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Subject: Voting for dummies

Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Tue, 07 Nov 2006 13:51:27 GMT

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Ok, so I come to work and a coworker asks me if I'm going to vote.

I say "NO", there's nobody that meets my criteria for my vote.

Then I ask if they know who they are going to vote for and they say "Not yet but I will when I get to the polls".

hmm, brilliant !!!! I'm sure the next hour is plenty of time to learn all you need about who you are voting for.

ARGHHHHHHHHHHH !!!!

Vote for me! I'm a pretty color !!!

---

---

Subject: Re: Voting for dummies

Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Tue, 07 Nov 2006 14:17:35 GMT

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Oh, and in case anyone is wondering, my criteria is that they have to have a written plan with details of what they will commit to doing if they are elected with timelines, budgets and where the money is coming from. Easy, huh !!

"John" <no@no.com> wrote:

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>you need about who you are voting for.

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Subject: Re: Voting for dummies

Posted by [Dubya Mark Wilson](#) on Tue, 07 Nov 2006 18:21:52 GMT

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I don't see where your herein-written plan to not vote is going to lead to the things you say you want written.

Maybe it's just my twisted perception, but I think that in more than one way, you just voted for exactly what you don't want.

W.

"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:4550876f\$1@linux...

>

> Oh, and in case anyone is wondering, my criteria is that they have to have  
> a written plan with details of what they will commit to doing if they are  
> elected with timelines, budgets and where the money is coming from.

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Subject: Re: Voting for dummies

Posted by [rick](#) on Tue, 07 Nov 2006 19:01:39 GMT

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i vote so later i can bitch about the idiots i didn't help get elected...it's worked like a charm so far.

On 7 Nov 2006 23:51:27 +1000, "John" <no@no.com> wrote:

>  
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---

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Subject: Re: Voting for dummies  
Posted by [Carl Amburn](#) on Tue, 07 Nov 2006 19:47:39 GMT  
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I think that if you didn't vote - then you just need to shut your mouth. :)

-Carl

"rick" <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote in message  
news:stl1l2d5uubi8k8flvful5vvtcjsmb7er8@4ax.com...  
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---

---

Subject: Re: Voting for dummies  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Tue, 07 Nov 2006 20:05:01 GMT  
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fat chance

Carl Amburn wrote:

> I think that if you didn't vote - then you just need to shut your mouth. :)

>

> -Carl

>

> "rick" <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote in message

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>

---

Subject: Re: Voting for dummies  
Posted by [Carl Amburn](#) on Tue, 07 Nov 2006 20:25:15 GMT  
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Well, I suppose that's your right - however, everyone that does vote won't respect your opinion - and you really shouldn't argue about how bad or good things go - if you don't concern yourself to participate, then don't bitch. C'mon John... you gotta do better than that. At \*least\* I did what I'm able to do today.

Now, I should say, that I agree with you, in that these are times that lack

leadership with true inspiration and vision. And, if you are planning or going to run for elected office - then I owe you much kudos - BUT, if you're just doing \*nothing\* but bitching.... then.... boo. You'll lose no matter what.

The polls are still open - you still have time man... !!! Do it!!! C'mon man! :)

peace,  
-Carl

"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:4550e4be\$1@linux...

> fat chance

>

> Carl Amburn wrote:

> > I think that if you didn't vote - then you just need to shut your mouth.

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> >

> > -Carl

> >

> > "rick" <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote in message

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> >

> >

Subject: Re: Voting for dummies

Posted by [steve the artguy](#) on Tue, 07 Nov 2006 21:43:58 GMT

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Ok, John. Here's the problem.

I kinda agree with you on some level. If I'm given a choice of two idiots, and told that if I don't vote for one of them, then I am somehow a civic failure, well, that doesn't cut it.

The problem is that you're not helping. It's like someone gives you a menu of two foods you don't like, so you refuse to eat at all. The folks happily eating crap aren't phased at all. The only person who gets starved is you. Ha ha. Boy, you sure showed them!

What's needed? Real food! If there's none out there to choose, grow some of your own! Cook it yourself!

Get my analogy? The whole "If you don't vote you can't complain" is as lame as saying, "If you don't wear a bullet-proof vest every waking hour and then get shot and injured, you can't complain."

You shouldn't have to wear a bullet proof suit! you shouldn't have to vote for idiots!

But the solution requires a lot, a WHOLE lot, more than just emerging from your political groundhog hole every two years to see if it's raining idiots or not.

If no one has a plan you can endorse, find likeminded people and come up with one yourself! Then find someone who will follow it! if you can't find someone, well, how about doing it yourself!

So, what causes have inspired you to take political action? None?

Here's the answer to those who say if you don't vote you can't complain. You can complain. But if you do NOTHING BUT COMPLAIN, well, then, you can't complain...!

You can, however, drink. It is still a free...to drink...country...

-steve

"Carl Amburn" <carlamburn@hotmail.com> wrote:

>Well, I suppose that's your right - however, everyone that does vote won't

>respect your opinion - and you really shouldn't argue about how bad or good  
>things go - if you don't concern yourself to participate, then don't bitch.  
>C'mon John... you gotta do better than that. At \*least\* I did what I'm able  
>to do today.

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>Now, I should say, that I agree with you, in that these are times that lack  
>leadership with true inspiration and vision. And, if you are planning or  
>going to run for elected office - then I owe you much kudos - BUT, if you're  
>just doing \*nothing\* but bitching.... then.... boo. You'll lose no matter  
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>The polls are still open - you still have time man... !!! Do it!!! C'mon  
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>peace,  
>-Carl

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>> Carl Amburn wrote:  
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Subject: Re: Voting for dummies  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Tue, 07 Nov 2006 21:43:59 GMT  
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I'm not complaining. I'm just not finding any reason to vote. I'm a man of reason, not a sheep. If a politician can clearly tell me why I should vote for them I will be glad to listen to them.

I find that politicians think of this as a game and not truly affecting peoples lives. I hate it when people vote for their own special interests. I will never do that. Whenever I vote it will be because the issues are the best for everyone.

I often recommend cutting government programs and people say "But you work for government, your job could be cut" and I say "Good !".

John

steve the artguy wrote:

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> If no one has a plan you can endorse, find likeminded people and come up  
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Subject: Re: Voting for dummies  
Posted by [Carl Amburn](#) on Tue, 07 Nov 2006 22:08:10 GMT  
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John, it's really disappointing to know that people who actually use reason, such as yourself, (instead of fear) aren't going to vote.

-Carl

"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:4550fbb0\$1@linux...  
> I'm not complaining. I'm just not finding any reason to vote. I'm a  
> man of reason, not a sheep. If a politician can clearly tell me why I  
> should vote for them I will be glad to listen to them.  
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Subject: Re: Voting for dummies  
Posted by [Neil](#) on Tue, 07 Nov 2006 22:26:50 GMT  
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Though I've really had it with nearly all politicians, I went ahead & voted anyway... they all sucked, but I tried to vote for the least-suckiest.

Maybe we'll all get lucky & our congress & individual local governments will suck perhaps 1% less than they do now.

1%'s better than nothing.

Neil

"steve the artguy" <artguy@somethingrother.net> wrote:

>  
>Ok, John. Here's the problem.  
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>I kinda agree with you on some level. If I'm given a choice of two idiots,  
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>>> >>>  
>>> >>> Vote for me! I'm a pretty color !!!  
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---

---

Subject: Re: Voting for dummies  
Posted by [steve the artguy](#) on Tue, 07 Nov 2006 23:48:31 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

"Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote:

>  
>Though I've really had it with nearly all politicians, I  
>went ahead & voted anyway... they all sucked, but I tried to  
>vote for the least-suckiest.  
>  
>Maybe we'll all get lucky & our congress & individual local  
>governments will suck perhaps 1% less than they do now.  
>  
>1%'s better than nothing.  
>  
>Neil

what frosts me are the many times I've voted, knowing that the odds are (and as reality later shows) that many many things will be much more than 1% worse afterwards.

-steve

---

---

Subject: Re: Voting for dummies  
Posted by [duncan](#) on Wed, 08 Nov 2006 02:36:42 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Then there's this --

W.C. Fields said, "I never vote for anyone. I always vote against."

Funny, but practical too -- if he supports the mediocre guy in preference to the truly horrible guy, he moves things an increment in the direction he prefers... and maybe, by helping to keep the truly horrible guy from gaining power, he's helping to prevent some kind of unforeseen disaster that really would \*not\* have been funny...



Somebody else said something like: "the perfect is the enemy of the good" -- which also applies: you can miss a lot of possibly useful choices while waiting for the perfect one to fall in your lap.

-- holding my nose and voting tonight, as usual -- Chas.

On 7 Nov 2006 23:51:27 +1000, "John" <no@no.com> wrote:

>  
>Ok, so I come to work and a coworker asks me if I'm going to vote.  
>  
>I say "NO", there's nobody that meets my criteria for my vote.  
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---

---

Subject: Re: Voting for dummies  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Wed, 08 Nov 2006 12:12:20 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Yeah but don't be disappointed in me, be disappointed in the politicians that expect me to vote for them because they have a pretty color and not because they stand for anything.

John

Carl Amburn wrote:

> John, it's really disappointing to know that people who actually use reason,  
> such as yourself, (instead of fear) aren't going to vote.  
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> -Carl  
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> "John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:4550fbb0\$1@linux...  
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---

Subject: Re: Voting for dummies

Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Wed, 08 Nov 2006 17:39:53 GMT

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---

I'm disappointed in both attitudes. It's disappointingly easy to justify dumbing down messages for the electorate because political consultants have found a measure of success doing exactly that. Which means the electorate has failed to be as discerning as you are in that regard.

OTOH, politics in the USA is a participatory system. Sitting back and grousing about the failures of others is a weak form of participation. Stronger opportunities exist, including:

- Direct correspondence and personal contact with candidates (where you can ask for their stands and plans and discuss your perspectives). Many

candidates seek this out, they want your vote, and actively look for input from voters and opportunities to explain their outlooks.

-Membership in a political party of any stripe where you can influence policy platforms.

-Letters to the editor in local papers.

-Support for any candidates who do live up to your standards by volunteering or donating.

-Running for office yourself.

-Finding an issue that matters to you and advocating your own action plan with elected officials.

-Joining or starting organizations that advocate action on one or more issues you care about. You could, for example, start crusading for an actual "none of the above" option on the ballot. Which is, BTW, a great idea.

Those and a myriad of other options exist.

Cheers,

-Jamie

[www.JamieKrutz.com](http://www.JamieKrutz.com)

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---

Subject: Re: Voting for dummies  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Wed, 08 Nov 2006 20:29:59 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Actually Florida, South Carolina, Georgia and Oregon but who's counting.

Jim wrote:

> Hey, have pity on poor John.  
> He's from South Carolina after all.  
>



> Jamie K <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:  
>> I'm disappointed in both attitudes. It's disappointingly easy to justify  
>  
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Subject: Re: Voting for dummies  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Wed, 08 Nov 2006 20:33:35 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

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>>>> someone, well, how about doing it yourself!  
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>>>>> respect your opinion - and you really shouldn't argue about how bad  
or  
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>>>>> things go - if you don't concern yourself to participate, then don't  
>>> bitch.  
>>>>> C'mon John... you gotta do better than that. At \*least\* I did what  
I'm  
>>> able  
>>>>> to do today.  
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>>>>> Now, I should say, that I agree with you, in that these are times  
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>>>>> leadership with true inspiration and vision. And, if you are planning  
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>>>>> The polls are still open - you still have time man... !!! Do it!!!  
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>>>>>>>>>>> On 7 Nov 2006 23:51:27 +1000, "John" <no@no.com> wrote:  
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>>>>>>>> ARGHHHHHHHHHHH !!!!  
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>>>

---

---

Subject: Re: Voting for dummies  
Posted by [Jim\[2\]](#) on Wed, 08 Nov 2006 21:06:24 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hey, have pity on poor John.  
He's from South Carolina after all.

Jamie K <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:

>  
>I'm disappointed in both attitudes. It's disappointingly easy to justify  
  
>dumbing down messages for the electorate because political consultants  
>have found a measure of success doing exactly that. Which means the  
>electorate has failed to be as discerning as you are in that regard.  
>  
>OTOH, politics in the USA is a participatory system. Sitting back and  
>grousing about the failures of others is a weak form of participation.  
>Stronger opportunities exist, including:  
>  
> -Direct correspondence and personal contact with candidates (where you  
  
>can ask for their stands and plans and discuss your perspectives). Many  
  
>candidates seek this out, they want your vote, and actively look for  
>input from voters and opportunities to explain their outlooks.  
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> -Membership in a political party of any stripe where you can influence  
  
>policy platforms.  
>  
> -Letters to the editor in local papers.  
>  
> -Support for any candidates who do live up to your standards by  
>volunteering or donating.  
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> -Running for office yourself.  
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> -Finding an issue that matters to you and advocating your own action  
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>actual "none of the above" option on the ballot. Which is, BTW, a great  
  
>idea.  
>  
>Those and a myriad of other options exist.  
>  
>Cheers,  
> -Jamie  
> www.JamieKrutz.com  
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>John wrote:  
>> Yeah but don't be disappointed in me, be disappointed in the politicians  
  
>> that expect me to vote for them because they have a pretty color and  
  
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>>> John, it's really disappointing to know that people who actually use  
  
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>>>> I find that politicians think of this as a game and not truly affecting  
>>>> peoples lives. I hate it when people vote for their own special  
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>>>> the issues are the best for everyone.  
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>>>> I often recommend cutting government programs and people say "But you  
>>>> work for government, your job could be cut" and I say "Good !".

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>>>> John  
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>>> idiots,  
>>>>> and told that if I don't vote for one of them, then I am somehow a  
  
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>>>>> failure, well, that doesn't cut it.  
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>>>>> The problem is that you're not helping. It's like someone gives you  
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>>>>> of two foods you don't like, so you refuse to eat at all. The folks  
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---

Subject: Re: Voting for dummies  
Posted by [Dubya Mark Wilson](#) on Thu, 09 Nov 2006 02:44:47 GMT

Just know this, John. The second you start going off negative around here about any electee or electee's appointees, don't expect a complaint to get any airtime before you get both barrels point blank and a big 'shup' -- until Nov 2008 anyway.

Dubya

"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:45523c14\$1@linux...

> Actually Florida, South Carolina, Georgia and Oregon but who's counting.

>

> Jim wrote:

>> Hey, have pity on poor John. He's from South Carolina after all.

>>

>> Jamie K <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:

>>> I'm disappointed in both attitudes. It's disappointingly easy to justify

>>

>>> dumbing down messages for the electorate because political consultants

>>> have found a measure of success doing exactly that. Which means the

>>> electorate has failed to be as discerning as you are in that regard.

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>>> OTOH, politics in the USA is a participatory system. Sitting back and

>>> grouching about the failures of others is a weak form of participation.

>>> Stronger opportunities exist, including:

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>>> candidates seek this out, they want your vote, and actively look for

>>> input from voters and opportunities to explain their outlooks.

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>>> -Letters to the editor in local papers.

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>>> -Finding an issue that matters to you and advocating your own action

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