Bernie Sanders and AOC Host Rallies to “Fight Oligarchy”

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U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders and Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (AOC) have hosted a series of rallies across America. Titled “Fight Oligarchy: Where We Go from Here,” the tour aims to criticize President Donald Trump, his administration’s policies, and billionaire Elon Musk’s department cuts.

Details. Currently, five rallies have already taken place in Arizona, Colorado, and Nevada, with an attendance of more than 86,000 people.

► They used phrases such as “We will not allow America to become an oligarchy”, “Power to the People”, “Tax the Rich”, and “Healthcare for All” in an attempt to rally support for their party.

► The rallies received support from popular 'left-wing' influencers such as HasanAbi, the largest 'leftist' livestreamer in America, and punk musician Laura Jane Grace.

► The Bernie-aligned organization “Our Revolution” and various “Democratic Socialists of America” chapters, such as Denver, are promoting the tours.

Context. These rallies aim to capture the rising dissatisfaction among workers with both the Trump administration and the general deteriorating conditions under capitalism.

► Wages remain stagnant while inflation continues to erode real purchasing power. Half of U.S. renters now spend over 30% of their income on rent and utilities, often going into debt to afford daily essentials. Meanwhile, 60% of Americans report they cannot afford a $1,000 emergency expense.

► This deepening economic crisis is reflected in collapsing public confidence in the political establishment. President Joe Biden’s final approval rating sits at just 35.6%, with a disapproval rating of 57.1%. Trump fares little better, with his approval falling to 43%—his lowest since returning to office—following backlash over tariffs and the leaking of military plans for Yemen.

► The Democratic Party is especially declining in the eyes of young voters, with support among 18–29-year-olds dropping to 42% in 2024, down from 50% in 2020. In response, party leaders have turned to symbolic gestures and left-leaning rhetoric—such as Cory Booker’s record-setting symbolic filibuster, which wasn’t aimed at stopping any legislation and was simply a “protest” against Trump’s policies.

Important to Know. The “Fighting Oligarchy” rallies led by Bernie and AOC serve to mislead workers into believing that the Democratic Party represents the working class, despite its deep ties and funding by capitalists.

► Bernie, who built a mass following as a so-called independent, ultimately endorsed his “good friend” Joe Biden and funneled his base back into the Democratic Party, where he has continued to collaborate with its leadership. AOC, while posturing as a “democratic socialist”, has voted to increase police and military funding—betraying the very principles she claims to represent.

► The rallies are designed to channel the anger of ordinary American workers into electoral politics rather than building an independent working-class party.

► Despite their anti-oligarchy rhetoric targeting Republicans, their alignment with the Democratic Party — a party backed by billionaires and millionaires — is a fact. In the 2024 presidential election, over 83 billionaires and 57% of U.S. millionaires supported Kamala Harris.

Conclusion. The Democratic Party's strategy, along with that of its loyal servants, is clear: absorb discontent through left populist messaging while preserving the rule of capital. Figures like Bernie Sanders and AOC play a critical role in this, using social democratic rhetoric to mitigate working-class anger and redirect it into electoral channels that serve the capitalist class. As conditions continue to deteriorate, the ruling class will increasingly rely on such "left" figures to diffuse unrest and maintain legitimacy.

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