

In Florida

"I'm Concerned About:"

The passage of recent **unpopular legislation**:

- **Women's rights** (changed abortion limits from 15 weeks to 6 weeks)
- **Immigration** policy impacting businesses ability to hire workers
- Meddling with **education** (vouchers, book banning, falsely rewriting history, New College take over)
- **Guns- open carry**
- Demonizing **gay** and **trans** people
- Under the banner of "**Woke-ness**"
- Our Republican governor/legislature **ignoring** gun safety, \$15 minimum wage, Medicaid, and the environment
- The lack of **affordable housing** and the skyrocketing price of **property insurance**, which are fueling increased **rental costs**.
- Florida's severe labor shortage which is intensified by the state's anti-business/**anti-immigration** policies and legislation.
- Florida's rising rate of **inflation**, which is twice the national average.
- Our Republican governor/legislature constant **lying** and **duplicity** (understating the # Covid deaths, Trump won in 2020, Jan. 6 wasn't an insurrection, refusal to call out Trump's criminal transgressions and intimidation efforts).
- Governor DeSantis' **vindictive, petty, bullying style of politics** (Disney, firing elected officials, New College hijacking)
- The uncontrolled amount of **growth** and the lack of infrastructure (roads, schools, etc.) and its impact to FL citizens.

In Sarasota County

"I'm Concerned About:"

- The lack of **affordable housing** and the skyrocketing price of **property insurance**, fueling **increased rental costs**.
- The recent election of vaccine deniers to the **Hospital Board**, now in positions to make decisions which adversely affect public safety.
- **County Commissioners** seemingly ignoring the environmental impact and wishes of their constituents in favor of business and developer interests.
- The uncontrolled amount of **growth** without the appropriate infrastructure development (roads, schools, etc.) to support it.
- The increased **noise pollution** caused by unregulated growth, and the removal of trees and landscaping which provide natural noise barriers.
- The politicization of **school boards** being filled with radical, mean spirited, non-educators.
- The open **hostility** and lack of decorum permitted at public meetings, making discourse all but impossible.
- The yearly **red tide** events rendering our beaches unusable and the neighboring communities unsafe.
- More **traffic** increasing commute and travel times for all, caused by the county's growth, and exacerbated by returning snowbirds.



VENICE AREA
Democratic Club

Talking Points Election 2024

Issues we're concerned about:

Nationally

In Florida

In Sarasota County

Source: The Sarasota County Democratic Party
Contact the Venice Area Democratic Club at:

Tel: 941-275-3244

Email: www.vadcmembership@gmail.com

Website: www.venicedemocrats.org

Nationally "I'm Concerned About:"

- The rights of **women** being decided by others, especially women's health and reproductive issues
- Our **gun** laws & policies and how they are affecting school and citizen safety.
- Our **environmental** policies and the effects they are having on our water, weather, pollution levels, and beaches.
- The assault on **education**; privatization with limited standards, reduced public education funding, subject banning, curriculum modification trying to rewrite history, book banning, intrusiveness of the state with unneeded laws, etc.
- People believing and spreading wild **conspiracy theories** and our inability to determine the truth vs. "spin" or "fake" information.
- How we **treat each other** ... the lack of respect, the lack of tolerance, and the unwillingness to listen - which has become the norm.
- Our **elected officials** accomplishing nothing, not working together, ignoring our wishes, and passing legislation we didn't ask for, don't need, or want.
- The pervasive **lying** by politicians without consequences.
- **Fox News** and other media outlets **spewing lies, hate, and propaganda**.
- **Social media platforms** allowing the delivery of lies, hate, and propaganda by their users.
- The overall poor quality and cost of **health care**.
- The rise, acceptance - and even courtship - of right-wing **militias and hate groups** by the Republican Party.
- The **Justice system's** patently unequal treatment of the rich and/or powerful vs "others"
- The state of our **democracy**, the abandonment of our morals and values, and our lean towards authoritarianism.
- Our broken **immigration & deportation** policies and their impact on families, our resources, and businesses.
- The fairness of the outdated **Electoral College** vs. "one man, one vote" in determining the Presidency.
- The **loss of confidence in our elections** and the claim by losers that the elections were rigged.
- The increased difficulty of **voting**; we should be making it easier for people to vote, not more difficult.
- Our **gerrymandered** voting maps which allow politicians to pick their voters and rewards the most radical candidates
- The number of radicalized, fringe politicians being elected via a **broken primary system**.
- The right-wing **Supreme Court** with judges lying to get confirmed, ignoring precedent, and becoming increasingly political.
- A **Supreme Court** with no oversight, mounting ethical issues, and no recourse due to lifetime appointments.
- People having to **work 2 and 3 jobs** to barely make a living.
- The unfair treatment of black and brown people and other groups by the **police** based on **racial profiling**.
- The disproportionate **use of force by the police** based on skin color, ethnicity, or class.
- The extremely high cost of a college education and the crippling amount of resulting **student debt**.
- The rise of **crime** and the ineffective policies and methods being used to fight it.
- The **high incarceration rate** and its disproportionate application to black, brown and Hispanic people.
- The amount of **waste** and fraud rampant in Governmental programs.
- The number of **homeless** people and **mentally ill** people roaming our cities and communities.
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