

Sanders: Harris Lost After Democrats “Abandoned Working Class People”

Sharon Zhang : 6-8 minutes : 11/7/2024

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vermont) has slammed the Democratic Party for running a “disastrous campaign” in the 2024 presidential election that he says sidelined the working class and the major issues they face in order to maintain a crumbling status quo.

In a [scathing statement](#) released on Wednesday, Sanders said that Vice President Kamala Harris’s loss lies squarely on a Democratic apparatus that refuses to acknowledge the actual issues driving voters — and that will also refuse to change for the better despite this year’s historic walloping at the polls, with the party slated to lose not only the White House, but also the Senate and potentially the House.

“It should come as no great surprise that a Democratic Party which has abandoned working class people would find that the working class has abandoned them,” said Sanders. “While the Democratic leadership defends the status quo, the American people are angry and want change. And they’re right.”

Sanders pointed to major issues like [the record-high wealth gap](#), the explosion in damaging technology like artificial intelligence, and the lack of universal health care or even guaranteed paid sick and family leave as issues basically completely sidelined by Democrats.

He also called out Democrats for their relentless support of Israel’s genocide in Gaza, and for shoveling billions in military assistance to Israeli forces as they slaughter Palestinians en masse.

Worst of all, he said, Democrats will not identify these as the real issues tanking support for their party. Rather, they will stick to unpopular, losing strategies and capitulate to the moneyed interests that have handed control to Donald Trump and his fascist coterie.

“Will the big money interests and well-paid consultants who control the Democratic Party learn any real lessons from this disastrous campaign? Will they understand the pain and political alienation that tens of millions of Americans are experiencing? Do they have any ideas as to how we can take on the increasingly powerful Oligarchy which has so much economic and political power?” he asked.

“Probably not,” Sanders concluded, asking followers to “stay tuned.”

Indeed, in the aftermath of the election — which Trump [won after having swept every swing state](#) — liberal commentators breathlessly said that [the Harris campaign](#) was run “flawlessly.” Liberal *CNN* panelists even suggested that part of the loss can be attributed to Harris and the Democrats [not being supportive](#) enough of Israel, a patently absurd statement considering the Biden administration’s and Harris’s full-throated sponsorship of the genocide.

Many liberals suggested that Democrats’ [embrace of far right policies](#) and politicians this election didn’t go far enough, and that, [in fact](#), Democrats should [shift even further](#) to the right to win support in the future.

There is no evidence supporting this theory. Rather, [the opposite is true](#): [Polls repeatedly showed](#) that Harris would gain significant support from voters if she embraced more left-leaning policies like expanding Medicare, taxing the wealthy, raising the minimum wage and [enforcing an arms embargo to Israel](#). Meanwhile, policies championed by progressives like Bernie Sanders, [including universal](#)

health care, remain extremely popular.

Truthout Is Preparing to Meet Trump's Agenda With Resistance at Every Turn

Dear *Truthout* Community,

If you feel rage, despondency, confusion and deep fear today, you are not alone. We're feeling it too. We are heartsick. Facing down Trump's fascist agenda, we are desperately worried about the most vulnerable people among us, including our loved ones and everyone in the *Truthout* community, and our minds are racing a million miles a minute to try to map out all that needs to be done.

We must give ourselves space to grieve and feel our fear, feel our rage, and keep in the forefront of our mind the stark truth that millions of real human lives are on the line. And simultaneously, we've got to get to work, take stock of our resources, and prepare to throw ourselves full force into the movement.

Journalism is a linchpin of that movement. **Even as we are reeling, we're summoning up all the energy we can to face down what's coming, because we know that one of the sharpest weapons against fascism is publishing the truth.**

There are many terrifying planks to the Trump agenda, and we plan to devote ourselves to reporting thoroughly on each one and, crucially, covering the movements resisting them. We also recognize that Trump is a dire threat to journalism itself, and that we must take this seriously from the outset.

Last week, the four of us sat down to have some hard but necessary conversations about *Truthout* under a Trump presidency. How would we defend our publication from an avalanche of far right lawsuits that seek to bankrupt us? How would we keep our reporters safe if they need to cover outbreaks of political violence, or if they are targeted by authorities? How will we urgently produce the practical analysis, tools and movement coverage that you need right now — breaking through our normal routines to meet a terrifying moment in ways that best serve you?

It will be a tough, scary four years to produce social justice-driven journalism. **We need to deliver news, strategy, liberatory ideas, tools and movement-sparking solutions with a force that we never have had to before.** And at the same time, we desperately need to protect our ability to do so.

We know this is such a painful moment and donations may understandably be the last thing on your mind. But we must ask for your support, which is needed in a new and urgent way.

We promise we will kick into an even higher gear to give you truthful news that cuts against the disinformation and vitriol and hate and violence. We promise to publish analyses that will serve the needs of the movements we all rely on to survive the next four years, and even build for the future. We promise to be responsive, to recognize you as members of our community with a vital stake and voice in this work.

Please dig deep if you can, but a donation of any amount will be a truly meaningful and tangible action in this cataclysmic historical moment.

We're with you. Let's do all we can to move forward together.

With love, rage, and solidarity,

Maya, Negin, Saima, and Ziggy