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To: Interested parties

From: Stanley Greenberg, Democracy Corps & Greenberg Research

First poll of 2020 cycle: wow!

Democracy Corps has conducted its first national poll of the 2020 cycle and the more you stare at the data, the more you conclude that voters are intent on making history again.¹ This memorandum is focused on the degree of engagement, the consolidation of Democrats, the landslide 2020 margins among the base, and the white working class, split on gender lines. This poll did not look at possible third party runs, but don't assume these are ordinary times.

The starting point is the level of engagement, measured by the percent who say they are "extremely interested in the election" – choosing 10 on this 10-rung ladder. When you look at the graph below, you see everything about this moment. Voters are looking at what's happening in this politicized age and they are engaged at a level we have never seen. They are more engaged than at the end of 2018, the highest turnout midterm election since World War I. Voters' engagement has wiped out historic patterns.



Democrats are consolidated. Only 3 percent of Democrats are defecting to Trump in 2020, no Clinton voters are defecting, and just 2 percent of those who voted Democratic in 2018 House

¹ This phone survey took place January 12-17 among 1,000 registered voters nationally. Margin of error for the full sample is +/-3.2 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level. Of the 1,000 respondents, 67 percent were interviewed via cell phone in order to accurately sample the American electorate.

races are doing so. The GOP defections are more than double that. We will see what happens when there is a third party option. Do not assume that he or she won't draw votes from the Republican side. This poll shows a quarter of moderate Republicans are voting Democratic.



Democrats fully consolidated. GOP less.

When you look at what is happening with base Democratic groups that have become more Democratic under President Trump, you see what looks like genuinely blow out margins. African Americans are at a powerful starting point (91 to 2 percent), and take a look at millennial women, who are giving the Democrat a 63-point margin, and all millennials, a 38-point margin. The generic Democrat is winning unmarried women with nearly a 50-point margin and is winning white unmarried women by two-to-one. I promise you, Democrats have struggled to get to a plurality with the latter. Democrats are winning white college women by two-to-one as well. We have not seen such a base starting point.

Don't underestimate the importance of the white working class story. That has taken a new turn on both sides of the gender divide. In this shutdown period after the election, white working class men have rallied to the president. Trump's 48-point margin with them is one of the highest ever, above the Republican margin in 2018 and matching Trump's historic margin in 2016. But the white working class women watched the indifference to working people and they give the Democrat a 3-point margin in this poll, nearly a first.



Blowout numbers in base, while white working class men & women split