

# DAPAC DISPATCH: 2010 November Update

Dapac.org A Proven Record of Electing Progressive Democrats November 2010

## 95% of Progressive Dems Won, 60% of Blue Dogs Lost!

On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 95% of progressive Democrats in Congress won their election – while over half of the Blue Dog Democrats went down to defeat.

Of 13 DAPAC endorsed candidates elected to Congress in the past 10 years, 10 won re-election. Only one of our endorsed incumbents lost her House seat (Mary Jo Kilroy in OH 15).

DAPAC endorsed Joe Sestak, in Pennsylvania, nearly pulled off a miraculous comeback against a much better funded Republican.

This is an very positive result considering all of our DAPAC endorsed progressive Democrats were running in swing districts in a Republican Wave year.



**Barbara Boxer wins in California**

Progressive Democrats win elections - even in a Republican Wave year - because independent swing voters know that progressives are on their side. Progressive Democrats create jobs while conservatives ship jobs overseas. Progressives oppose trillion dollar foreign wars and support health care reform—all issues strongly supported by Independent swing voters.

## DAPAC's Plan to Create a Progressive Majority in 2012

For the past 10 years, DAPAC has focused on electing Progressive Democrats in swing districts. The 2010 election has confirmed the long term wisdom of this plan. Once elected, progressives can be reelected, even in a Republican wave year. Meanwhile, Blue Dogs running in swing districts fail to win reelection because they use the same framing as Republicans.

The good news is that when Blue Dogs are defeated, it creates an opportunity to run more progressive Democrats which have a good chance of taking out the newly elected Republicans in 2012.

The Republican "All Cuts" plan was exactly what Herbert Hoover tried in 1930. Rather than making things better, slashing public spending made the Great Depression much worse.

Thankfully, an army of the unemployed led to the election of FDR and over 100 Progressive Democrats to Congress in 1932.

**We at DAPAC believe that the 2012 election will be very similar to the 1932 election.** Our goal is to do everything we can to create a progressive Democratic Majority in the next Congress. (Cont on Pg 2)

## DAPAC CORE VALUES

All of our candidates support:

- Cutting Middle Class Taxes to Create Jobs
- Protecting Social Security and Medicare
- Ending Trillion Dollar Wars
- Medicare for All
- A Woman's Right to Choose
- LGBT Civil Rights
- Working family and Union Rights
- Ending the Death Penalty
- Honest, Fair Markets
- Environmental Protection
- Ending Tax Breaks for Billionaires
- Ending Corporate Corruption of Congress

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Like all of our progressive candidates, we at DAPAC are in it for the long term good of our nation. Please help us get our Progressive Democrats elected to Congress!

## DAPAC Plan to Create a Progressive Majority in 2010 (cont. from page 1)

DAPAC is already working hard on recruiting, screening and training progressive Democratic candidates in swing districts for the next election cycle.

The first step in this process is identifying swing districts. In order to have the maximum effect with limited financial resources, we at DAPAC not only target swing districts, but we look for swing districts in Swing States or Democratic leaning States.

Currently, there are 188 Democrats and 239 Republicans with 8 undecided races and 218 seats needed for a majority. Democrats have lost 60 House seats. We will need at least 30 seats in the next election to restore a majority.

**Our plan is to target 44 Congressional Districts in 14 Swing States. (See the chart below).**

We are aggressively networking with progressive organizations from across America to recruit and screen progressive Democratic candidates in these 44 swing Districts.

**This is why we urgently need your help right now. It is because the process of electing progressive Democrats is at its most crucial stage right now.**

### 14 Swing States with 44 Swing Congressional Districts

State	2010 Close Races R's won	2010 Blue Dogs lost	2010 New Dems lost	Total Swing CDs
CA	20, 44, 45	20		3
CO	3,4,	3,4		2
FL	8, 22, 24, 25		22,24	4
IL	8, 10, 11, 14, 17		8,11,14	5
MI	1,7		1,7	2
MN	8			1
NH	1,2			2
NJ	3		3	1
NY	13,19,20,24,25,29	20,24	13,25	6
OH	1, 6, 12, 15, 16	6	16	5
PA	3, 6, 7, 8, 11,15	3,8		6
VA	2, 5	2		2
WA	3, 8,10		3	3
WI	7,8			2
<b>Total</b>	<b>44 Districts</b>	<b>9 Districts</b>	<b>12 Districts</b>	<b>44 Districts</b>

## How Progressive Candidates Can Win in Swing Districts in 2012

The key to winning in swing districts is understanding the values of independent swing voters. It takes not only the right candidate running in the right district, but also the right message.

Many polls, including those taken on Election Night confirm that Independent voters are far more concerned about Jobs and the Economy than they are about balancing the budget.

Independents also strongly favor ending tax breaks for billionaires in order to pay for important social programs.

The fact that many more Blue Dogs and “New” Democrats lost elections this cycle while only a few progressives lost is evidence that the Progressive Agenda is a winning message with Independent voters.

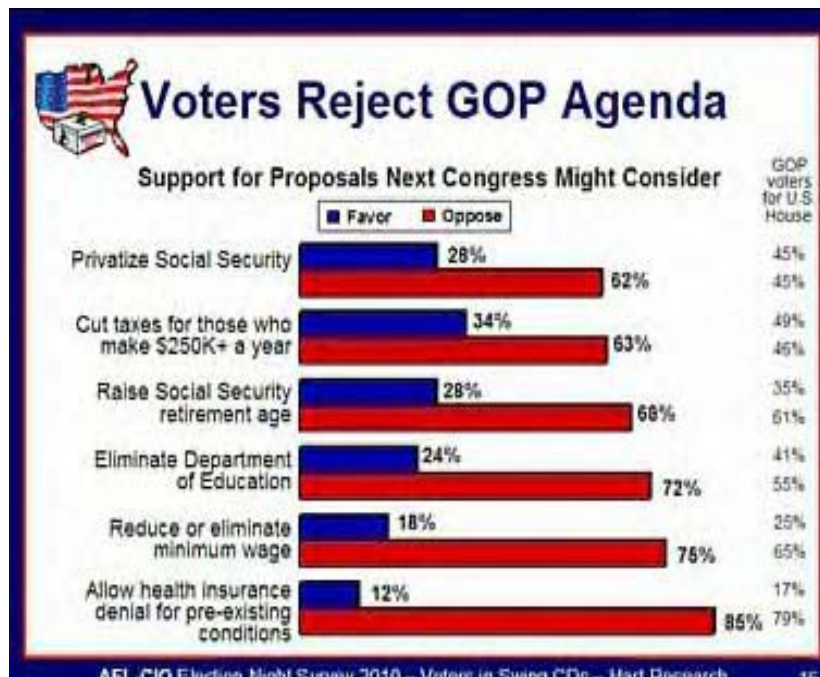
Where Democratic candidates lose elections is by trying to go too far to the right in an effort to appease Republican voters.

### About our Founder, Tom Cramer

Tom Cramer has been working for nearly 20 years for a better more progressive America. Tom's first political involvement was in the National People's Campaign opposing the Gingrich Contract on America. Tom then ran for Congress as the Democratic nominee against Henry Hyde in 1998.

Recognizing the need for more support for progressive Congressional Candidates, Tom started DAPAC in 2000.

*“By supporting progressive Democrats, we can fight back against corporate corruption, reform our political system, restore our economy and rebuild our nation.”*



This effort is doomed to fail in that agreeing with Republican framing just causes voters to vote for Republicans.

The key for Progressive Candidates in the next election is to advocate ending tax breaks for billionaires and ending trillion dollar foreign wars in order to pay for a Full Employment Jobs Program right here in America.

The only way our economy will work is by putting all Americans back to work.

This was the message FDR used in 1932 to elect 100 progressives to Congress.

The same message will lead to a progressive landslide in 2012.

**Here in America, we are waging a great and successful war. It is not alone a war against want and destitution and economic demoralization. It is more than that; it is a war for the survival of democracy.**

**FDR**

**June 1936**

## How Progressive Economics Creates Jobs!

For most of the past 30 years, our country has been ruled by regressive “trickle down” economics. This is the theory that giving massive tax breaks to billionaires will improve the economy as those billionaires will have more to invest and somehow this wealth will eventually trickle down to everyone else. Another major tenet of Trickle Down Economics is that “deregulation” would free up major corporations to make more profits which would also trickle down in the form of more jobs for everyone else. However, 8 years of Bush Deregulation and Trickle Down economic policies resulted in the worst crash since the Great Depression – costing middle class tax payers literally trillions of dollars in bank bail outs and reduced government revenue.

We are now faced with a true unemployment rate of more than 20% with no hope of improvement anywhere in sight. Millions of families have lost their life savings and their homes.

At the same time, the richest one percent have grown richer and richer. From 2008 to 2009, the income of the super rich grew by 500%. The share of our nation’s wealth going to the top one percent is back to what it was in 1929. (see chart).

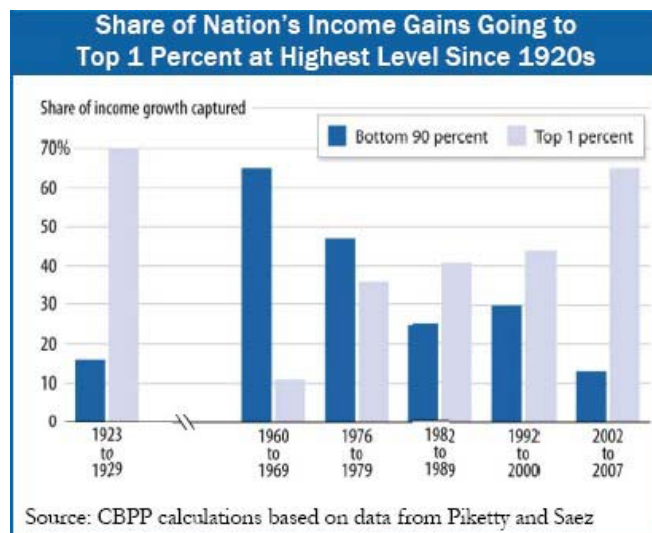
The super wealthy are not using their wealth to create jobs. Instead they are using their fortunes to buy elections for corporate candidates, control both political parties and buy corporate friendly legislation to help them grow even richer. The wealthy own nearly all forms of media and use this control to brainwash the American people into believing that government of the rich, by the rich and for the rich is a good thing. Meanwhile, our economy is on a downward death spiral in which millions more will lose their jobs and homes unless we take bold steps to reverse our economic problems.

The cure for too much regressive “trickle down” economics is progressive “bottom up” economics.

**The following are ten basic principles of Progressive bottom up economics:**

1. High employment is good. High unemployment is bad.
2. Creating competition by encouraging local small businesses is good. Allowing monopolies by large multinational corporations is bad.
3. High middle class income is good. Grossly inflated upper class income is bad.
4. Keeping investments in the US is good. Rewarding the export of jobs and capital is bad.
6. Free job training and public education is good.
6. High home ownership is good. Homelessness is bad.
7. Adequate government regulation is good. Complete deregulation of monopolies is bad.
8. A fair distribution of wealth is good. An extreme concentration of wealth is bad as it would be a return to royalty which our nation was founded to get rid of.
9. Corporate corruption and control of elections and government is bad.
10. Some important functions should never be controlled by private for profit motives. These include public education, public health, military and national defense spending.

One of the keys to winning the 2012 election is to follow in FDR’s footsteps and be able to explain clearly to the voters why Progressive Economics is the best path to economic recovery.



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