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Block ఆ

Left Strategy in the MAGA Era



BLOCK

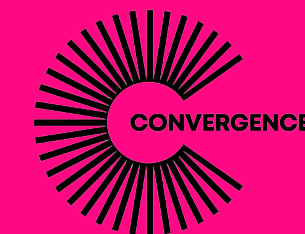
MAGA's drive
for full power.

BUILD

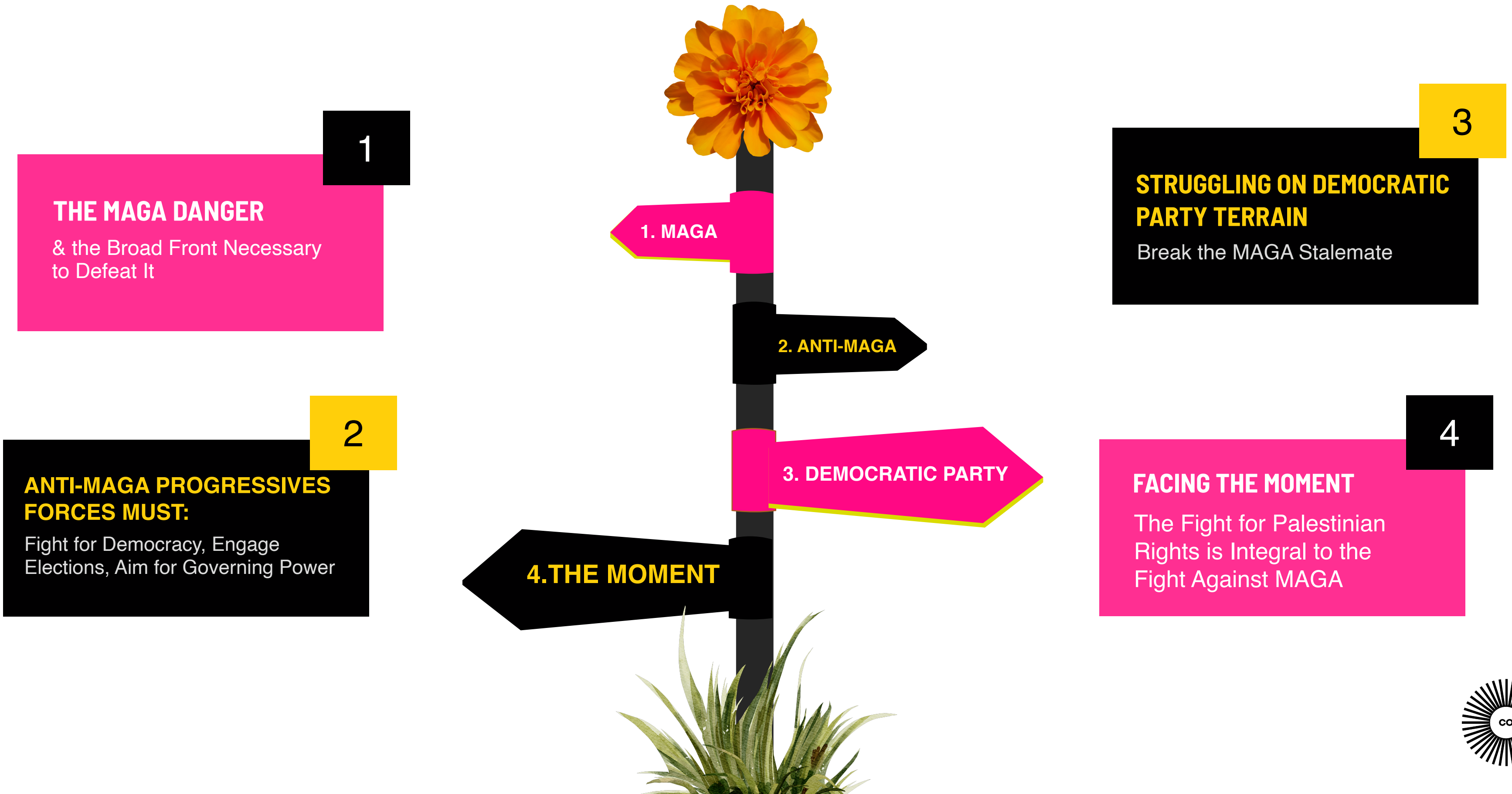
the strength & unity of the
social justice forces.

START

A new progressive cycle
in US politics.



THE CURRICULUM OVERVIEW: KEY COMPONENTS





THE MAGA DANGER

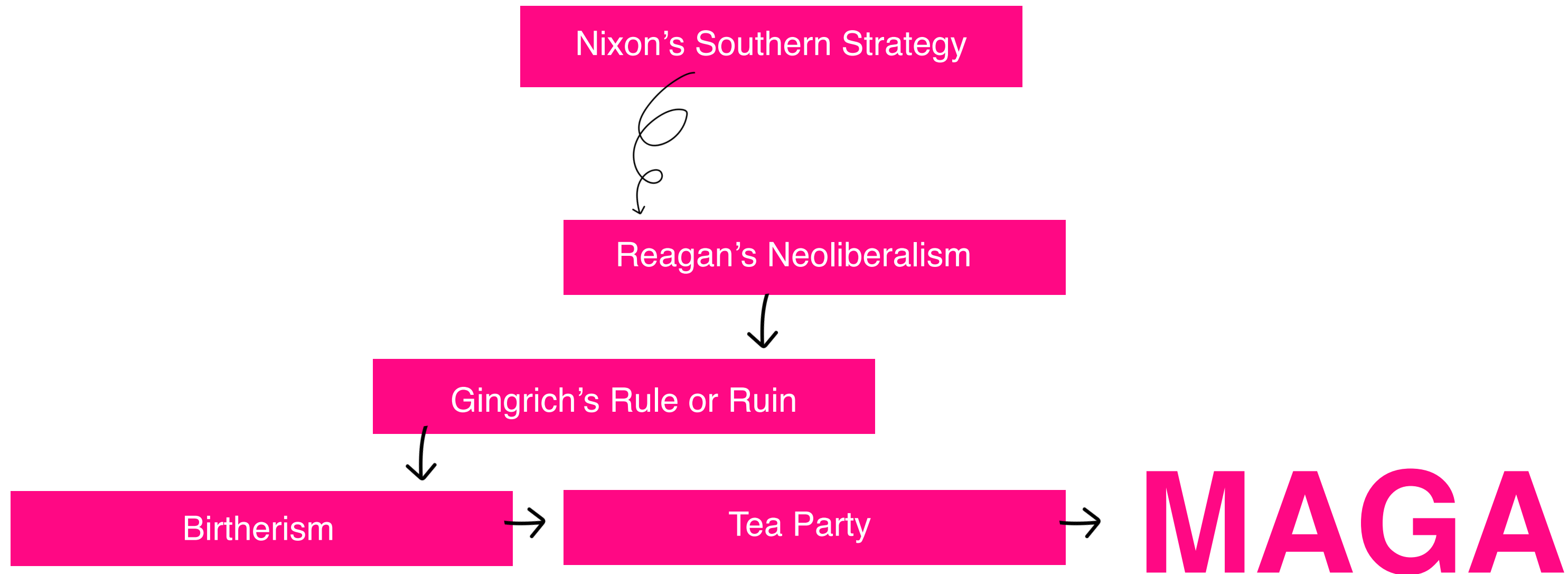


The main dynamic shaping US politics today is MAGA's drive to impose authoritarian rule & a white Christian Nationalist agenda.

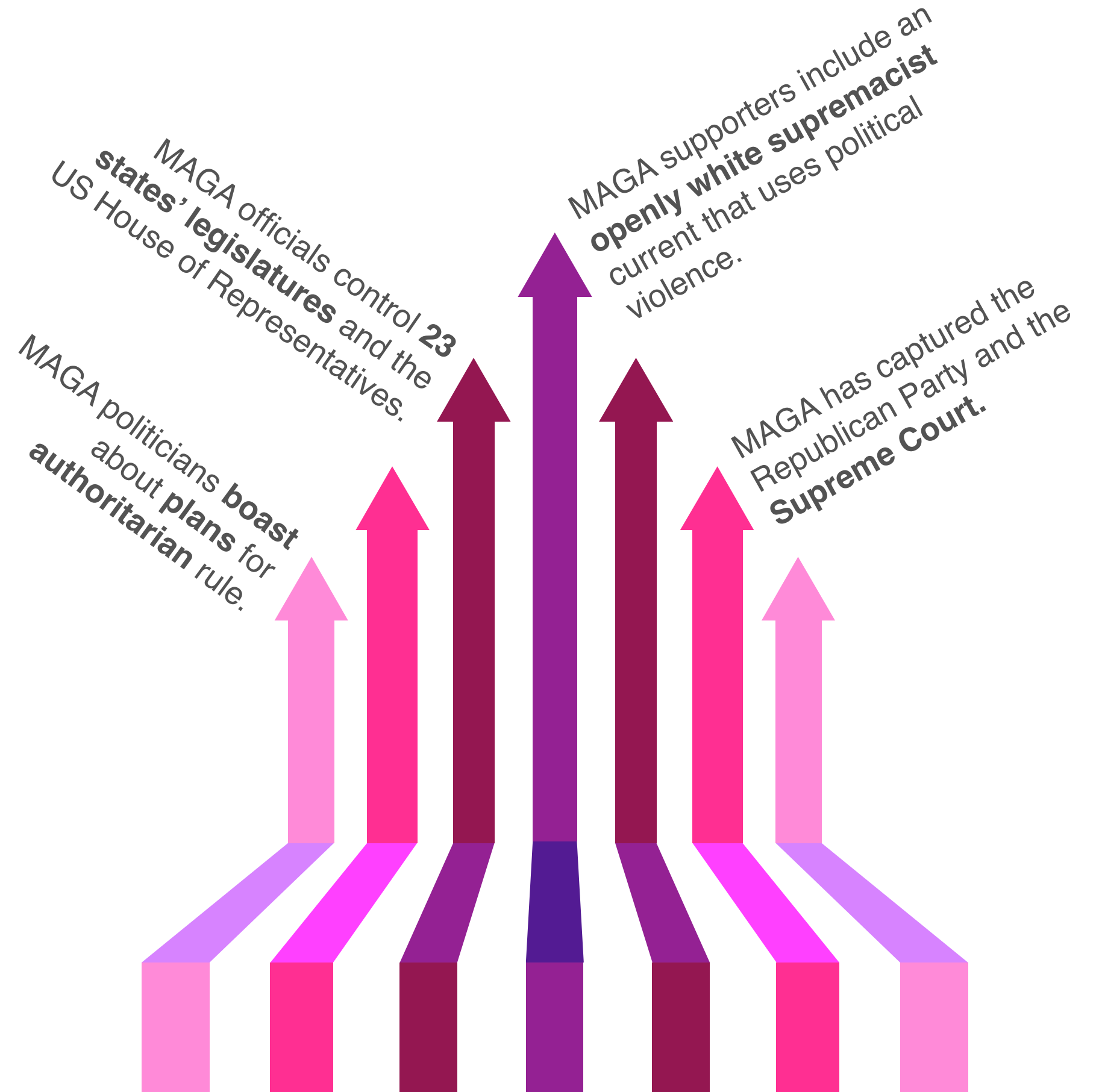
MAGA is the US manifestation of a global rise of authoritarianism.

WHO IS MAGA?

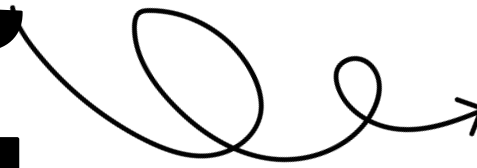
BACKLASH AGAINST SOCIAL JUSTICE GAINS:



MAGA'S RISE TO POWER



THE MAGA BLOC IS ANCHORED IN TWO POWERFUL CONSTITUENCIES:



Powerful economic elites in business and government: billionaires, financiers, industry leaders promoting right-wing and/or libertarian politics



Middle strata and working-class constituencies, mostly white, with class-, race-, and gender-based grievances



ANTI-MAGA FORCES

STOP MAGA & PUSH IT TO THE MARGINS

There is an emerging anti MAGA-majority. **It must be organized.** *Anti-MAGA forces have different tendencies:*

1

The Centrist Democrats

2

The Anti-MAGA Conservatives

3

The Rising Progressive Movement

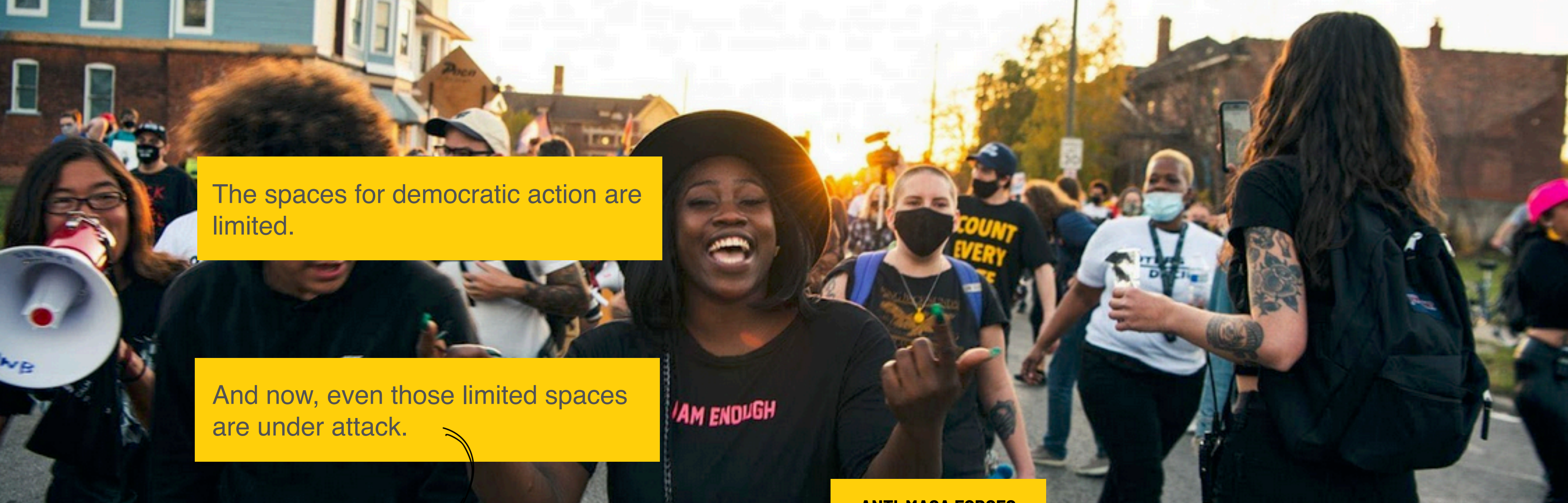
No single grouping is strong enough to defeat MAGA on its own.

UNITY & STRUGGLE

- Building a Broad Front is necessary.
- Forces on the Left must be part of this Broad Front.
- Coalition politics are messy. Uniting to fight authoritarianism doesn't mean we won't have disagreements with allies in the Broad Front.
- We must build our own strength and unity to create a progressive current.

“The problem is not, to coalesce or not coalesce, but the character of coalition, and how the Left retains independence and integrity and exerts influence in a coalition.”

Al Richmond, *“The Long View From the Left.”* 1973



The spaces for democratic action are limited.

And now, even those limited spaces are under attack.

ANTI-MAGA FORCES

The fight for political democracy & to improve people's lives are inextricably linked.

WHY WE FIGHT FOR DEMOCRACY



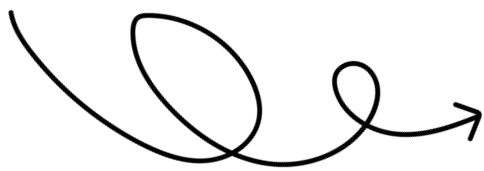
AND ELECTIONS AREN'T ENOUGH

“To build a multi-racial democracy that actually includes all of us, we will need anchored community-based power-building organizations along with mass movements. Those two must work in relation to defeat the authoritarian leaders who are actively trying to destroy the future that could be delivered with a robust and inclusive American democracy.”

Molly Shack, Ohio Organizing Collaborative

ANTI-MAGA FORCES

ELECTIONS MATTER. A LOT.



Most people participate in politics mainly through elections.



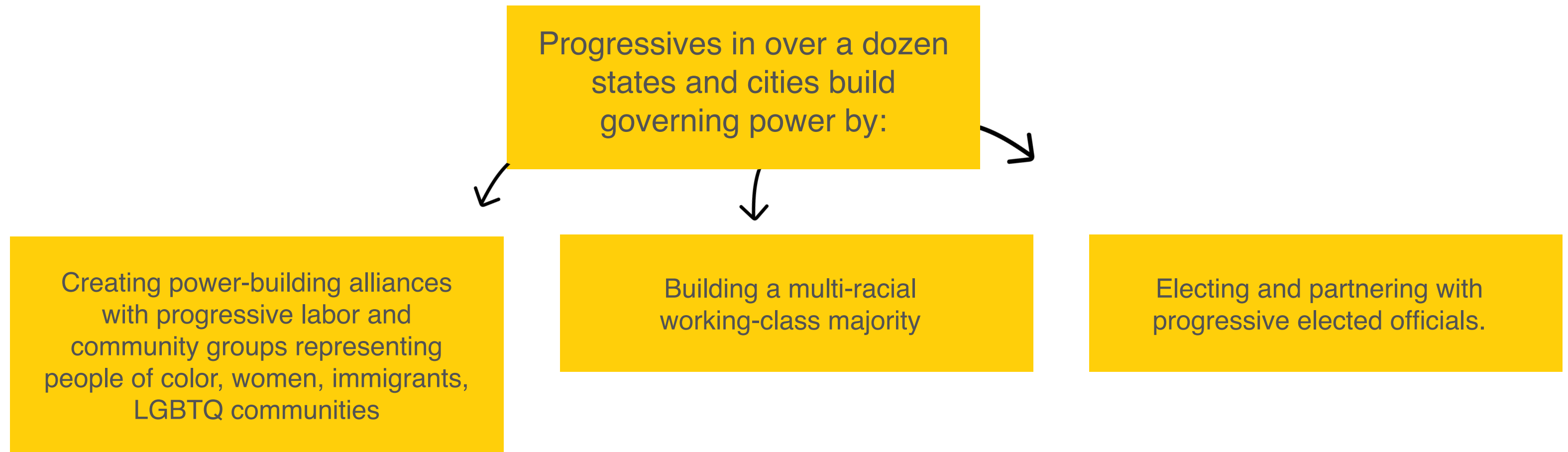
Elections have consequences in shaping people's lives.



We must gain enough power within a rigged electoral system to unrig and democratize it.



THE PROGRESSIVE TREND: IN STATES & CITIES



ANTI-MAGA FORCES

THE PROGRESSIVE TREND NATIONALLY



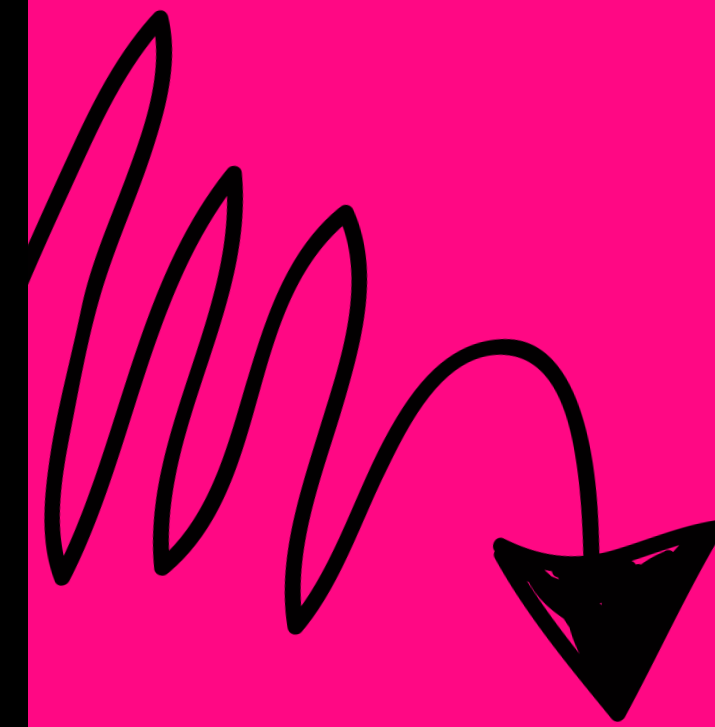
A Left Squad and a progressive caucus are major players in Congress



Progressives have a growing independent progressive electoral infrastructure



STRUGGLING WITHIN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY



For the foreseeable future, the Democratic Party is the main terrain of progressive electoral struggle:

- Winner-take-all, two-party electoral system is our current reality.
- The communities most in need of progressive policies work with Democrats.





DEMOCRATIC TERRAIN

BREAK THE STALEMATE & PUSH MAGA BACK TOWARD THE MARGINS



Immediate task: Block MAGA in this election cycle.

Full-spectrum tasks: Gain enough strength to start a new progressive cycle.



THE MOMENT

GAZA'S IMPACT ON US POLITICS & THE FIGHT AGAINST MAGA

The current crisis in Gaza puts pressure on the Broad Front and tests the progressive trend:

- The Biden Administration's policy makes the US complicit in Israel's war crimes
- The crisis threatens to fracture the Broad front we need to defeat MAGA
- It alienates constituencies we need both to defeat MAGA and to build out the progressive trend.
- While Democrats are divided, the GOP is united in its unqualified support for Israel.



THE MOMENT

STANDING UP FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS IS INTEGRAL TO BLOCKING MAGA & BUILDING PROGRESSIVE POWER

We are in the midst of a major, real-time crisis that puts pressure on the Broad Front and tests the progressive trend. We must deal with multiple levels of crisis:

- **Today:** Connect Ceasefire movement to the fight against MAGA
- **Between Now and Election Day:** Defend the Squad and all pro-ceasefire members of Congress
- **Looking ahead:** Make the defeat of MAGA a gain for Palestinian Rights

TAKE-AWAYS FROM THE CURRICULUM

- ***Block** MAGA's drive for full power
- ***Build** the strength & unity of the social justice forces
- ***Start a new progressive cycle** in US politics.

“Block, and build. Block the far right, while building the power we need to challenge corporations AND make change in people’s lives. Blocking the right isn’t enough. Never has been. Which is why we build independent political power for working people, that bends the arc towards justice.”

Nicolas O’Rourke, Philadelphia Councilmember At-Large, during the Working Families Party State of the Union Response. March 7th 2024



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