

**T.O. Opening Remarks – July 14, 2024 MAKING WAVES for DEMOCRACY meeting**

**Happy Bastille Day, everyone! I'm in favor of FREEDOM and EQUALITY, so I celebrate the French Revolution today.....**

**Welcome to the 72<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Making Waves for Democracy! For the new people here: Our motto is: ACTION IS THE ONLY ANTIDOTE TO DESPAIR, ANGER, FEAR. Canvassing is in our blood, as this group started after 162 of us went to Vegas to door-knock for Hillary in 2016. To my knowledge, we are the only all-volunteer electoral group still operating 7 + years later! We're proud to say we've raised over \$2.1 million dollars at 13 events and email campaigns and knocked on over 100,000 doors for Democrats. YAY us!**

**Today I want to make 3 points:**

- 1. Do not get distracted. Our job is to flip the House, hold the Senate and the White House in November.**
- 2. Project 2025 is the outline of what we oppose.**
- 3. When we organize, we win. Period.**

**1. It's easy to get distracted by the news. The Republicans want that! They use whatever they have to their advantage. Yesterday it was the debate. (By the way, I'm Blue No Matter Who!) Today, it's phony martyrdom. Tomorrow, who knows? They will try anything to get us off our game. BUT.... DO NOT GET DISTRACTED. We are the majority! They know that the voters are anti-MAGA.**

**Yesterday I door-knocked in Irvine for CA Senator Dave Min for Congress for 3 hours and it reminded me what my job is. To FLIP THE HOUSE! The folks I and my canvassing partner spoke to were not focused on the election – but we focused them! There is NOTHING more important than looking someone directly in the eye and connecting with them. It's up to US what happens in November.**

**2. Talk up Project 2025. It's the 900-page blueprint for the Orange Fascist written by his top advisors, published by the Right-wing Heritage Foundation. Joy Reid is highlighting it on MSNBC tomorrow, Monday July 15, at 4 pm PT. If you don't yet know about it, tune in.**

**Project 2025 does many anti-American things, from eliminating whole departments that actually help people like the Weather Service and the Education department, to lifting up their**

reactionary racist, anti-woman, anti-LGBTQ, anti-immigrant, anti-enviro etc. positions....

**It's 900 pages of MAGA to the max.**

**And MAGA is an ungodly partnership between some of the racist white working class mostly men and the billionaires.**

**Project 2025 is specific policy proposals that are a backlash to everything we believe in -- it guts every good thing since the New Deal. That's been the Right Wing's dream for decades, and the Orange Fascist is their ticket. First they – the confederacy really – took over the Republican party, now they control the Supreme Court, and they want it all.**

**THREE...3. ....BUT....When we organize, Dems win. The Right Wing's Achilles Heel is that they *always* overreach. *Always.* WE THE PEOPLE will stop them. They know so we cannot forget that the anti-MAGA vote is the largest electoral force in this country. We've won every election since the Dobbs decision in 2022. And we will win this November!**

**I want to encourage you to sign up to be in ACTION today in our Poll later -- And, be sure to mark your calendars for Get-Out-The-Vote week, Oct 30-Nov 5... *Making Waves for Democracy* will have a group canvassing in Phoenix, AZ -- like we did in 2020 -- and we'll do an overnight GOTV Saturday night in Palmdale, in the**

**Antelope Valley, up in CA-27 – you’ll get more info in the Chat and later....**

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**A few days ago, I was downright joyous -- EVERYONE I knew was active doing something more than ever before to further our blue victory in November: my twenty-something niece who’s never been active before is talking to undecided voters in Pennsylvania about Project 2025; my young friends I go to women’s soccer with are ALL volunteering on the weekends; people who have never lifted an activist finger are postcarding or phonebanking....**

**There’s an energy gathering that is unstoppable, like in 2018. We are building for the next BIG BLUE WAVE. But this time is different – it’s BEFORE the Right gains even more power. And this time we are organized. We’ve cohered into a real infrastructure of grassroots warriors – both outside and inside the official Democratic Party – we know what is at stake this November. Notice the pushback today ALREADY to their phony martyr messaging. We in LA learned well from the 1992 Civil Unrest – or Uprising – or Riots – We learned that when the message is unsettled -- is debated -- the good guys prevail. Americans want FREEDOM not FASCISM.**

**And we, the defenders of freedom, will not be stopped.**