



FINANCIAL PREPAREDNESS

"One of life's most painful moments comes when we must admit that we didn't do our homework, that we are not prepared." ~ Merlin Olsen

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The Hill Democrats Will Die On

After losing the presidency and both houses of Congress in the 2024 election, you would think that Democrats would pause for some reflection and soul-searching. Maybe more listening and seeking to understand and fewer posts of bat sh*t craziness on social media. Perhaps a *mea culpa* or an admission of gaslighting or censorship. Maybe a grudging acknowledgement that our economy and society don't really need to be urgently, radically and permanently transformed from the way things have been for hundreds of years into a socialist utopia. But you would be wrong.

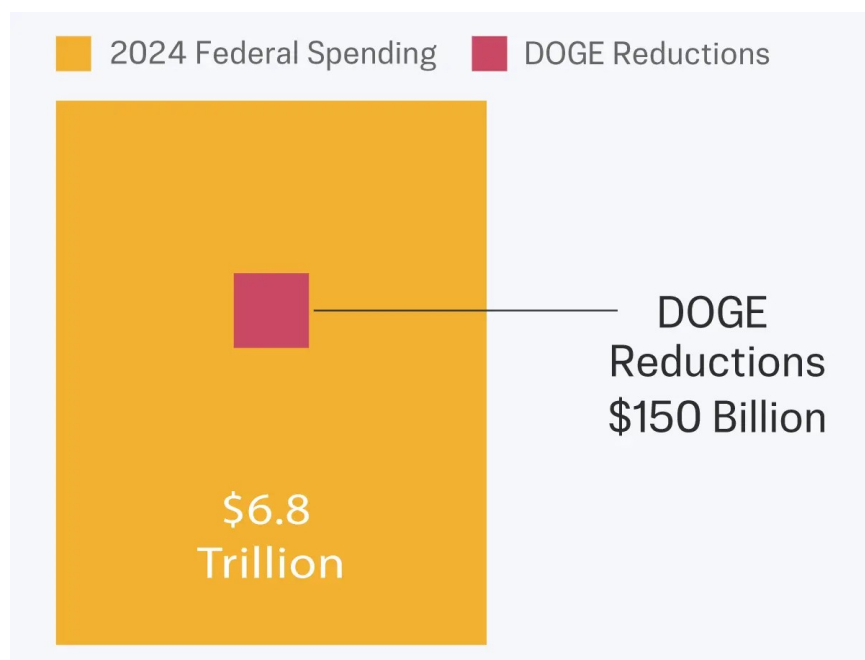
The Democrats now find themselves out of power because they failed to appeal to enough voters with their message, policies and candidates. So perhaps a bit of moderation might be in order? They could "amplify" (as they like to say) the voices of more practical politicians in the mold of say Bill Clinton or Howard Dean. (Don't worry, no one is even thinking about reviving Blue Dog Democrats like Sam Nunn.) They could sincerely reach out to a disparate number of neglected groups to assemble a coalition to rival the unprecedentedly broad coalition that Trump cobbled together to win the 2024 election. Unfortunately for Democrats, it appears that they will instead spend the next few years attacking and cannibalizing themselves.

So although Democrats appear to be more desperate for power than ever, they are not

actually doing what is necessary to win future elections. As a political scientist, I find this truly bizarre. Tens of millions of Democrats have suffered from Trump Derangement Syndrome (TDS) since 2016, but now that he's back in power (and doesn't have to worry about reelection) with a team that actually knows how to get things done, it seems many Democrats have doubled down on the insanity that got them tossed from office.

For example, the unprecedented speed and effectiveness of DOGE in eliminating fraud, waste and abuse from the federal government has spawned a much more virulent strain of TDS known as Elon Derangement Syndrome. The irony is that without these long overdue and last-ditch reforms, the Democrats' beloved federal government would collapse even sooner than it otherwise will.

Despite the novelty of basic accounting practices and the reduction of wasteful spending in D.C., the scale of federal spending is so massive that DOGE's impact on it thus far has been relatively modest. *The Epoch Times* published [an insightful article](#) that put DOGE's cuts into perspective. And as the article reports, “The vast majority of those leaving federal employment have opted into the administration’s deferred resignation program, which allowed them to stop working in March and continue to receive full salary and benefits until Sept. 30....” So over six months of pay for doing nothing, which is an incredibly generous severance package, especially since their pay and benefits were already far above what's available in the private sector.



I hear about irate Democrat members of Congress showing up at federal agencies, demanding to be let in so they can somehow stop the president from carrying out his will, which is of course the result of the last election. Security merely turns them away like the impotent street mob they are. Some claim that Trump and/or DOGE are cutting Social Security or some such nonsense, but none have ever provided any credible evidence to support their allegations, so they come across as wanting fraudulent payments to continue. I think most of them actually want that, but it's not a good look if you're trying

to get elected, especially when so many taxpayers are in dire financial straits.

As a result of TDS/EDS, it appears that a number of prominent and aspiring Democrats are almost in a competition with themselves to out-“virtue” signal each other. (I put *virtue* in quotation marks because what they're doing is really the opposite of virtue.)

One of the strangest and most amusing examples of this is how they've circled their wagons around “Maryland man” and “father of three” Kilmar Abrego Garcia, an illegal alien that the Trump administration recently deported back to El Salvador. A federal immigration court found that “a past, proven, and reliable source of information verified [his] gang membership, rank, and gang name [MS-13] is sufficient to support that [he] is a gang member” and that Garcia had “failed to present evidence to rebut that assertion.” His wife alleged in court that he is violent and had repeatedly beat her. Now we learn that [he was pulled over in 2022 while driving a car owned by a confessed human smuggler](#) (an illegal alien himself) while apparently trafficking eight other illegal aliens.

Despite all of this (or maybe *because* of it), at least five Democratic members of Congress have flown to El Salvador in an attempt to bring the “Maryland man” home, which prompted the satire site The Babylon Bee to run a story with the headline, “[American Hostages in Gaza Disguise Themselves as MS-13 Gang Members So Democrats Will Fight to Bring Them Home.](#)” Another story announced that [MS-13 had been added to the LGBTQ+ acronym](#) “to ensure that the rights of violent foreign gang members were recognized.”



Illinois governor Pritzker, a billionaire and possible future presidential candidate who should know better, [ordered his government to look for ways that his state could boycott](#)

and divest from El Salvador, as its president is a Trump ally who will not be sending the “Maryland man” back to the U.S.

Meanwhile, Democrats in the Washington state house have passed a bill that orders expedited pardons for immigrant criminals. As Charlie Kirk noted, “It's barely an exaggeration to say that Democrats worship foreign criminals. They are a protected class in the woke hierarchy of the left. If you rob, rape, or drive drunk while foreign, protecting you from deportation has become a badge of honor for Democrats. They view immigration as a convenient punishment for a country and a citizenry they despise.”

Of course all of the above makes a laughingstock of Democrats, and if I was a Democrat, I would be pissed, or at least disillusioned enough to want to look around for a political home that was more reasonable and serious.

Finally, although Democrats love to talk about democracy, voting, the rule of law, the peaceful transfer of power, etc., to the Left, the ends always justify the means. A recent survey found that 55% of Leftists believe that assassinating Trump would be at least somewhat justified (48% for Musk), while 58% of Leftists believe that destroying a Tesla dealership would be at least somewhat justified. This sounds a lot like the definition of terrorism: perpetrating violent acts to express one's political opposition.

Although I strongly oppose any politician or policy that would harm individual liberty, I don't wish harm on anyone, which seems un-American and uncivilized to me, in addition to being a lot of heavy emotional baggage to burden yourself with. A friend of mine asked, “How can this nation survive if almost one half of the population are members of a suicide-death cult?”

In conclusion, a recent poll found that confidence in Democratic congressional leadership has plunged to an all-time low of 25%. Democrats just elected 25-year old gun grabber David Hogg as the Vice Chair of the DNC, who pledged to use \$20 million of party funds to oust older incumbent Democrats, which longtime Democratic strategist James Carville rightly called “the most insane thing” he'd ever heard. Insane yet expected, as history shows the Left always ends up eating itself. Old School Democrats such as Senate Minority Whip Dick Durbin see the writing on the wall and are punching out.

Democrats, to quote Bill Clinton, I feel your pain, but I have some bad news for you. If this is the hill you've chosen to die on, you're going to be out of power and wandering in the political wilderness for a generation. Mark my words.

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