Dessa Shapiro

Period 3

8/4/22

Article response

Answer the following questions.

**1. Note FOUR things you read that you found shocking or upsetting. These must be about four different topics.**

The first thing that shocked me in this article were the statements about the pregnent 10 year old girl who was raped. A lot of rupublicans said a lot of horrable things, but the one that stood out the most was State Representative Gary Click who is a far right pro life rebpulican who wants to bann all abortion despite the circumstances, unless the mothers life is in clear danger. When asked about the girl's story “suspicious” and fitting it perfectly with the pro choice agenda. Despite the clear evidence of this terrible, disturbing thing happening. It was also shocking to see some other peoples responses, saying that it is actually a gift that this happened, or an “opportunity for the child.”

Another thing that shocked me was the law just passed related to transgender students in female sports teams. A law that only allows students born with female genitalia are allowed to participate in sports teams interscholastic conferences. It allows for a mandatory genital inspection if anyone questions their gender in this scenario. I honestly think this law is terrifying. It negates people's identities and basic human rights, and is entirely unconstitutional.

I was shocked about all of the bills passed regarding education mentioned in this story. One being about theaching kids about the holocaust. The bill says that teachers should teach kids about the Holocaust from both sides, and to look at the events through the perspective of a german solider and see the benifits of that side. The offical proposing this bill also seemed to be totally misinformed about the Holocaust, saying it only affected a few hundered thousand instead of millions. Showing how unqualified and uneducated some of these lawmakers are. It concerns me, and should concern everyone that the people in charge are acting and thinking like this.

I was surprised by a study done, that showed of the 7,383 people who served in the state legislatures in 2021-2022 875 were part of far right facebook groups and shared ideas that “Christians constitute a core of the American citizenry and/or that government and public policies should be reshaped to reflect that.” many of these people helped to block the Ohio fairness act, which would have barred housing and emplyment discrimination against the LGBTQ community.

**2. According to David Pepper, what caused what he calls "the Republican attack on democracy"?**

According to David Pepper “the Republican attack on democracy” started with Obama's victory in 2008. He says the election ofAmericas first black president “provoked racial backlash” and many white republican officials panicked because the majority of their party was white. So as to not be overtaken they worked to capture the state legislatures in the 2010 midterm elections. And used elections so they would be able to control drawing the districts.

**3. What was surprising about the Ohio election of 2012?**

The Ohio election of 2021 was surprising because even though the general population did not agree with a lot of the bills and government actions being passed, they had no say because republicans had a veto-proof supermajority in office. This allows the republican representative almost total control of the state government since the democrats did not have enough people to mount any resistance. An example being when a “heartbeet law was passed” despite only around 39% of the population agreeing with the law.

**4. What is David Pepper's main concern?**

Pepper's main concern is that Democrats will continue to ignore statehouses and will let them be overcome with extremists who are able to manipulate the system using gerrymandering and other tactics to win elections and bills. Eventually causing a complete takeover of our democratic system, and taking the power away from the population.

**5. "...the Ohio constitution now requires that districts be shaped so that the makeup of the General Assembly is proportional to the political makeup of the state." Why hasn't this happened?**

This hasn't happened because they have been ignored. Both the Ohio state assembly and senate are controlled by a republican majority. So the Republican members drafted a new district map without telling anyone earlier in the year. They presented it to the Democrat just hours before a deadline. The districts in the map were not proportional to the state’s political makeup. The Democrats argued that the Republicans had flagrantly violated the reforms that had been written into the state constitution. They took it to the Ohio Supreme Court and they couldn't come to an agreement. The deadline was coming up so the republican took it to federal court and won.