

The Delray Democrat

DeSantis As Nixon, Part 2¹

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Actions such as the removal of state attorney Andrew Warren is the latest indication that it's a mistake to characterize Gov. DeSantis as merely a Donald Trump clone. He's not just our "Pint-sized Trump in Tallahassee" or "Trump with a Brain" or "Trump with Table Manners."

Yes, he's all of those, except maybe the table manners one, but there's another politician DeSantis resembles even more closely than Trump. Like Richard Nixon, DeSantis is smart, shrewd, vindictive, and thin-skinned; he also comes from a modest background, has a mean streak, and bristles with resentment for "liberal elites."

Decades before Donald Trump was bankrupting companies, Nixon coined the term "silent majority" and began using dog-whistle racism and phony culture wars to propel him to a landslide reelection in 1972. Like Icarus of Greek myth, however, Nixon's hubris carried him too close to the sun, melting the wax on his wings and plunging him into disgrace less than two years after his landslide victory.

DeSantis may think he's flying high today, but the new "silent majority" in Florida consists of independents who are sick and tired of phony culture wars manufactured in order to induce them to vote against their economic interests.

The wax on DeSantis's wings is ripe for melting. And Charlie Crist is the guy to do it.

¹ *The Delray Democrat*, September 2022, page 6.