

America's Changing Political

Geography

Welcome to the ideopolis. These fast growing metropolitan areas with postindustrial economies are the breeding ground for a new Democratic majority.

Where Democrats Can Build a Majority...

|| by **John B. Judis** and **Ruy Teixeira**

■ AFTER THE 2000 ELECTION, political commentators began referring to the Democrats as the “blues” and the Republicans as the “reds”—terms corresponding to the colors used on electoral maps to denote which states each party’s presidential ticket carried. So the question of America’s political future has become: Who will dominate, the blues or the reds?

The Republicans think it’ll be the reds. They look at the 2000 electoral map and see good things. For one thing, there’s more red than blue, reflecting the fact that Republican states tend to be physically larger. More important, they figure that if they just hold the states they carried in 2000—which basically means the Solid South, the Mountain States, the Border States, and the more conservative

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...But Only With the Right Agenda

|| by **Mark J. Penn**

■ AMERICA IS UNDERGOING profound lifestyle and demographic changes—the kind that materially affect voters’ outlook and potentially the nation’s political alignment. These changes represent an opportunity for Democrats, but not a fixed destiny. As the electorate changes, the party that does not change accordingly will fail to connect with the most dynamic elements in the electorate.

As John Judis and Ruy Teixeira show in their optimistically titled book, *The Emerging Democratic Majority*, Democrats made great gains in dynamic elements of the electorate during the 1990s, most notably in upscale suburban families and Hispanics. But these gains are already in danger of receding. Republicans are making substantial inroads among Hispanic voters by appealing to their strong entre

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