
No



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Yes. If you believe what you read on Twitter.

But Twitter does not deliver electoral wins. President Biden, the most moderate candidate in the 2020 primary, is the one who earned the party's nomination and went on to defeat Trump. Moderates created and defended the congressional majorities, outperformed far-left candidates and represented the plurality of Biden voters. But it may not seem that way in a polarized media environment that rewards the loudest voices on both extremes with far more coverage than their actual numbers warrant.

Let's look at the facts: America is not a liberal country. We are a center-right country at best, and the Electoral College and the Senate tip the scales in Republicans' favor. If Democrats want to make progress, they've got to play the game. That means winning elections, compromising to get things done and meeting voters where they're at.

The far left's strategy has failed in every election cycle in recent history. They claim their candidates will galvanize turnout and bring new voters out in unprecedented numbers. We have yet to see that happen. The number of first-time voters was down in the states where Sen. Bernie Sanders led in the 2020 primaries and caucuses: Iowa, New Hampshire and Nevada. By contrast, Biden mobilized an increase in first-time voters in South Carolina and cruised from there to the nomination.

Democrats can't afford to rely on this turnout myth that has been repeatedly disproven. They should be laser-focused on winning elections and preserving majorities. That only happens if they win enough red and purple districts and states. It's the center of the party that has delivered here, too: In 2018, candidates endorsed by the moderate New Democrats flipped 33 seats from red to blue and handed Nancy Pelosi the speaker's gavel. Candidates endorsed by left-wing Our Revolution and Justice Democrats delivered zero new seats to the majority — and repeated that performance again in 2020.

While the far left has a noisy, outsized influence on our politics, it does not represent the core of our party. The voters who elected President Biden and put Democrats in the majority are pragmatists who want to make bold progress within the realistic constraints of the political moment. To keep up our winning streak, we need our party's far-left fringes to stop ignoring the will of the coalition that put us in office and stop pushing politically toxic positions online that threaten to make *all* Democrats unpalatable to most voters.