

2022 modterm election

Plausible theories about why Republicans fared so badly in 2022 abound. ...

The economy? ... Abortion? ...

Attacks on democracy? ...

All of these factors clearly played a role.

But don't under-weight the impact of the performative obnoxiousness that now pervades Republican messaging. Conservatives have built career paths for young people that start on extremist message boards and lead to jobs on Republican campaigns, then jobs in state and federal offices, and then jobs in conservative media.

Dsvid Frum, *The Atlantic*, March 2023