

Editorial

The Winners and Losers on Nov. 7

It is now clear that the decisive margin of victory for the Democratic Party on Nov. 7 was a surge of votes from two categories of Americans: Youth between the ages of 18-25 and “young Tweeners” between the ages of 25-35. The significance of the youth vote, which increased from 8 million in the last midterm elections in 2002, to over 10 million this year, as the decisive margin of “landslide victory” for the Democrats, particularly in the House of Representatives, has not been missed.

Lyndon LaRouche, giving a webcast speech before an audience in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 16, rightly took a lion’s share of credit—along with the LaRouche Youth Movement—for energizing that outpouring of millions of young voters. One critical aspect of that LaRouche-led mass-outreach mobilization, was the fact that the climate of terror, building up on most university campuses today, was broken, by a pointed intervention of the LYM, directed against an alphabet soup of front groups, all emanating, ultimately, from the inner circles of Lynne Cheney, the wife of the Vice President and a leader of the “New McCarthyism.”

First, as Chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities (1986-93), and later as the co-founder, with Sen. Joe Lieberman (D-Conn.) of the American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA), Lynne Cheney has led a witch-hunt against academics who dared to challenge Straussian and neo-conservative dogma. After 9/11, Lynne Cheney’s ACTA declared war on academia, for failing to fall in lock-step behind her husband’s so-called “Global War on Terror,” in league with Wall Street Anglophile right-winger John Train and ex-Stalinist David Horowitz. Among the “bottom feeders” in the Lynne Cheney-directed right-wing assault on academic freedom, one finds the Ayn Rand Institute, led by a former Israeli military intelligence officer named Yoran Brook, who openly promotes the mass extermination of Muslims.

Beyond the well-known right-wing losers on Nov. 7, another group of equally enraged losers must also be identified: those self-professed Democrats—including Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean and his putative rivals in the Democratic Leader-

ship Council—who sought a *narrow* victory, which would preserve the ultimate power of their Wall Street “angels” such as Felix Rohatyn and George Soros.

For these Democrats, the idea that American politics has been now recast as a genuine battle for the future of the nation and mankind, is hardly good news. Young voters, who turned out to defeat everything that the Bush-Cheney team and their Congressional rubber-stampers stood for, are not beholden to check-book politics—especially of the variety promoted by Wall Street thieves like Rohatyn and Soros. They know that, unless there is a dramatic shift in policy, top down, their future stinks. They are not living in a fantasy world of the upper 10% of family-income brackets.

If they are still attending university, they know that they are going to walk out of those sacred halls with a piece of paper that will not guarantee them productive employment—and with tens of thousands of dollars in debt. If they are in the “young Tweener” category, they are already, for the most part, living the hell of a shrinking economy, with fewer and fewer productive job opportunities and soaring costs of housing, food, and health care.

They also know—unlike the post-World War II Baby-Boomer generation—that they are going to be around for a long time. They have upwards of 50 years of productive life ahead of them, and they know they are inheriting a world of shrunken production, collapsing opportunities, and widening disparity between the handful of “haves” and the legions of “have-nots.”

The midterm election, thus, represents a potential dramatic phase-shift in American politics, one that goes far beyond the transfer of power from a Republican to a Democratic Congressional majority. Electoral historians will, hopefully, write of the 2006 elections as the end of the era of check-book politics, and the revival of mass politics, in the best, republican sense of the word.

In a post-election dialogue with leaders of his youth movement, LaRouche emphasized that the immediate mission ahead is to maintain the momentum of the newly energized youth constituency, to secure that change in the political direction of our nation.