



Government 101

The Elector College method of electing the President of these United States of America.

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This is a response to those who are accusing us of an "Obama re-election" and also want to bring up the whole Ross Perot issue.

IN THESE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, IT IS THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE THAT ELECTS ITS PRESIDENT, NOT THE OPINION POLL KNOWN AS THE POPULAR VOTE.

Can someone point out to me where either Obama or Romney lost one single electoral vote due to a third-party/independent effort?

And even if they did - REMEMBER - the popular vote DOES NOT ELECT the president.

Because of the wide margin of defeat between Obama and Romney, a third-party/independent candidate would have had to get over 60 of the elector college votes to make it even close. Obama received 332 electoral votes and Romney received only 206.

And don't forget that 48 of our 50 states have a "winner takes all" electoral college system, which would completely eliminate the effect of any third-party/independent effort, unless of course, they got the majority of electoral votes.

Romney got a smack down and third-party/independent candidates had NOTHING to do with it.

SCENARIO

Here's a scenario where "third-party/independents" could even remotely be accused of affecting the 2012 election:

Let's suppose that Romney received more than 51% of the popular votes, and then lost by getting only 49% of the elector college votes, and it was found that some third-party / independent candidate received over 2% of the Electoral College vote.

In reality, the popular vote had absolutely no effect on the Electoral College vote, it was just an indicator of popular opinion.

Remember, there have been presidents who have won election but lost the popular vote and quite frankly, they had nothing to do with third-party / independent efforts.

CANDIDATES WHO ACTUALLY WON THE POPULAR VOTE, BUT LOST THE PRESIDENCY

There are four (4) candidates who won the popular vote but lost the presidency:

Andrew Jackson won the popular vote but lost the election to John Quincy Adams (1824)
Samuel J. Tilden won the popular vote but lost the election to Rutherford B. Hayes (1876)
Grover Cleveland won the popular vote but lost the election to Benjamin Harrison (1888)
Al Gore won the popular vote but lost the election to George W. Bush (2000)

CANDIDATES WHO ACTUALLY WON ELECTORAL COLLEGE VOTES

In the 1992 election, Ross Perot received 18.9% of the popular vote, approximately 19,741,065 votes, BUT NOT ONE SINGLE ELECTORAL COLLEGE VOTE.

It's kind of funny how people will focus in on Ross Perot as having handed the presidency over to Bill Clinton. HOWEVER, there were "Third Party Candidates" who have actually acquired Electoral College votes:

Robert La Follette had 13 in 1924
Strom Thurmond had 39 in 1948
George Wallace had 46 in 1968
John Hospers had 1 in 1972

You never hear people talking about those races. ONLY in those 4 races did a third party actually affect the presidential election. The popular vote MUST BE VIEWED as an opinion poll. It NEVER elects the president.

THIRD-PARTY IMPACT ON THE 2012 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

The fact of the matter is that not one single Electoral College vote was "lost" on a third-party or independent candidate. In other words:

NO IMPACT

Now, that is a fact that we in the third-party movement are going to have to deal with.

BUT, for those of you who are angry that Romney lost the race and that Obama was re-elected, you are going to have to face the fact, that the reason Romney lost was because the Republican Party gave America a hypocritical candidate that they could not vote for. YOU, must bear that responsibility. Quit trying to pawn off your culpability on third-party or independent candidates for another 4 years of destruction of the Republic that our founding fathers gave us.

We tried to give you a CONSTITUTIONAL alternative and you chose to succumb to fear and turn you back on the only true opportunity to turn our country around.

IT'S ALL ABOUT GOVERNMENT 101!