

Getting the Right Results **in Our Elections**

You have probably already read THE NEW AMERICAN'S articles about the 2018 election, yet as of this writing, the "election" is not over. Votes are still being counted, and at least one senator is trying to force officials to count ballots that were submitted after election day.

This election has demonstrated that we have problems with our electoral process, both with the manner in which voting is done and with the lack of understanding of the electorate. Even so, there is a great deal of hope that has come out of the election.

Major concerns with the electoral process include the methodology used to vote and count votes — namely electronic voting and early voting. This magazine has published many articles over the years documenting the fact that vote fraud exists — and it happens far more frequently than most observers believe — and the aforementioned electoral problems lead to openings for fraud.

What is the remedy? A large part of the problem can be remedied easily. Let us quote from Robert Welch, the founder of The John Birch Society (JBS), the parent organization of this magazine, in the October 1976 JBS *Bulletin*:

So we are hereby urging all conservative candidates for any important offices — state or federal — to give careful consideration to the problem of obtaining honest treatment in the electoral process. And we are further making a more general, but equally intense recommendation, to the American public at large, to take all necessary steps for getting rid of all voting or vote-counting machines as rapidly as they possibly can. Those apparatuses constitute a very serious and calculated danger to the future of the American Republic.

The truth is that paper ballots can be readily verified if basic steps are taken to eliminate opportunities for fraud, and they don't take very long to count — at least when compared to all the recount shenanigans that we have now. If we get rid of computers and voting machines, finding out election results may take a day or so longer, but it is well worth the wait for an honest count.

"Trust but verify" is an old saying. Verification, when it comes to voting, means paper ballots counted at the precinct level by local people and preserving the ballots.

Some may believe this recommendation to be archaic, but as Stalin is purported to have said: "Those who vote decide nothing. Those who count the votes decide everything." And right now



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those who set up the machines to tabulate the ballots, as well as those who collect early voting results, can completely undermine an election.

To rectify problems with the electorate would take a bit more work. It would call for changing beliefs that voters *perceive to be true* to beliefs that are *actually true*.

The Left learned many years ago that it needed to run candidates based on polling data: Find out what the voter believes and wants, then run candidates according to the wishes of the polling data — and the voters' wishes and wants are

guided by leftist educators, local activism, and Big Media.

The voter generally cannot be bought. Money may help get out the vote, but it will not change the voter because voter opinion on issues is made between elections, not at elections.

Conservatives have not learned this lesson well enough to succeed overall.

If votes were influenced by money, the liberal vote in areas such as Texas and Georgia would have been double compared to the conservative vote, since at least double the money was spent on the liberal candidates.

The ultimate solution to get conservatives and constitutionals elected is for people to actively educate family, friends, neighbors, fellow workers, employees, etc. by means of a concerted educational campaign. An example would be holding meetings that teach the Constitution and the principles on which our government was formed.

Such meetings can be in living rooms, public venues such as libraries, or restaurants. A small meeting may seem insignificant, but if a lot of small meetings are held, the knowledge might influence hundreds or thousands or millions.

Such a program is available through the JBS. We heartily recommend contacting the JBS at JBS.org for what is available to use for such an effort. A good beginning is *The Constitution Is the Solution* video series.

Weaning others from reliance on the mass media for information by having them subscribe to this magazine would also help.

The Trump presidency has slowed the liberal, globalist juggernaut, and more and more people are beginning to understand the problems exposed in this magazine. They just do not know what to do about them. The JBS lets them not only talk about the problems, but do something about them. ■

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