

## #RESIST! #PERSIST! Success Thru Organizing is Possible!

For everyone who DID something, whether it was active participation in protests, donating money, signing petitions, etc, do know that your efforts have been successful. Because of you:

1. A VA hiring freeze was lifted;
2. The immigration/travel ban was lifted, at least for now. Several courts found against it, including a Federal appeals court. As a result, green card & legitimate visa holders can travel to &/or get back into the US;
3. Uber pledged \$3MM & immigration lawyers for its drivers after #DeleteUber trended on Twitter;
4. The ACLU, which stands up for the US Constitution & Bill of Rights raised \$24MM in a weekend...their usual ANNUAL donations are \$3-4MM;
5. The gag order on HHS, EPA & USDA was lifted;
6. EPA Climate Data is no longer scrubbed from gov't websites;
7. More people are considering running for public office than ever before;
8. The level of political outrage & activism is, perhaps, higher than ever in US history: Just considering 2 petitions (1 to impeach Trump and a second one to demand release of his tax returns) alone, the signatures total about 2,000,000. Overall, there are more than 7,500 petitions against Trump, signed by over 6,250,000 people;
9. Trump's National Security Advisor Mike Flynn forced to resign for discussing policy with Russia before Trump was inaugurated...and at least 3 investigations are in place to check into Russian hacking of the 2016 election and illegal contacts between Trump's team and Russia;
10. The Women's march had attendance that dwarfed the attendance at Trump's inauguration the day before;
11. Continual protests are taking place, including at the town meetings of members of Congress;
12. A whole cottage industry has arisen that fact-checks everything Trump & his associates say, pointing out the constant stream of falsehoods they spout;
13. The DOL nominee, Puzder, was humiliated into withdrawing and other Cabinet appointees are on notice that they are being watched like hawks;
14. Democratic congress is finally speaking up against purges of voting rolls, etc;
15. In general, and most importantly, you and millions of other people are engaged in restoring our freedoms, honesty/fairness in government and democracy.

While much work remains, it is appropriate to celebrate successes as they occur. However, as #resistance points out: Do be aware that, while we must be eternally vigilant, activist burnout is always a possibility. Take care of yourself, stay focused and don't be distracted on issues that are irrelevant or are intended to distract you from your purpose. Stay vigilant, Be informed, don't resort to violence, but don't give up: This is a marathon, not a sprint!