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Moday'S "QUICK HIT": ABOLISH THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE? WHY? ARE YOU A BAD LOSER?



By Stephen L. Bakke 🏁 November 30, 2016

Here's what provoked me:

A well-known Fort Myers TV talk host jumps all over the Electoral College. He's very uninformed and provides misleading information to the readers. Here's my attempt to clarify a very complex subject.

Here's my response:

Abolish the Electoral College? Why? Are you a bad loser?

TV talk host Lee Pitts is passionately opposed to the Electoral College. He seems generally uninformed, yet listens to some complaints, then overreacts ("Abolish Electoral College" – 11/29).

There isn't adequate space to have an electoral process debate – e.g. why the elector allocation is based on the numbers of representatives and senators, or why most states have "winner take all." Suffice it to say that Mr. Pitts doesn't do his homework and as a result "drinks from the kool-aid" of the race-baiters. His opinion leans heavily on the argument that the electoral process had its roots in maintaining slavery. He points out that each slave was counted as only "three-fourths" of a person – a suspicious result for sure (actually, the correct fraction was "three-fifths").

Pitts concludes that the Southern slave-owners enhanced their congressional and electoral influence in that way. Actually the "fraction of a person" result wasn't intended as a "slap in the face" of slaves. It was a compromise to REDUCE the count to "three-fifths," thereby REDUCING the influence of slave-owners. Many northerners were anti-slavery and wanted to convert slaves to free U.S. citizens. That would take a while!

Don't be a bad loser, Mr. Pitts, and do your research!