

# NEW KINGS DEMOCRATS

# The IDC

## New York is a blue state, right?

So why is our State Senate in the hands of the Republicans? Sadly, Brooklyn plays a significant role in this problem. ●.....

MEET YOUR

## NEW YORK STATE SENATE

IN THE 2016 ELECTION...

**31** were elected as Republicans.

**32** were elected as Democrats.

**SO THE DEMOCRATS ARE IN CHARGE, RIGHT? Sigh. NO. Because...**

**40** vote for the GOP leadership



**23** vote for the Dem. leadership



..... Brooklyn's Senators .....

Dan Squadron

Kevin Parker

Roxanne Persaud

Martin Dilan

Velmanette Montgomery

Simcha Felder

Diane Savino

Jesse Hamilton

**THESE ARE DEMOCRATS WHO VOTE WITH THE DEMOCRATS**

Yay!...  
Mostly.  
'Cuz let's be honest... they're a mixed bag, and we should expect more from some of them.

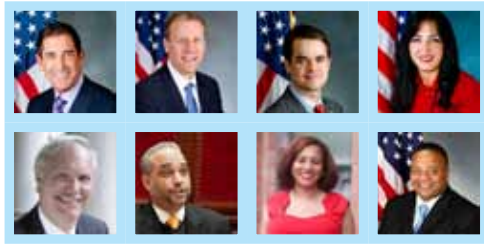
**THIS GUY WENT ROGUE**

**THIS IS THE IDC**

To learn more about these nine turncoat Senators, turn me over!

**THIS REPUBLICAN IS FROM BROOKLYN**

A few years ago Senator **Marty Golden** scheduled a "feminine etiquette" class to teach women "posture, deportment and the feminine presence." He canceled it after an uproar.



## THESE 8 ARE THE IDC. "INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE"

The "Independent Democratic Conference" is a group of Senators who were elected as Democrats but vote for Republican leadership. They claim progressive values on issues like affordable college, criminal justice, and protection of immigrants, and they say they can get the Republicans to pass progressive legislation.

### So what's the problem?

They allow the Republicans to set the agenda, which means most progressive legislation never even gets considered. Also, they allow the state's budget to be (partly) in the hands of Republicans.

### Why do they do this?

Most people assume they do this because the Republicans give them leadership roles, which come with pay bonuses, extra staff, and larger offices.

### Why do they get re-elected?

Three of them joined the IDC *after* the recent primaries. (Meaning, their constituents voted for them assuming they were voting for Democrats.) But the other five have won reelection despite being in the IDC.

### Seriously?

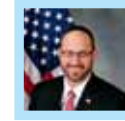
Yes. But keep in mind: the *highest* voter turnout in *any* State Senate primary last year was only 18%... most Democrats would be surprised to learn that their senator caucuses with the IDC. But with the national landscape shifting progressive energy to the states, hopefully more people are paying attention now!



#### **FUN FACT!**

Every single elected Republican in the State Senate is white. And until this year, so was every member of the IDC!

Keep that in mind when IDC members and their apologists call criticism of the IDC "racist."



## LET'S TALK ABOUT SIMCHA FELDER.

Simcha Felder is a Democrat who votes for the Republican leadership.

### Why?

Because they offer him valuable special concessions for his district, and his constituents haven't made much noise about his party status... yet!

### Can we vote him out of office?

Sure! But it won't be easy; many voters in his district are fairly conservative Democrats. Nobody even ran against him last time, so he ran on both Democratic and Republican lines. (He's a registered Democrat, however.)

### Anything else that can be done?

Felder will probably caucus with whichever party offers him the most goodies. If the IDC reverted to the Democrats, the Democrats could probably entice Felder to rejoin the fold, and retake the majority.

#### **URGENT!**

Senate districts are drawn to favor Republicans. The next redistricting will take place in 2021. If we want Senate districts drawn more fairly, the Senate will need to be in Democratic hands by then.

### THE MORAL OF THE STORY

This is what happens when the most competitive State Senate primary in 2016 has only **18% voter turnout**.