



Speak Out Now

November 10, 2025 baltimore@speakoutsocialists.org speakoutsocialists.org IG:@sonbaltimore

Elections Aren't Enough – Democrats Won't Defend Us

Since Trump's election, the Democrats have tried to appear as an opposition to Trump and the Republicans. But it was the Democrat's defense of the billionaires at the expense of working people that helped bring Trump to power. And now, after last week's elections, the Democrats are trying to paint their election victories as another blow against Trump. But this isn't true.

The Democrats won the elections for governor in New Jersey and Virginia. They won California's redistricting ballot measure, Proposition 50, which gave the Democrats new electoral maps that dilute the votes of prior Republican-dominated districts to favor the Democrats. And in New York City, Democrat Zohran Mamdani was elected mayor after running a popular campaign promising lower rent, free buses, cheaper groceries, and affordable childcare while calling himself a Democratic Socialist.

For the most part, the Democrats won because many people wanted a way to vote against Trump and voice their opposition to his policies. They are already trying to use these moderate victories to further channel people's anger into the 2026 midterm elections, when they promise they will finally be able to put a stop to Trump's agenda. The reality is, the Democrats certainly oppose many of Trump's policies in words, but they defend the same class of billionaires and have the same priorities. Just look at the end to the recent government shutdown, where Democrats dragged out negotiations for weeks, only to cave at the last minute with no guarantees on extending health insurance subsidies, the one thing they said they were defending.

By passing Prop 50 in California, now the Democrats will have more power in the state to pass more of the same policies they've passed for decades. They refuse to tax the wealthiest to pay for affordable housing, education, or healthcare. Instead, they continuously cut funding for education, for health care subsidies for the poor, and they criminalize the homeless population. Despite Newsom's posture against Trump using federal troops in Los Angeles, Newsom was the one who called out the National Guard against protestors back in 2020 during large protests against the murder of George Floyd. And now we're supposed to feel relieved that the Democrats have redrawn the electoral map to favor themselves? This won't help working people.

And there's the election of Mamdani, who has made some appealing promises to the working class of New York.

Who wouldn't want affordable housing, childcare and free buses in the most expensive city in the country? Despite all of the opposition from Republicans, the Democratic Party leadership, and most of the wealthy elite who dominate the city of Wall Street, Mamdani still won, with the highest voter turnout in 56 years. Certainly Mamdani's promises are a welcome relief compared to the usual message from politicians. But this wouldn't be the first time a politician has made big promises only to carry out business as usual once in office. What will make this time any different?

Ultimately, for many of Mamdani's promises to be carried out, it is going to come down to what the working class of New York City is willing to fight for. There will be a lot of opposition to his promises coming from both parties and the super-rich of New York City. Mamdani and his cabinet alone are not enough to stand up to this. It will depend on the masses of working-class New Yorkers and their ability to organize to defend their interests themselves.

The Democrats want us to believe that they have all the power to make the changes we need if we simply vote them in. The reality is, they have never done that. Every time they've been in office, especially at the state and federal level, they carry out business as usual and defend this system and its priorities. The Democrats have also cut social programs to favor the wealthy, targeted immigrants, sent federal troops to put down protests, given trillions of dollars to banks and corporations, skyrocketed military spending, and much more. They too, like the Republicans, prioritize the interests of corporations and their profits at the expense of the rest of us, even as the cost of living keeps skyrocketing. Ultimately, they may condemn Trump's authoritarianism and claim they can stop it, but they defend the same system that allows it to grow in the first place.

So the way forward can't just be waiting for the next election and hoping Democrats will save us. We've been down that road too many times. Real power comes from ordinary people organizing ourselves — at work, in schools, in our neighborhoods, and standing together and refusing to accept these attacks. We can't rely on either party to fight for us. We have to build that power ourselves. Only then can we stop the attacks from Trump and the Democrats, who both defend this system. And only then can we fight for a future where our lives and needs actually come first.

SNAP Cuts Show We Can't Rely on Politicians to Keep Us Alive

The Trump administration has tried to use the government shutdown to keep the 42 million people legally entitled to SNAP food stamp benefits from receiving them. And the administration has tried to blame the Democrats.

In Maryland more than 680,000 people receive benefits, including about a quarter of Baltimore city households. Democrats, like Governor Wes Moore, are using this crisis to paint themselves as heroes by committing to paying 50% of SNAP benefits for November.

Both parties are playing politics with the hunger of tens of millions. And the government policy on this seems to be changing every day, only adding to peoples' confusion and anxiety.

Everyone should have stable access to basic necessities, like our groceries, which should not be used as political gimmicks. Neither party is interested in protecting us without ulterior motives. We need to organize independently of them to get what we deserve.

Baltimore County Sells Out Immigrants

The Baltimore County government is now officially friends with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Under a policy implemented informally last year, the county has been notifying ICE when they detain someone in the county jail who ICE may want to arrest. They also offer to hold the person for an additional 48 hours so ICE has time to come and get them. After fear of losing federal funding for being too friendly to immigrants, Baltimore County formalized these policies in a signed agreement with ICE last month. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) says none of these practices are required by law and some of them are unconstitutional.

County Executive Kathy Klausmeier and other county politicians are showing us that they have no intention of standing up to Trump's reign of terror on immigrants. It's clear that we can only rely on ourselves to stand together and keep each other safe!

We live in the wealthiest country in the world, and it is our labor that has created all of this wealth. We aren't the ones who benefit from this. The super rich — the bosses of the big corporations and banks — keep the wealth and make all the decisions. Working people do the work that makes society run, and we can organize to unite our forces. When we do, we have enormous power to change things and make a better world.

Narcan: Helpful, But Not a Solution

The city government has started putting naloxone dispensing boxes in Metro stations. They say they will also put them on the light rail and bus systems. Naloxone, also known as Narcan, is a drug that can reverse symptoms of overdoses.

Hopefully, this will reduce the impact of overdoses and save lives. But it will not address in any way the causes of drug addictions, including systemic racism, poverty, unaffordable housing, lack of jobs, and so much else. All of these things are preventable, but ordinary people need to organize ourselves to fight in our own interests, not leave it to politicians who claim to represent us. Are we getting Naloxone at transit stops now because the politicians were embarrassed by three recent mass overdose events in the city?

BPD Keeps Up Its Violent Rampage on Black Baltimore

In a viral video, a Baltimore cop aggressively tried to use his car to run down a young Black man. In Park Heights on October 30, white officer Robert Parks tried to talk to the man, and when he chose to walk away, Parks got in his car, sped through an alley and into a park, clearly trying to hit the man, before crashing into a fence. Parks was not pursuing the man for any violent crime, but for allegedly not appearing in court for a driving violation.

Two weeks after the incident, Parks was charged with attempted murder. But this is part of a pattern: the Baltimore Police Department is known for their violence and brutality. This is not the first time a Baltimore cop has tried to use a car as a deadly weapon with little provocation. Cops like Parks are the front line for enforcing the white supremacist system of this society.

Speak Out Socialists Public Meeting

WE WILL NOT PAY FOR THEIR CRISIS!

The chaos of Trump's policies serve as a cover for the increase of wealth being transferred from the working class to the rich. Join us for a discussion with economist Clara Mattei.

THE COMPOUND SUNDAY, NOV 16 @ 7PM
2239 KIRK AVENUE, DOORS OPEN 6:30PM
BALTIMORE (\$5 DONATION)

CAN'T JOIN IN PERSON? JOIN ON ZOOM: [TINYURL.COM/SON-TH](https://tinyurl.com/son-th)