. \_\_\_ Work for a pro-democracy candidate's campaign.
- 8d. \_\_\_ Host a "Meet-and-Greet" fundraiser for a pro-democracy candidate.



"Political volunteers" by [Quadell](#) is licensed under [CC BY-SA 3.0](#).

# 8b. Critical Role of Precinct Captains

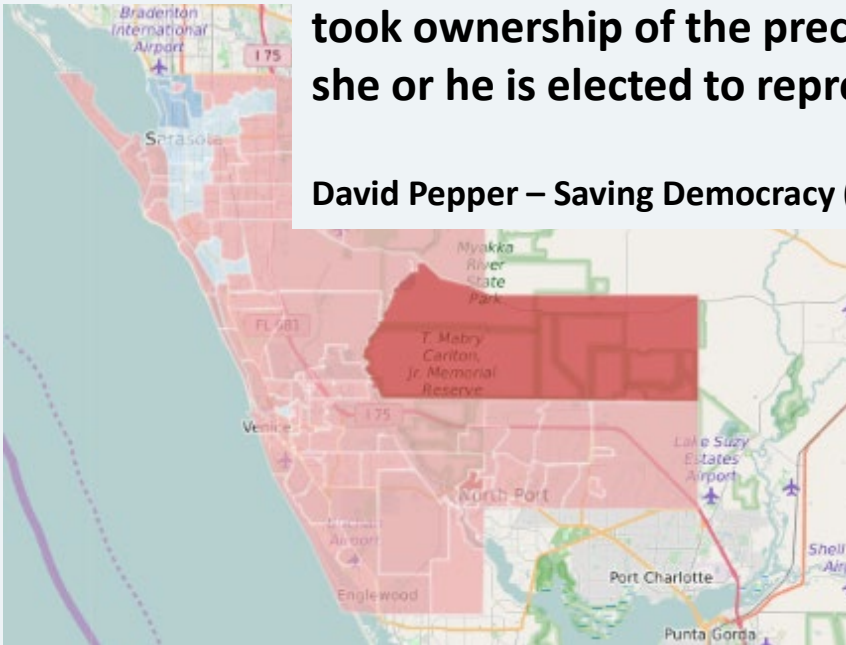


David Pepper

Do you know what single change would forever lift turnout and alter outcomes in American elections more than any other?

If every Pro-democracy party precinct captain in this country took ownership of the precinct she or he is elected to represent.

David Pepper – Saving Democracy (2023)

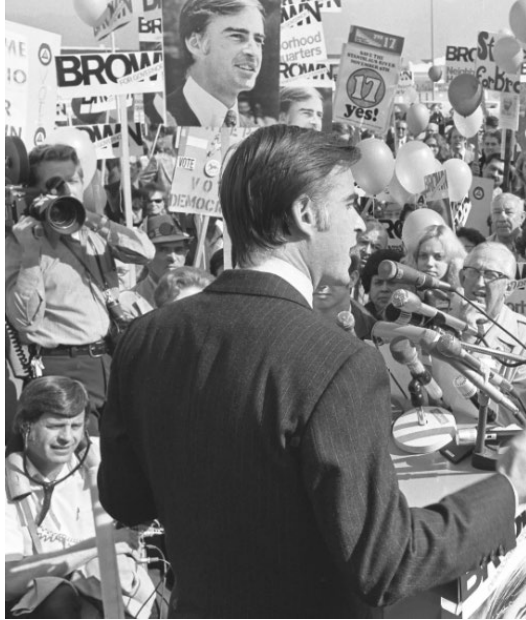


- ❑ There are 99 precincts in Sarasota County
- ❑ A precinct captain is allowed for every 1000 voters in a precinct
- ❑ Only 65% of precincts have at least one captain (Dem Party)

OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS, SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA  
THE SARASOTA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRECINCT COMMITTEEPERSONS

	NAME	STREET ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	MEN WOMEN	ELECTED/APPOINTED
101						1	
101							
103						2	
103							
103							
105	Bonita Chambers	5523 Shady Brook Trail	Sarasota	FL	34243	2	2020 Primary
105	Delores J. McFarland	3803 Parkridge Circle	Sarasota	FL	34243		2020 Primary
105	Patricia C. Rounds	4575 San Siro Dr	Sarasota	FL	34235		Jan-23
105							
106	Kevin Kidd	4629 Antrim Dr	Sarasota	FL	34240	1	Apr-23
106	Joyce Peralta	4629 Antrim Dr	Sarasota	FL	34240		Apr-23
107	Barbara Klein	4656 Hidden Drive Road	Sarasota	FL	34240	1	2020 Primary
107							
109	Mary L. Clupper	4737 Sarasota Avenue	Sarasota	FL	34234	2	2020 Primary
109	Keith A. Fitzgerald	5211 Winchester Drive	Sarasota	FL	34234		2020 Primary
109	Louise Machinist	1100 Imperial Drive #206	Sarasota	FL	34236		Sep-22
109	Johannes Werner	2239 Ixora Ave	Sarasota	FL	34234		Mar-22
111	Mary Ann Shea	4905 Village Gardens Drive	Sarasota	FL	34234	1	2020 Primary
111							
113						1	
113							
115						5	
115	Deanie Bergbreiter	1138 47th Street	Sarasota	FL	34234		2020 Primary

## 8c. Volunteer for a Pro-Democracy Candidate's Campaign



**Jerry Brown campaign  
1974**

1. Choose a campaign to work on.
2. Find your candidate's local campaign office.
3. Help your candidate with a specific project.
4. Become knowledgeable about your candidate's positions.
5. Distribute yard signs.
6. Update the campaign's data.
7. Bring food to the campaign office.
8. Buy a campaign T-shirt and wear it whenever you can.
9. Beyond making your own donation, ask others to do the same.
10. Offer to drive people to the polls on voting day
11. If your state offers vote-by-mail, go to retirement communities.
12. Connect your candidate to important people in your community
13. Canvass or block walk for your candidate.
14. Phone bank for your candidate.
15. Volunteer to work at polling places on election day.

"Gubernatorial candidate Jerry Brown speaking at political rally, 1974" by Los Angeles Times is licensed under [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

# VIII. Work for Pro-Dem Candidates Summary

8a. Run for Office  
(Pro-Dem)



8b. Apply to be a  
Precinct Captain



8c. Work for a Pro-  
Dem Candidate



8d. Host a “Meet-and-  
Greet” (\$\$)



**BECOMING  
A  
DEMOCRACY  
ACTIVIST**



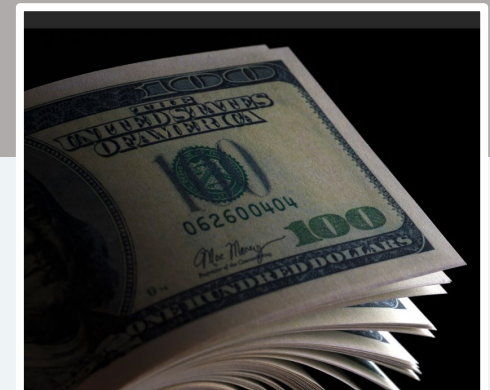
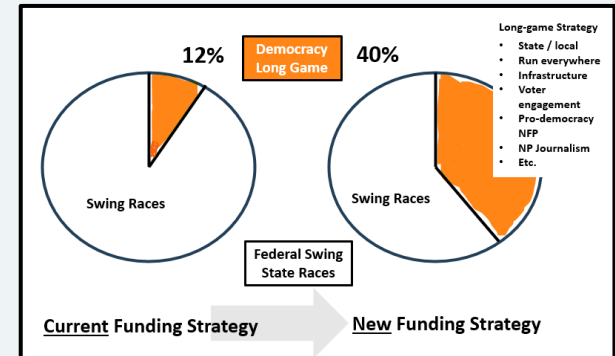
## ACTION IX

# USE YOUR DOLLARS TO LIFT DEMOCRACY

The Dollars You Invest in Our Democracy  
are one of your Most Powerful Tools

# 9. Use Your Dollars to Lift Democracy

- 9a. \_\_\_ Create your “Democracy Budget.”
- 9b. \_\_\_ Fund democracy for the long game.
- 9c. \_\_\_ Commit to recurring (monthly) contributions.
- 9d. \_\_\_ Patronize only pro-democracy businesses.
- 9e. \_\_\_ Call out anti-democracy individuals and businesses.
- 9f. \_\_\_ Encourage your employer (or use your business) to lift democracy.



# 9a. Create Your Democracy Budget

## (Distributing your Dollars)

### **Advice #1 – Convert your political spending into a “Democracy Budget.”**

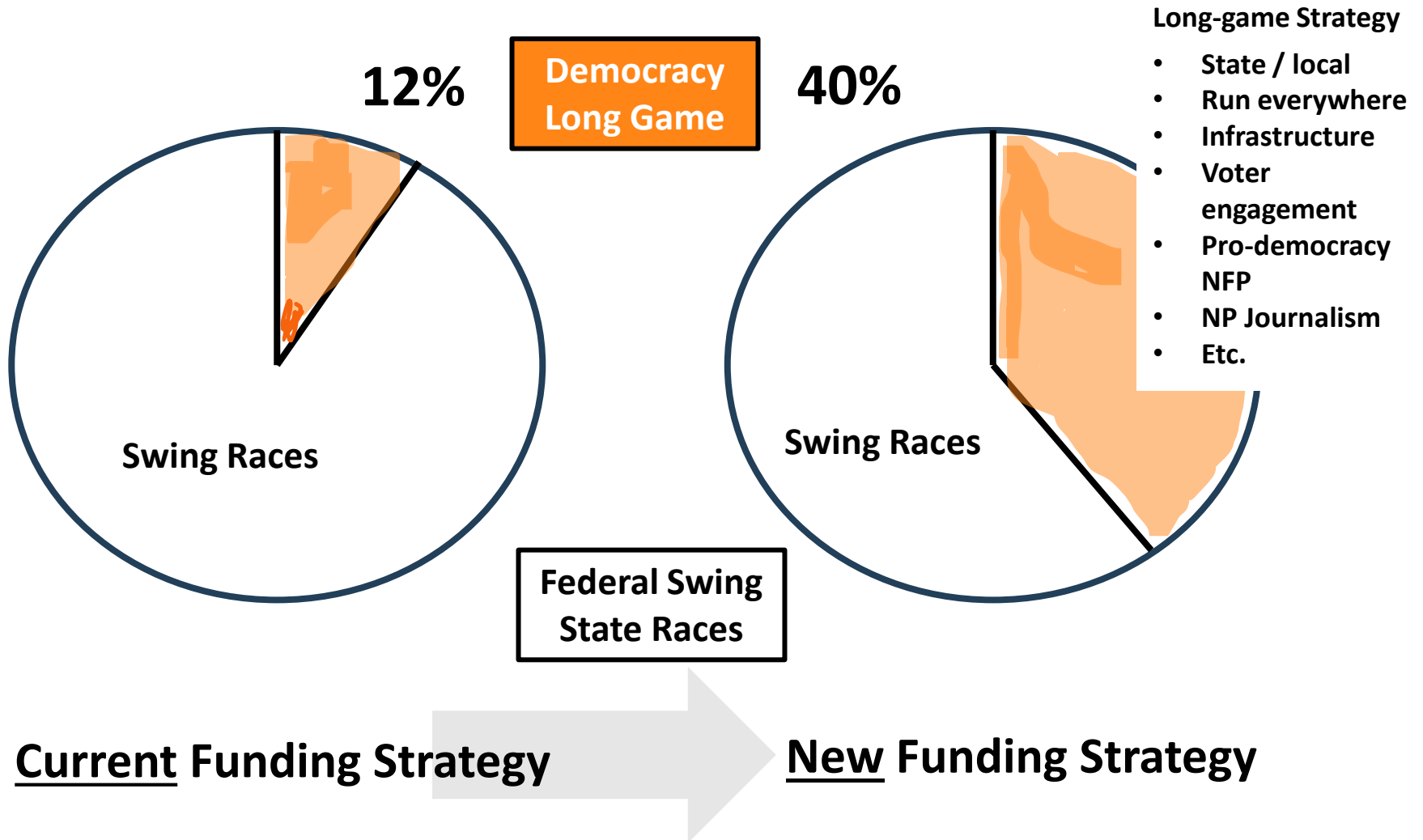
“There are few more influential parts of our footprints than where we spend our dollars. . . . Our collective decisions on how we expend those dollars can make an enormous difference in lifting democracy.” – David Pepper



### **Common Approach**

- Begin donating late in the election cycle.
- Donate to win federal swing-state elections.
- Donate to a few local candidates you like.
- Donate to candidates who personally call you
- Stop donating after the election.

# 9b. Fund Democracy for the Long Game





# 9b. Fund Democracy for the Long Game (Distributing your Dollars)

	Pro-Democracy Recipient	Dollars	% Budget
<b>Federal Elections</b>			35%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presidential Candidate Campaign</li> <li>National Pro-Democracy Party</li> </ul>		

How Should Our

	Pro-Democracy Recipient	Dollars	% Budget
<b>Local Elections</b>			25%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Pro-Democracy Candidates</li> <li>Local Pro-Democracy Party</li> </ul>		
<b>Voter Registration Organizations</b>			5%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>League of Women Voters</li> </ul>		
<b>National Pro-Democracy (Advocacy) Organizations</b>			5%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brennan Center for Justice</li> <li>Protect Democracy</li> </ul>		
<b>State Pro-Democracy (Advocacy) Organizations</b>			5%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ACLU of Florida</li> </ul>		
<b>Pro-Democracy Publications</b>			5%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Atlantic Magazine</li> <li>The Washington Post</li> </ul>		

**DRAFT**

# 9c. Commit to Recurring Contributions

## Top 5 Reasons to Commit to Monthly Recurring Donations

### 1. To increase revenue

- Recurring donors give an average of 42% more per year than donors who give one-time donations.

### 2. To increase donor retention

- “Over 70% of people of one-time donors don’t come back.
- First-year retention rate for monthly donors is 80%.

### 3. To decrease operating costs

- It takes more resources and expenses to recruit new donors than to engage with existing donors.



### 4. To provide donor convenience

- Being able to support their favorite organizations/causes with a smaller monthly gift is convenient and affordable.

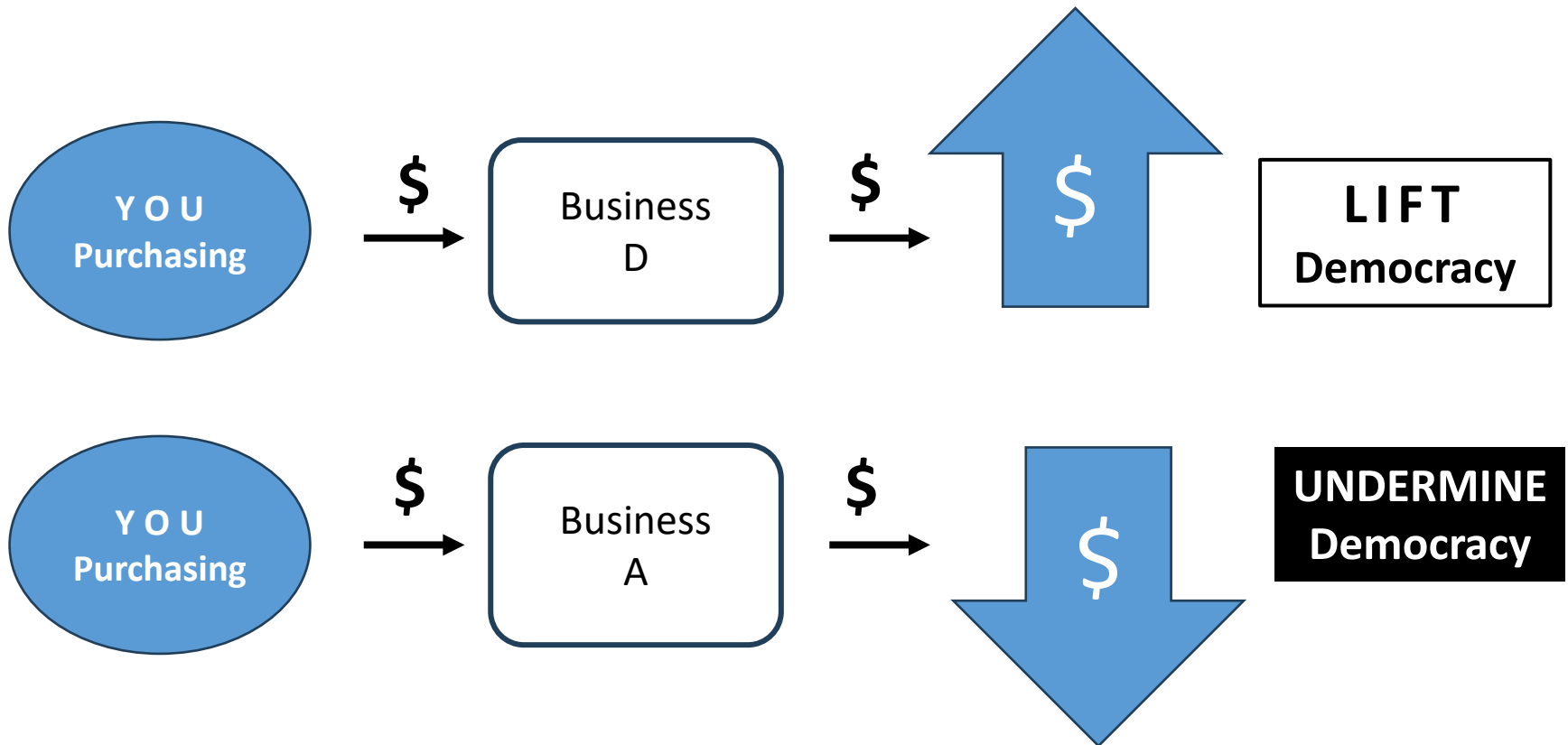
### 5. To build better relationships with more loyal donors

- Sustaining donors regularly enjoy the “feel good” that comes along with knowing their support is helping others.
- Donors giving monthly tend to become more committed to your cause than donors who give one-time gifts.

# 9d. Patronize Pro-Democracy Businesses

## OUR DAILY CHOICE

“Every day we face a simple choice. We can spend and invest our dollars to lift democracy, or we can spend in a way that funnels dollars into the drive towards **AUTOCRACY** and **EXTREMISM**!



# 9d. Decision Support Organizations

**“Each of us, in any way we can, should maximize our pro-democracy spending and minimize our extremism spending.”**

## **Spending Decision Support Resources:**

Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics

**Accountable US**

Color of Change

Judd Legum (journalist)

### **Democracy Scorecard criteria:**

- Corporate Statements in Support of Our Democracy
- Political Spending
- Actions Surrounding January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- Federal and State Voting Legislation Support
- Election Integrity
- Other Democracy Issues

# 9f. Call Out Anti-Democratic Orgs

“Each of us, in any way we can, should maximize our pro-democracy spending and minimize our extremism spending.”

## Abbott Laboratories **F**

Abbott Park, Illinois

ANNUAL REVENUE    SECTOR  
43.1 billion      Health Care

## AbbVie **F**

North Chicago, Illinois

ANNUAL REVENUE    SECTOR  
56.2 billion      Health Care

## AIG **B**

New York City, New York

ANNUAL REVENUE    SECTOR  
52.1 billion      Insurance

## Albertsons **B**

Boise, Idaho

ANNUAL REVENUE    SECTOR  
69.7 billion      Food & Drug Stores

## Allstate **F**

Northbrook, Illinois

ANNUAL REVENUE    SECTOR  
53.2 billion      Financials

## Alphabet **F**

Mountain View, California

ANNUAL REVENUE    SECTOR  
257.6 billion    Technology

## Amazon **F**

Seattle, Washington

ANNUAL REVENUE    SECTOR  
469.8 billion    Retail

## American Express **F**

New York City, New York

ANNUAL REVENUE    SECTOR  
43.7 billion      Financials

## AmerisourceBergen **F**

Chesterbrook, Pennsylvania

ANNUAL REVENUE    SECTOR  
214 billion      Health Care

## Apple **B**

Cupertino, California

ANNUAL REVENUE    SECTOR  
365.8 billion    Technology

## Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) **F**

Chicago, Illinois

ANNUAL REVENUE    SECTOR  
85.2 billion      Food, Beverages & Tobacco

## AT&T **F**

Dallas, Texas

ANNUAL REVENUE    SECTOR  
168.9 billion    Telecommunication

# 9f. Urge Your Employer to Lift Democracy

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESSES TO SUPPORT DEMOCRACY

1. **Notify your audience and customers** about voter registration.
2. **Notify employees** about voter registration.
3. **Host voter registration** and absentee ballot application drives at high-traffic locations.
4. **Engage celebrities** to encourage the public to register to vote and remind people of important election deadlines.
5. **Help educate** your audience, customers, and employees about voting by mail and early voting.
6. **Provide absentee ballot applications** to employees or customers, where possible.
7. **Provide paid time off** for employees to vote—by mail or in person.
8. **Provide mail-processing equipment.**
9. **Offer spaces for ballot drop boxes**
10. **Offer large spaces to be used as polling locations**
11. **Provide safe and free transportation to the polls**
12. **Provide polling places with much-needed supplies**
13. **Provide support and protective gear to voters waiting in line**
14. **Recognize—and incentivize—the service of poll workers**
15. **Offer free childcare for corporate employees or other individuals serving as poll workers**
16. **Ask corporate executives to lead by example by volunteering as poll workers themselves**

# IX. USE YOUR DOLLARS TO LIFT DEMOCRACY

## Summary

**9a. Create Your  
“Democracy Budget”**



**9b. Fund Democracy for the  
Long Game**



**9c. Become a Recurring  
Contributor**



**BECOMING  
A  
DEMOCRACY  
ACTIVIST**

**9d. Patronize Pro-Dem  
Businesses**



**9e. “Out” Anti-Dem  
Businesses**



**9f. Urge Your Employer  
to Lift Democracy**



## ACTION X

# OWN YOUR FOOTPRINT – CREATE YOUR PLAN

Become the “Precinct Captain” of your Personal Footprint. Leverage your specific skills and experience.



# Lean Into Your Skills & Strengths

**USE YOUR SKILLS** - Protecting democracy requires every institution, and every one of us, working in tandem. Do the most good for our democracy by leaning into your skills, your strengths, your profession, and your community.

<b>Are you a Veteran?</b>	Engage with a veteran's civic organization, like <b>Count Every Hero</b> or the <b>Florida Veterans for Common Sense</b> .
<b>Are you a business leader?</b>	Engage with your employees, board members, shareholders, and fellow business leaders.
<b>Are you a teacher?</b>	Teach civics in your classroom, or in your community.
<b>Are you a faith leader?</b>	Talk about our democracy with your congregation.
<b>Are you a tech expert?</b>	Learn about tech tools protecting our democracy, like <b>VoteShield</b> .
<b>Are you a journalist?</b>	Rely on expert guidance from sources like those at the <b>National Task Force on Election Crises</b> .
<b>Are you a lawyer?</b>	Volunteer your legal services through a group like <b>We the Action</b> .
<b>Are you in law enforcement?</b>	Learn how you and your department can better protect election workers, via the <b>Committee for Safe and Secure Elections</b> .

# How to Become a Pro-Democracy Activist

	<b>CATEGORIES</b>	<b>YOUR LIST</b>	<b># THINGS</b>
I	GET STARTED		8
II	MOTIVATE FAMILY AND FRIENDS		6
III	DEEPEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING		6
IV	DEFEND DEMOCRACY WITH YOU PEN		5
V	SPEAK UP & SHOW UP FOR DEMOCRACY		6
VI	REGISTER VOTERS		5
VII	WORK ON ELECTION DAYS		4
VIII	SUPPORT PRO-DEM PARTIES & CANDIDATES		4
IX	USE YOUR DOLLARS TO LIFT DEMOCRACY		6
X	OWN YOUR FOOTPRINT		
<b>TOTAL THINGS YOU CAN DO TO SAVE DEMOCRACY</b>			<b>50</b>

# PERSONAL PLAN – ACTIONS

## (An Example)

**Begin**

**Work Type**

		<b>Begin</b>	<b>Work Type</b>
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make it my mission</li> <li>• Schedule time each week</li> <li>• Register to vote and sign petitions</li> <li>• Join FFD, FVCS and CDN</li> <li>• Create my footprint</li> <li>• Display a bumper sticker</li> </ul>	<p>Now</p> <p>This week</p> <p>This week</p> <p>This week</p> <p>This week</p> <p>This week</p>	<p>Single action</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Single action</p> <p>Single action</p> <p>Single action</p> <p>Single action</p>
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet with a F or F member once each week</li> <li>• Invite F&amp; F to join / subscribe to pro-democracy group</li> </ul>	<p>Next week</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read one core book each month</li> <li>• Attend FFD webinars</li> <li>• Find and listen to one pro-democracy podcast</li> </ul>	<p>This week</p> <p>This month</p> <p>This month</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Write one Letter-to-the-editor each month</li> <li>• Send a thankyou note each month to an activist</li> </ul>	<p>This month</p> <p>This month</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invite a pro-democracy speaker to my club, org.</li> <li>• Attend all pro-democracy rallies</li> </ul>	<p>This quarter</p> <p>TBD</p>	<p>Single action</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
6.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check with my F &amp; Fs to assure they are registered to vote</li> </ul>	<p>This month</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
7.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider applying to be a poll worker</li> </ul>	<p>This month</p>	<p>Single action</p>
8.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offer my home to host a pro-democracy candidate</li> </ul>	<p>First quarter</p>	<p>Single action</p>
9.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create my pro-democracy budget</li> </ul>	<p>This month</p>	<p>Single action</p>

# DISCUSSION