

Open Letter to Congress Member Alexandria Ocasio Cortez

October 23, 2024

Dear Congress Member Alexandria Ocasio Cortez:

I am sure you are aware, because of the extensive media attention Roosevelt Avenue has received, about the unprecedented level of criminality and lawlessness here. We have appealed to both Governor Kathy Hochul and Mayor Eric Adams for help and they responded by sending in State troopers and more police officers along with other agencies to remedy the blatant prostitution, organized crime entities, drug rings, human traffickers, and shoplifting syndicates that are operating on Roosevelt Avenue. This occurred only after community members and local activists organized and brought to light the anarchy that existed in the Roosevelt Avenue Corridor.

What is totally inexcusable is your total absence in the face of the victimization of your constituents by the criminal gangs and cartels that are robbing us while getting away on mopeds, pushing illegal narcotics on our street and enslaving hundreds if not thousands of migrant women who have been trafficked for prostitution. Where is your voice to deal with all the federal violations of law occurring in your district!

In March 2018, when you approached me to help you with your campaign to unseat Joe Crowley you had just \$39,000 in campaign funds. I remember you questioning the integrity of the other politicians and their promises. My support and collaboration helped you secure your victory. I believed you would champion the best interests of our community. I was wrong.

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Watching your career unfold, I saw you more focused on staying in the spotlight and getting media attention than on the real issues facing your constituents. While you travel across the country and engage in various performances, our community continues to struggle. Your appearance in high-fashion attire stands in stark contrast to the hardships our hardworking people endure.

Roosevelt Avenue, which lies within your district has become a hub for brothels, outnumbering bodegas. It is an urban crime zone. Yet, you advocate for the legalization of prostitution, and anti-police policies. You ignore the fact that over 70 brothels operate near local schools and houses of worship. You have failed to even speak about the crime that affects our neighborhoods, and you failed to do anything to protect the vulnerable women exploited by these criminal networks.

I feel compelled to apologize to my community for leading many to support and vote for you in 2018. Your version of socialism has been a farce. You have never delivered for your community. While you campaign for others throughout the Country you don't see the severe damage your misguided positions have done to our community and your political party. Have you reviewed the polls of how many Latinos are defecting from the Democratic Party because of the radical policies you espouse? **Take a look at Roosevelt Avenue, Breathe our Air and See your Failures.**



R.A. Ramirez Baez
President / Author