

The Delray Democrat

Leave Behind¹

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I had my annual physical exam a little while ago, and part of that involves filling out a form about my mental health. Am I depressed? Do I worry, am I losing sleep? Do I feel helpless? I'm fine, I'm not depressed, and I'm not worried. Then I start thinking a little more about it. From my personal viewpoint, I'm ok. I'm retired, my 401k is doing fine, and no hurricane hit my house yet.

Then I start thinking a little more about it because, unlike the sociopath in the White House, I actually care about other people. I'm worried because our planet is in deadly danger, and it's the only planet we have. Our President wants more oil pipelines and more drilling offshore and in pristine areas, while the Arctic melts and the rainforest shrinks, and while it's getting hotter and hotter. While my 401k goes up, workers who have no money to invest get none of that benefit, and in fact most of our people aren't going to be able to retire. And my 401k is only going up because of a huge tax cut for the wealthy that gutted our treasury and mortgaged our children's future.

While every other industrialized country manages to have healthcare for all their people, we can't seem to do it and the Republicans are stripping away the protections of the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) and replacing it with nothing.

Our President lies every time he opens his mouth. He'll release his tax returns, and then fights every attempt to get them. He has a Great Perfect healthcare plan, but he doesn't. He has to flush his toilet 15 times because the awful EPA makes toilets water-efficient. Do you flush more than once? Maybe he has to flush more because he's full of crap.

They've decided that the best way to beat impeachment is to generate a crisis with Iran and very possibly start another war. That's a tried and true method to get your popularity up; start a war and start waving the flag around.

So yes, I'm worried, and I'm scared, and I'm depressed. But that doesn't make me ill; I'd be ill if I weren't worried and scared and depressed. I'm worried that I'm not doing enough. I'm scared that I'm not doing enough. I'm depressed because I don't know if I can do enough.

That's where you come in. No, I can't beat Trump by myself but we can do it together. I care who the Democratic nominee is, I have my preference, but, as one bumper sticker said, "Any responsible adult in 2020." Once the nomination goes to one of the candidates, we must unite behind him or her and work our butts off to win. Our very future depends on it.

I'm sorry I missed you today when we came calling, because we really need to talk. Republicans win because they suppress the vote in dozens of ways, often just by making it difficult or convincing people that it doesn't matter. In fact, voting is the ONLY thing that matters. I've

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taken to voting by mail because it's easy and makes sure that it gets done, but if you can vote early, do that. Try not to wait until Election Day because too many things can go wrong and you miss voting. Don't let that happen.

We need you. We need you to come to our meetings, talk to your neighbors, and make sure we get the vote out. This is no joke, this is deadly serious.