



The Phyllis Schlafly Report

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Why Trump Keeps Winning

President Trump's accomplishments have been drowned out in the media by their obsession with Russia and the investigation by special counsel Robert Mueller. When combined with the lack of significant action by Congress, it's easy to think the Trump agenda is stalled.

In fact, the Trump Administration has continued to carry out the policies Trump campaigned on. Here are a few examples of progress on Trump's signature issues of immigration, jobs, and trade.

On June 15, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary John F. Kelly rescinded the Obama amnesty known as DAPA that had been ruled illegal by the federal courts. DAPA would have legalized about 4 million people solely because they were parents of anchor babies.

Some wondered why the earlier Obama-nesty called DACA wasn't rescinded at the same time, but Kelly's statement included a veiled warning about that, too. In a little-noticed footnote, Kelly warned that "deferred action, as an act of prosecutorial discretion, may only be granted on a case-by-case basis" — not the wholesale legalization of 700,000 so-called Dreamers.

On June 19, DHS announced that the government is finally ready to deploy a method of tracking whether visitors leave the United States. That's been the missing piece to determine if people who arrive on temporary visas actually leave when they're supposed to.

It's been more than 20 years since Congress ordered the government to install an entry-exit tracking system, but the last three administrations (Clinton, Bush and Obama) failed to get it done. As a result, millions of people checked into our country under the pretense of a temporary visit and never checked out. Last month, the DHS inspector general

reported on a massive backlog of 1.2 million expired visa cases. Some 416,500 people overstayed their visas in 2015, but only 2,456 were deported that year.

Donald Trump promised to remove the "bad hombres" from our country, and he is carrying out that promise. Arrests and deportations of criminal aliens, including members of the MS-13 gang based in Central America, were up 38 percent in the first 100 days, compared with the last year of the Obama administration.

Part of the reason is simply the new tone set from the top. When Attorney General Jeff Sessions visited the border at Nogales, Arizona in April, he forthrightly declared: "This is a new era. This is the Trump era."

Federal law enforcement, however, is meeting resistance from Democratic state and local officials. Their commitment to a policy of sanctuary for illegal aliens is illustrated by two recent crimes in the Washington, D.C. area: the rape of a 14-year-old Hispanic girl in a public school bathroom in Rockville, Maryland, and the brutal murder of a 17-year-old Muslim girl in Reston, Virginia.

The sex attack in the school bathroom caused an uproar until it was revealed that the two attackers came from Guatemala and El Salvador as part of the wave of more than 100,000 unaccompanied minors who illegally crossed our southern border in 2014. Then the local prosecutor found an excuse to drop charges against the young men.

The murder of the Virginia girl as she was leaving a mosque during Ramadan was initially described as an Islamophobic hate crime. After it was revealed that the accused is an illegal immigrant from El Salvador, who killed the girl by beating her with a metal baseball bat, police demoted the crime to road rage.

Some critics gloated that Trump was blocked from building the wall he promised on our southern border when Congress refused to appropriate the money. In fact, advance work on the wall is under way. The media found a few private landowners near the border who say they don't want their property used for a wall, but the government already owns or controls the most vulnerable 700 miles of the 1,954-mile border. Only 36 of those miles have the barrier required by the Secure Fence Act of 2006, which then-Senators Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton voted for.

On jobs and trade, since cancelling the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) in his first week in office, President Trump has taken a number of steps to use his presidential trade powers to put America first. Trump's Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer are not afraid of being accused of "starting a trade war." As Secretary Ross recently told the *Wall Street Journal*, the United States has been in a trade war since the end of World War Two, and it's time we started fighting to win.

Trump also served notice that he's willing to cite "national security" as a basis for better trade agreements, as current law allows. Finally we have a president who recognizes that our national security is threatened by opening floodgates to unlimited imports of manufactured goods from countries that generally do not buy our exports.

Despite Record Reporting Bias, Trump's Base Remains Solid

A recent Harvard study confirms that there has been record-breaking reporting bias against President Donald Trump. An astounding 80% of the stories about Trump by the mainstream media during his first 100 days in office were negative. The real story, however, is how Trump's base remains

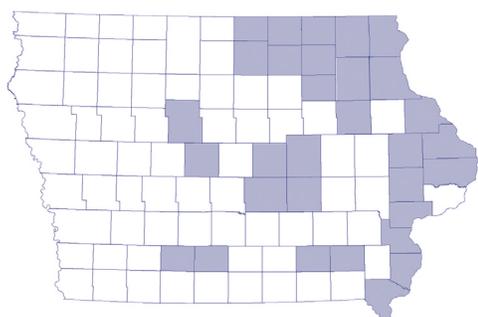
solid, unfazed by the persistent media negativity. For many of Trump's supporters, the unrelenting bias against him simply confirms the nature of the problem facing America.

The D.C. swamp and its allies in the media "doth protest too much," to borrow Shakespeare's famous expression from *Hamlet*. Their hysteria against Trump underscores the urgency for someone to stand up against the entrenched interests in D.C. This unfolding battle reinforces how our country needs someone strong enough to get the job done against all odds. "At least 7 dead and 48 wounded in terror attack and Mayor of London says there is 'no reason to be alarmed!'" Trump tweeted in response to the June 3 massacre on London Bridge.

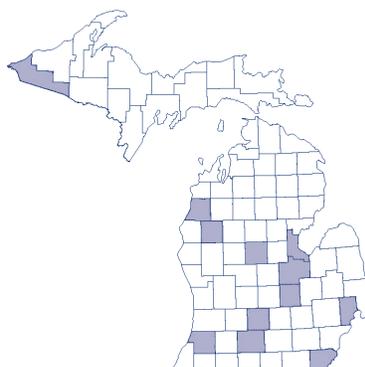
After the press criticized Trump all day Monday, June 5th, for his early-morning tweets in support of the travel ban, by evening Trump demonstrated that he was undeterred by comments from the peanut gallery. He came out swinging with another tweet after hours: "That's right, we need a TRAVEL BAN for certain DANGEROUS countries, not some politically correct term that won't help us protect our people!"

Oh, how refreshing it is to have a president who does not kowtow to the liberal media and the D.C. establishment who think they run our country. Trump is fighting to win on his travel ban, and on many other issues near and dear to the hearts of average Americans. Sarah Huckabee Sanders, the White House press secretary, was splendid in fielding hostile questions from the press about President Trump's repeated use of Twitter. "I think it's a very important tool for him to be able to utilize," she added.

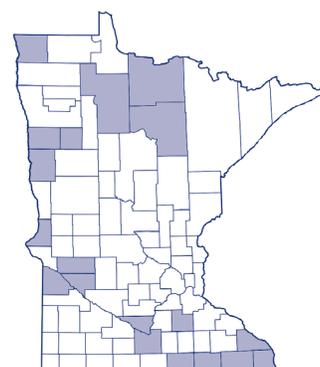
An important reason why Phyllis Schlafly enthusiastically supported Donald Trump for president was because, in her words, "He has fight in him."



Iowa – 31 Pivot Counties



Michigan – 12 Pivot Counties



Minnesota – 19 Pivot Counties

Nearly every day he proves that to be true, as with his tweets in support of a ban on travelers from terrorism-associated countries. Not since Ronald Reagan have we had a conservative president like Trump who “has fight in him” to stand up for the security and prosperity of ordinary Americans.

The ‘Pivot Counties’ Where Trump Won

There are 206 counties that voted for Obama twice (in 2008 and 2012) but then voted for Trump in 2016. Ballotpedia calls them the “Pivot Counties.” Voters in the Pivot Counties cast a total of 7.5 million votes in 2016, which comprised 5.5% of the electorate and provided the margin of difference for Trump to prevail.

Some 34 states contain at least one Pivot County. The six states with highest proportion of Pivot Counties are Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, New York and Maine. Other states with important Pivot Counties are Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Illinois.

The Allott twins, Daniel and Jordan, are visiting these Pivot Counties as a project for the *Washington Examiner*. Their work illustrates that Trump’s most important support is not from the stereotypical rich white males as Trump’s detractors pretend.

Last month Daniel Allott released his analysis of Robeson County, North Carolina, which switched from voting for Obama in both of his elections to voting for Trump last November. It is the state’s largest county in area, and was one of the six Pivot Counties in North Carolina that swung from blue to red (Democrat to Republican), thereby enabling Trump to carry a state he was predicted to lose.

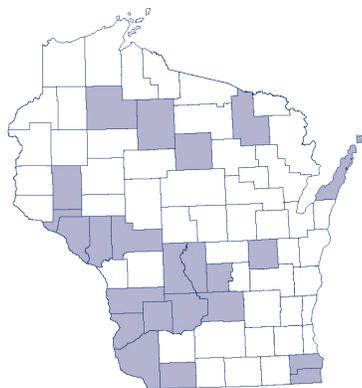
Obama had carried Robeson County by a landslide margin of 17 points in 2012, but then Trump carried it by 4 points in 2016. That’s a 21-point swing in just four years.

Like many of the Pivot Counties, Robeson County suffers from poverty and what Daniel Allott calls “cultural despair.” Prior to Trump, a Republican presidential candidate had not won the county since 1972. With a population only 29% white, Robeson County is one of the most “diverse” counties in the entire United States: roughly 38% Indian (Native American), 24% black or African-American, and 7% Hispanic. It has been devastated by the loss of manufacturing jobs, and its average income is only \$30,000 today, far less than the national average.

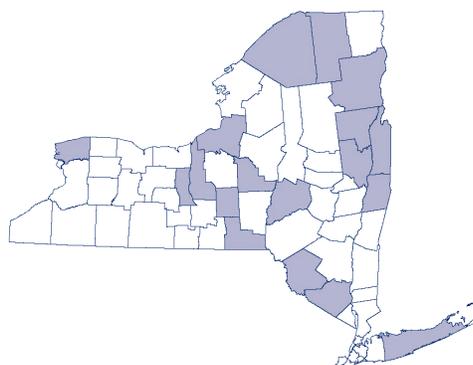
Western Pennsylvania is the region perhaps most crucial to the presidential election in 2020, as the prize of 20 electoral college votes from that state is difficult to make up elsewhere. When it became apparent that Trump had won Pennsylvania last November, the keys to the White House were his.

Trump’s popularity in Western Pennsylvania has even increased amid all the media-bashing of his presidency. Given that Democrats have an advantage of nearly one million registered voters more than Republicans in Pennsylvania, it is phenomenal that Trump does so well there as a Republican, and Trump’s approval rating has even improved significantly there since he took office.

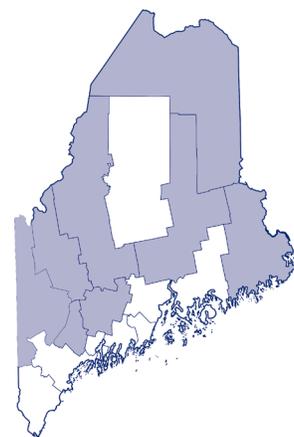
An ABC News/*Washington Post* poll found that 96% of Trump voters would cast their ballots for him again, while only 85% of Hillary voters would. The more Trump is unfairly disparaged by the elite, the more his supporters rightly stand by their man.



Wisconsin – 23 Pivot Counties



New York – 18 Pivot Counties



Maine – 8 Pivot Counties

Supreme Victory by Trump at High Court

“Very grateful for the 9-0 decision from the U.S. Supreme Court. We must keep America SAFE!” Trump tweeted in celebration of the biggest victory by a president in the Supreme Court in a generation. Every Supreme Court Justice, liberal or conservative, Democrat or Republican, voted to uphold the essence of President Trump’s executive order keeping dangerous foreigners from entering our country.

Not one Justice endorsed the allegation that Trump somehow violated the First Amendment by discriminating against Muslim visitors from Syria, Somalia, and other dangerous countries. The Supreme Court decision notably omitted giving any credence to the psychobabble about Trump’s supposed “animus” towards Muslims.

This is a stunning reversal of fortune for the Left not seen since Election night. The American Civil Liberties Union, which had publicly threatened President Trump to “see you in court,” saw its dreams of judicial activism go up in smoke as the activist rulings by lower federal courts were effectively nullified. All nine Justices on the High Court joined a *per curiam* opinion striking down the essence of the rulings against Trump by the Fourth and Ninth Circuit Courts.

Trump’s prediction that he would win before the Supreme Court came true, just as many of his other predictions have been fulfilled despite media insistence otherwise. “The interest in preserving national security is an urgent objective of the highest order,” the Court wrote in its unsigned order, using tweet-like cogency that President Trump himself might have sent to his 32 million-strong audience on Twitter.

The story line from the media had been that President Trump’s tweets would hurt his court case, which reached the U.S. Supreme Court with an expedited briefing schedule. When asked if Trump’s tweets had been vetted by an attorney, White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders unapologetically replied, “Not that I’m aware of.” The President of the United States should not have to clear his comments with an attorney before speaking directly to the American people.

Less than a year ago, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg made a series of off-the-cuff remarks critical of Trump, calling him a “faker” and even musing that she might “move to New Zealand” if he

were elected. No one suggested then that Ginsburg’s comments should have been vetted by the Chief Justice before she spoke.

The same people who gave Ginsburg a pass for her intemperate remarks about Trump when he was a candidate are now saying that as President of the United States, Trump should be more careful how he says things. Trump should be free to share his views with the American people whom he represents as our duly elected president.

The High Court ruling was a welcome comeuppance to the activist judges who had blocked the so-called “travel ban” against immigration by potential terrorists. The Supreme Court never used the phrase “travel ban,” because Trump merely suspended for 90 days the entry of foreigners from six countries associated with terrorism. As Trump explained while campaigning, a suspension makes sense “until our country’s representatives can figure out what is going on” with the radical Muslims who commit terrorist attacks against innocent citizens.

This unanimous Court decision authorizes President Trump to suspend travel from the six countries associated with terrorism by “foreign nationals who lack any bona fide relationship with a person or entity in the United States.” The “bona fide relationship” must be significant, the Court explained. “For individuals, a close familial relationship is required.”

Three of the Supreme Court Justices wrote separately to say that Trump should have been given even more leeway to exclude dangerous aliens. This group included recently-confirmed Justice Neil Gorsuch, who joined a strong opinion written by Justice Clarence Thomas in favor of Trump.

Headlines failed to give Trump credit for his landslide victory, and instead spoke in terms of the Supreme Court scheduling these cases for fuller consideration during its next term, which begins in October. But the Court ruling means that the essence of Trump’s Executive Order will go into effect almost immediately.

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