



I USED TO BE A DEMOCRAT.

In 1951, just shy of my first birthday, my family and I came to the United States as refugees – “displaced persons.” This wonderful country and its generous people gave us every opportunity; in a very short time, we were no longer displaced, but rather proud and grateful naturalized Americans.

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Democrat?
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But now, I feel displaced again, no longer welcome by the Democratic Party, a “displaced Democrat.” I know how Joe Lieberman (one of my heroes) must feel.

Since shortly after 9/11, I’ve watched with increasing dismay as the national leaders of the Democratic Party have acted as if we aren’t living in a dangerous world where our enemies want to cause the U.S. and Israel harm.

Like Senator Lieberman, I didn’t want to leave the party.

I felt that I couldn’t stay in the party dominated by the far left who won’t stand up to the threat posed by Iran, Syria and growing radical Islamic extremism. And until Harry Reid took control of the Senate, America never had a national leader say that our troops had lost the war – while they were still fighting it. Their predictions of defeat and opposition to “the surge” were designed to hurt President Bush politically. But instead, it hurt our troops and damaged America’s standing in the world.

I don’t agree with the Republicans on a lot of issues, but I can’t be a Democrat anymore.

Stephen Rosenbach
Arnold, Maryland



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