

Rogers Campaign Breaking Bush Stranglehold on Texas Dems

by Harley Schlanger

April 29—To fully understand the significance of the insurgent campaign being run by Kesha Rogers for the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate in Texas, a little history is helpful. In the late Spring of 1980, Lyndon LaRouche, who was then a candidate for the Democratic nomination for President, addressed the Texas Democratic Party, at its convention in San Antonio. LaRouche's presence there was the result of significant support from farmers and ranchers, who had been fighting the Greenie and free-market policies of the Carter Administration, as well as backing from scientific, industrial, and entrepreneurial layers, which were still involved in the Party.

LaRouche warned the Democrats, in his short address, that if they did not shift away from the anti-science, anti-technology, free-trade direction which was being pursued by the Wall Street-based Trilateral Commission controllers of President Carter, they would become a minor player in Texas politics. At the time, the Democrats held nearly every statewide elected office. But the arrogant Party leadership ignored LaRouche's warnings.

That was a big mistake. The next decade saw the complete collapse of the Texas Democratic Party, as the Bush machine, and opportunistic former Democrats such as the corrupt windbag Phil Gramm, steamrolled over them. Since 1994, only one Democrat was elected to statewide office in Texas.

While Democrats in the past had fought against the Wall-Street-dominated GOP—as in the case of Sen.



Kesha Rogers (right) campaigns in Houston, March 1, 2014.

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Ralph Yarborough's defeat of George H.W. Bush in 1964, in which he ridiculed Bush as a Connecticut-born, Wall-Street-controlled, anti-government aristocrat—by the new century, the leadership of the Texas Democratic Party had surrendered to Wall Street. The generation of New Deal and JFK Democrats, such as Speaker of the House Rep. Jim Wright and Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez, who had fought for a government role in advancing scientific and technological progress, in the tradition of Alexander Hamilton, was gone. It was replaced by mostly small-minded technocrats, who tried to make up for their lack of big ideas by adopting pro-Wall Street policies, such as anti-science environmentalism, free-trade agreements, and deregulation of banking, hoping that this would open the door to a flood of funds from Wall Street.

Slaves on the Bush Plantation

With the election of George W. Bush as Governor in 1994, the Texas Democrats took a further leap into an



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The LaRouche Presidential campaign rolls into town in San Antonio, Tex., June 20, 1980. Lyndon LaRouche addressed the Democratic Party convention there.

embrace of Wall Street. During the next two decades, while there was much talk of “competing” with the GOP, the results speak for themselves: not only no statewide victories, but a significant decline in the size of the Democratic Congressional delegation, and Democratic members of the state legislature. As the Democrats became increasingly impotent, trying to counter the fascist “anti-government” rhetoric of the GOP, with Al Gore-type blather about “smart government” and “pay-as-you-go” schemes, combined with virulent Greenie nonsense, not only did the decline accelerate, but the Republican Party, under Bush and Cheney, became more aggressively fascist.

It was during this electoral collapse that Kesha Rogers burst onto the scene, in her 2006 campaign for state party chairman. Running as a LaRouche Democrat, under the slogan “Out of the Bushes, into the Future,” Rogers attacked the Party’s anti-growth environmentalism and free-trade orientation, blasting Texas Democrats for be-

coming a “Bush League” party. She called on party delegates to return to the legacy of Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy, who inspired Americans with their vision for an unlimited future, with advances in science and technology that offered the possibility of a better future for all Americans. Her challenge made a definite impression on delegates, but the collapse continued, with “business-as-usual” in 2008, when Party rules were bent to give the majority of the state’s delegates to Barack Obama, despite a victory in the primary by Hillary Clinton. Obama’s near-sweep of delegates in the state’s caucuses had been funded by Wall Street, augmented by dirty money from drug-legalization finan-

cialer George Soros’s operations.

Obama’s Presidency has not helped the popularity of Texas Democrats. In fact, Obama’s full support of Bush-Cheney policies of wars for regime change, NSA spying, drone killings, Wall Street bailouts, etc., and his expansion of the use of “Executive privilege” to cover up crimes of the Bush-Cheney Administration, as well as his assertion of the “Unitary Executive” concept, in violation of the Constitution’s system of checks and balances, has made him extremely unpopular in Texas, leading to a further desertion of Democratic voters.

This was underlined by Rogers’ victories in Democratic primaries in 2010 and 2012 in the 22nd Congressional District, during which she campaigned for the impeachment of Obama. These victories resulted from grassroots support among Democrats, as she received over 50% of the vote, despite slanderous opposition from the Party leadership, in defense of the indefensible Obama.



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Alameel: Wall Street Shill

The opposition to Rogers from the losers running the Texas Democratic Party continued into 2014, when they decided to promote a Wall Street shill, David Alameel, to run against her for the U.S. Senate. Alameel's appeal to Democratic Party leaders is that he is a multi-millionaire, committed to spend "whatever it takes" to win the nomination. While masquerading as an anti-Wall Street Democrat, his history tells a very different story.

Alameel, formerly a dentist, made his fortune in a deal with a hedge fund, Black Canyon Capital, which paid tens of millions of dollars to purchase his dental clinics. Black Canyon, which is a part of Canyon Partners LLC, a \$19 billion hedge fund, was founded by two protégés of convicted swindler Michael Milken, in 1990, not so coincidentally the same year that the firm through which he ran his junk bond swindles, Drexel Burnham Lambert, was forced into bankruptcy, and not long after Milken's indictment for racketeering and securities fraud.

Though Milken went to jail and Drexel was shut down, the model he created, to use debt to take over firms and then milk those firms for every last penny, remains operative—aided by the deregulation of financial markets supported by both parties. There have been serious questions raised about how hedge funds can make money by taking over dental clinics, and investigations into possible Medicaid fraud involved in such takeovers continue in Texas.

Not only was Alameel's fortune directly the result of a deal with a hedge fund, but his history of campaign contributions includes very generous gifts to Republicans, including \$75,000 to Bush's successor as Governor, Rick Perry, as well as several large contributions to Gregg Abbott, who is now the GOP candidate for Governor, and to Sen. John Cornyn, whom Alameel hopes to run against! He tries to explain away his past by saying that the GOP is now "too extreme" for him, and has tied himself to Obama, apparently hoping no one



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David Alameel, the Wall Street shill running against Kesha Rogers for U.S. Senate.

will notice that Obama is owned by the same corrupt financial interests of Wall Street which made him, Alameel, a multi-millionaire.

After spending \$3.5 million in losing a Democratic primary race for Congress in the Dallas area in 2012, in which he finished fourth (!), he bought his way into the good graces of the Texas Democratic Party leadership, by making a contribution to the Wendy Davis gubernatorial campaign. As for Alameel, he is running a shadow campaign, rarely appearing in public, refusing to debate Rogers, lamely saying

she is "not a Democrat."

As for the life-and-death issues confronting the population—the danger that Obama will bring the U.S. into World War III against Russia and/or China, the crippling drought, concerns over the continuing economic collapse, which has deprived people of jobs, livable wages, homes, health care, etc., Alameel has nothing to offer but an empty slogan, that he is "for the middle class"!

That his campaign is nothing but a financial operation, designed to derail Rogers, is made clear from looking at his campaign funding. As of the filing of his Federal Election Commission Campaign Finance report on March 31, Alameel has contributed \$4,319,368 to his own campaign, while raising only \$23,794 from others!

Rogers has produced a radio ad exposing his Wall Street ties. The 60-second ad, which will go out statewide this week, concludes by reminding listeners that Presidential advisor Valerie Jarrett told *Politico* that Obama has "a complete alignment of interests with Wall Street." The ad continues, "No wonder Alameel thinks Obama is doing a great job fixing the economy! A vote for Alameel is a vote for Wall Street thievery."

It concludes, "For the May 27th Democratic runoff election, vote Kesha Rogers for U.S. Senate. She's fighting to cancel all Wall Street bailouts and restore FDR's Glass-Steagall Act, to protect our pensions, Social Security, Medicare, and veterans' benefits from being cut."