Twitter Thread by Thomas Wood ■



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Biden saying that Rs “beat the living hell out of us” in downballot races across the country is significant, because (1) he said it to an audience that didn’t really want to hear it and https://t.co/FM7OwUgWYH 1/8

(2) because he wouldn’t have said it unless it was based on conclusive internal polling. 2/8

It is also encouraging if it *is* the correct analysis of Ds’ disappointing-- even calamitous--electoral outcomes in downballot races.

It is encouraging because it is easily remediable with better messaging. 3/8

In fact, Biden made it clear during the election that he did not favor actually defunding the police: that he only favored reforming the police, and specified policies to do that. But he didn’t say it loud enough, and downballot D politicians didn’t either. 4/8

(The R messaging over “defunding the police” seems to have worked to protect R politicians in downballot races, but wasn’t enough to get Trump himself reelected over the repugnance Ds and Independents felt for him.) 5/8

What Rs have to worry about now is that Biden’s policies on police reform will be sane and well-thought out (and therefore politically saleable). Same for all his other policies.

(D policies are much more popular than the D party itself--go figure.) 6/8

Same thing happened to Barack Obama. Obama was seen by Rs as an al-Qaeda commie in disguise during the 2008 election, and the Tea Party created a wave election in 2010 based on that campaign meme. 7/8

But Obama ended up being the president who is the most highly regarded by American voters today. 8/8