



“Building the Bern” – DRAFT HIM ANYWAYS.

Why EVERYONE (except Trump) is helped by a Green Party with Bernie Sanders

Bernie Sanders has been temporarily cowed by Establishment Democrats. Though he has sworn allegiance to the Clinton campaign, the Green Party should draft Sanders ANYWAYS. If he won't formally join as VP to Jill Stein, he can follow a "Placeholder VP", committed to resigning after 1 year.

Greens want people to “come on over”. They can begin with Senator Sanders. Remember, he has only been a Democrat since November 2015. Think about all the good Bernie does with the Green Party:

Sanders on the ballot in 40 states INSTANTANEOUSLY makes the Greens a major party.

Sanders on the ballot helps the Green Party to 50 state ballots the next time around.

Sanders on the ballot prevents Trump from reaching 270 votes. (Remember, Sanders pulls disaffected voters away from BOTH parties; during the primary season, many voters ranked Sanders-Trump 1-2 or Trump - Sanders 1-2.)

Sanders on the ballot just may beget a Bypass-Trump / conservative candidate.

Sanders MAY even win outright. Assume a Libertarian / Conservative / Bypass-Trump (“LCBT”) slate can garner 10 – 20% of the vote. Remember that a 35% plurality wins ALL the state’s electors. Here is the realistic scenario:

60% Democratic state	50% Democratic State	60% Republican State
40% Green / Sanders	35% Green / Sanders	40% Trump
30% Trump	25% Clinton	30% Clinton
20% Clinton	25% Trump	20% LCBT
10% LCBT	15% LCBT	10% Green / Sanders

Now, the Electoral numbers for Green / Sanders (left and center columns) vs Trump (right column):

California 55	Florida 29	Texas 38***
New York 29	Pennsylvania 20	Georgia 16
Illinois 20	Ohio 18	Arizona 11

Michigan 16	N. Carolina 15	Tennessee 11
New Jersey 14	Virginia 13	Missouri 10
Washington 12	Wisconsin 10	Indiana 11
Massachusetts 11	Colorado 9	South Carolina 9
Minnesota 10	Utah** 6	Alabama 9
Maryland 10	Nevada 6	Kentucky 8
Connecticut 7	Iowa 6	Louisiana 8
Oregon 7	New Hampshire 4***	Oklahoma 7
New Mexico 5***		Kansas 6
Maine 4		Mississippi 6
Rhode Island 4		Arkansas 6
Hawaii 4		Nebraska 5
Delaware 3		West Virginia 5
Vermont 3		Idaho 4
		Alaska 3
		Montana 3
		North Dakota 3
		South Dakota 3
		Wyoming 3
D.C. * 3 = Clinton win		

TOTALS:

Sanders 214 + 136 = 350

Clinton 3*

Trump 185

*There is precedent for the second-highest vote-getter earning the fewest electoral votes: Stephen Douglas finished second to Lincoln in 1860, but in that four-way race only received the electoral votes of one state. Like Douglas, Hillary Clinton is the true first choice of few outside the establishment. She might be many voters' second choice, but that gets her nowhere.

Clinton in 2016 is just as pernicious as pro-slavery, establishment-tied Douglas in 1860. For Greens today, Clinton is worse than Trump. Absent a runaway Congress, a president Trump has little power. Clinton as president ensures 8 more years of suppression. She might NOW be better ideologically to many Greens, but like Bill Clinton, she'll tack to the right. She'll also smash little political uprisings, so the Greens will not see the light of day legislatively.

** Utah is NOT a Trump state. Sanders crushed Clinton in the Utah caucuses; Cruz crushed Trump.

*** New Mexico could be a Gary Johnson state, with him getting 25%-30% in a 5-way race. New Hampshire too, if the Free State movement takes hold fast.

*** Texas might even be beyond reach of Trump if the LCBT pick some combination of Ted Cruz, Ron Paul, Phil Gramm, Rick Perry, and Kay Hutchison.

Now, what if Bernie steadfastly refuses to campaign? Fine, **we push anyhow**. We push for democracy, for moral character, for righting wrongs, and for the breakup of the two-party hegemony. We don't just "feel the Bern", we ARE the Bern!. We nominate a VP who can ably fill his shoes on the Campaign trail, and in the first year should a Vice President Sanders abstain from inauguration in January.

Consistent with no one Green looking power-hungry, we nominate a SUCCESSION of four or five Vice Presidents, each of whom is committed to resigning in less than two years. I happen to be a candidate for Green Party VP. , one committed to serving just 10 – 12 months prior to running for Governor. (Yes, in most states governor is more important than Vice President). I can uncover wrongdoing as ably as Bernie. I can rail against pernicious practices of the establishment even BETTER than Bernie. That's because I want to reform it, not tear it down. Should I actually serve as VP to a President Stein or Sanders, know that our roles are so different that it is NOT a contradiction. Bernie rights wrongs with Big Government; I would right wrongs with small government and private efforts. We all believe in repairing the world (in Judaism it's "Tikkun Olam"), and we are in a hurry to get there. If s/he tries to use extra-Constitutional powers, it's my job (and Congress') to rein it in. Thomas Jefferson served John Adams ably as Vice President, reining in an at-times wayward president, and our nation prospered. There is nothing wrong with that kind of division for a few months. Again, as a condition of my getting nominated, I obligate myself to resign within 12 months and let a succession of VPs, including Ralph Nader, follow.

If we help smash the Two-Party Hegemony now, Greens have a good chance at Congressional seats in 2018 and the Presidency in 2020. Dr. Stein can run then with fortitude, and a media without blinders can report that she is a better candidate than almost everyone else put before us in our lifetimes.

The Green Party is PROPERLY here to break up the Democrat Party. We should not be cowed by "you'll elect Trump" arguments. Green Party delegates might as well go home. The right kind of steadfastness is: leaders like Jill and Bernie polling better than Clinton and then able to say "**Mrs. Clinton and Mr. Kaine, get out – YOU are the vote-splitters**". We have real people voting for the interests of the country, real people who petition for ballot access, real donors who are not seeking political influence. The Democrats are the bloated troglodytes. It is time to push them to the periphery, or break their party structure entirely. A Sanders message that "YOU are the impediment; YOU are the vote-splitter" will resonate.

A President Stein or Sanders can show a lot of love to principled Democrats. I personally see five long-standing Dems who'd be worthy of Cabinet positions. And Stein - Sanders can have a cabinet that actually MAKES good changes. Even "rank-and-file" Democrats will appreciate that.

P.S. – Aside from the Corporatists, there is no loser here.

Jill Stein – runs in 2020, with 50 state ballot access.

Gary Johnson – potentially runs WITH Jill (see my 99%er article and my May 2015 (!) article about a Ben Carson – Carly Fiorina ticket).

William Weld – Ambassador to Ireland. Stands / runs in 2020 as potential Liaison to Governors, a valuable post for any president committed to downsizing the federal government.

Elizabeth Warren – so she won't be the first female Vice President. She can run the Bureau of Indian Affairs. She is melancholy now...this will help her get over not jumping in.

Hillary Clinton – would be miserable as president. She has more to hate, and less ability to deflect hatred, than Bill Clinton ever did. She will love being Ambassador to Sweden, or if staying home, directing the FBP (Federal Bureau of Prisons) following a short stay in an orange jump-suit / pant-suit.

Bill Clinton – He can cavort with Mr. Epstein and his “fantasy/Porno Island” crowd without scrutiny. He can continue giving highly-paid speeches to big Corporations and Arab governments. And he can stay largely away from a four-year rehash of presidential peccadillos, of pre-presidential infidelities, and perhaps grow to become an esteemed statesman.

Donald Trump -- would be unhappy as president, especially if he inherits a recalcitrant congress and a vigilant electorate. He's a talented man who will get little done. He has made a good legacy for himself now and “enhanced” it over the last 13 months; the rest is downhill. I have four beautiful non-government positions for a Talented, egotistical Donald Trump. He'll be very happy. Very, very happy. We can make Donald Trump great again. Incredible, tremendous. Really great. Really.

The “Never Trump” movement – theirs will be the greatest victory. The perversion of democracy would be corrected by the Green Party's choice of Sanders. In the competitive primaries and caucuses, Trump's biggest victories comprised no more than 8% of the state's adult population. Blame open primaries (a stupid idea) and the seriatim resignations of Trump's 16 competitors (had 3 or 4 conservative candidates joined Scott Walker when he bowed out, Donald Trump would be golfing right now.) The failure of conservative non-candidates (Kristol, Lee, Levin, Romney, Sasse) to band together will not be a haunting stigma. Indeed, these men, plus Carson, Cruz, Fiorina, Graham, Huckabee, Jindal, Pataki, Rand Paul, and Marco Rubio, plus some very prolific small-government conservatives (Amash, Bachmann, Beck, Borelli, Elder, Foster, Ingraham, Hewitt, Kennedy, Malkin, Medved, Napolitano, Petersen, Prager, Sowell, & Walter Williams) are among the people who have ALREADY been named to one would-be cabinet. (see www.stewartforliberty.com). The Green Party is at minimum a vehicle to their Jeffersonian resuscitation, and perhaps a major participant in the most vigorous democracy this republic has ever seen. With it, the movement emboldens congress (you NEED principled congress to stand up to a socialist president). This political tumult is exactly what we need, and the Never Trump people will applaud.