TROUBLEMAKER
TRAINING

2026:
CLOSING MESSAGE

Red, Wine & Blue

THE STAKES IN 2026

We need elected leaders at all levels -- local, state and national -- who work for US, not corporations and themselves.

Number one issue: The Cost Crisis (groceries, gas, health care, child care, etc, etc, etc, etc)

Red Wine & Blue

In local races good people are running this year — so many RWB members, just regular parents who are sick of this and want to help their communities.

That's why it's so important people *vote all the way down the ballot*. School boards are how we protect our kids from book bans and fake history. City commissioners and city councils decide where data centers go.

And the people running are your neighbors!

The same way we’re demanding local and state leaders who share our values, we need to **flip the U.S. House and Senate too.**

For the past two years we've seen Trump and his allies grab power and make themselves richer -- all while raising prices and making life more difficult for us.

We get to change basically everything this year — including the ability to flip the U.S. Senate and U.S. House — and stop Trump and the extremists from making everything cost more with illegal tariffs and an unnecessary war.

Candidates we're supporting this year all have shared values: people over special interests, health care that works for everyone, protecting our water and land, and building a working economy for hard-working people

We’re up against a ton of corporate money this year — but ordinary people can do extraordinary things. If we get everyone who believes in lowering costs and protecting communities out to vote, we can beat them.

IF YOU CARE ABOUT WINNING:

- Talking to your own network of people about voting is THE most impactful thing you can do this year. Trust in this country is at an all-time low — and since people don't trust the news, or politicians, or institutions, the **only** way to reach them is with people they already know and trust. That's you!
- This year is a critical chance to gain back some power and build the communities we need to mobilize for 2028. The friend-to-friend organizing that people are doing right now is going to prepare their networks for the presidential in 2028.
- For the first time ever, RWB has voting guidance for all 50 states + DC. You can register to vote or check the status of your voter registration, request an absentee or mail-in ballot, check your state's voter deadlines and early voting dates, see who and what is on your ballot, get any other frequently asked questions about voting in your state, and if you're under 18, you can even preregister to vote!

IF YOU ARE REACHING ACROSS THE AISLE:

Americans of all political stripes are coming together more than ever because of the tremendous government overreach and spending.

Flock cameras and surveillance are invading our privacy.

Masked pseudo-law enforcement are breaking down doors and terrorizing neighborhoods — and not even going after the bad guys like they said they would.

Budgets for immigrant detention are out of control and taxpayers are footing the bill to hold people who should be out doing their jobs and caring for their families.

Data centers are threatening our water and jacking up our electricity bills — and we aren't seeing anything for it.

IF YOU ARE REACHING ACROSS THE AISLE:

This is a moment to elect leaders who will put our communities ahead of corporate profits. The amount of money being given to corporations for war and immigrant detention is not sustainable.

It may not feel like this every day, but there ARE Republicans who are breaking away from Trump and blocking some of his agenda. We need to encourage more Republicans and Democrats to stand up to Trump and work together to start moving bills through Congress that actually help us (like lowering costs and protecting our privacy).

IF YOU'RE TALKING DATA CENTERS/FLOCK:

That's why it is so critical to vote all the way down the ballot. City and County Commissioners are often the ones who decide what goes in your backyard. If you care about protecting your community, voting for these local offices is critical.

THE PIVOT:

> I share your concern,
> that’s why I support...

BOTH PARTIES ARE THE SAME:

I hear you, that’s why I’m so excited about the normal people running this year — so many RWB members, just regular parents who are sick of this and want to help their communities. That’s why it’s so important people vote all the way down the ballot. School boards are how we protect our kids from book bans and fake history. City commissioners and city councils decide where data centers go. And the people running are your neighbors!

TRUMP/DC/NATIONAL SCANDAL:

> I hear you, national politics is so divisive/sad/frightening — that's why it's so important people know what's going on locally and vote all the way down the ballot. School boards are how we protect our kids from book bans and fake history. City commissioners and city councils decide where data centers go. We need everyone voting for those offices, no matter how they feel about Trump or DC.

BAD CANDIDATE PUSHBACK:

When you have a choice between two people, and both have disappointed you, you vote for the one who will listen when you yell at them. Extremists will never care if regular people are mad at them — they're bankrolled entirely by out-of-state corporate interests, and that's who they listen to. They don't care if we protest. Our candidate relies on regular people like us in order to succeed, and that is a far more powerful place to be.

I hear you, that's why I'm worried this is going to hurt our communities even more — by stopping people from voting farther down the ballot. School boards are how we protect our kids from book bans and fake history. City commissioners and city councils decide where data centers go. We need everyone voting for those offices, no matter how they feel about this one race.

CALL! TO! ACTION!

- Make a plan to vote! How and when do you plan to vote? If you have a plan, you're way more likely to get it done.
- Go as early as possible, life happens. If your state allows early voting, take advantage.
- Bring a friend or 5! When you make your plan to vote, why not make it vote then brunch? Then you know 5 people are casting their ballots (and having fun).