

down, I fretted to my wife about everything that could potentially go wrong. It is not in my personality at all to fret or worry. Optimism is my only gear and almost everyone who knows me would agree. I always think about the best outcomes.

Yet, there were so many things weighing on my mind in that moment. I worried about a low turnout due to the new virus scare coming from China. The media was already panicking about what would eventually become a global pandemic—COVID-19. Just a few days before Super Tuesday, the first known US case was discovered in the very same district in which I was running. I had a growing fear that many would not show up to the polls due to these concerns. I also knew the relentless fear-mongering of the media was only amplifying the situation. Without a strong turnout from the older generation, millennials, minorities, and independent conservatives, it would be difficult to win.

I also worried about our current momentum. We had an exploding presence online and were getting great press coverage in the national news. But would that translate into local votes inside the district? I was late starting my campaign—did voters know enough about me and my policy positions to take a chance on a long-haired worship leader who did not even live inside the district? We were one of the most watched congressional campaigns in America. I had met with senior officials, congressmen, senators, and even the president and vice president of the United States. Yet, only the voters in CA-3 would determine the outcome.

In the parking lot of Chick-fil-A, a ray of hope came in the form of an African American family. They flagged down our car as we were about to drive away and motioned for me to roll down my window. "Are you that Sean guy running for Congress?" they shouted. They were laughing because they recognized me by my hair. Then they pointed to their "I VOTED" stickers on their chests and told me that they had all just voted for me. My kids started cheering and I felt a massive boost of encouragement. With

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