



What is the future of the Democratic Party?

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The widespread celebration from the right of the political aisle is counter by the confusion from the left, which is finding the result of presidential election hard to stomach.

They don't know that Hillary lost a couple of weeks ago," President-elect Donald Trump said at a recent rally. "I don't know. Where do these people come from?"

The better question might be – where are they headed?

President Barack Obama is out. Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid is retiring. Republicans hold positions across the board. So how serious is their situation?

"I would say it varies from like a 5 to a 7 out of 10, maybe even 8 depending on who you ask," Elana Schor, Politico's Congressional reporter, said. "Certainly liberals and the Bernie sanders wing of that party have been at that level already."

The search for new leadership on The Hill, has become a top priority -- debating fresher faces like Keith Ellison and Corey Booker.

"I think there was a lot of recognition, that President Obama was a great brand at the top of the ticket and secretary Clinton was less so to put it mildly and that's why they're not hitting the panic button yet," Schor added.

While Clinton fell short, candidates like Gary Johnson and Jill Stein saw their vote totals triple from 2012 to 2016.

"There's still a sense of shock about this," John Samples, Vice President of The Cato Institute, said. "Cause they couldn't imagine who they could lose to Donald trump, that's part one. Part two is the other shoe has not dropped yet."

Meaning, when and if Republicans route Obamacare or undo his executive orders, that's when Democrats will be forced to reflect—but Samples says, not completely, revamp.

"Of the last seven presidential elections the Democratic candidate has received the most votes in six of them," he said. "Even with a weak candidate like Ms. Clinton, they were still about to turn out with the most votes so there's still some strength with the party."

But he says if Democrats are to dominate again, they need to do what Republicans have over the past eight years -- build a better farm system of politicians at the state and local level who help you win across the board.