

Debunking Widespread 2020 Election Fraud

This paper attempts to use logic and clear thinking, along with a smattering of common sense, to debunk the speculation that there was widespread election fraud in the November 3 election.

First, we need to define a few terms:

- Voter fraud is the attempt by a person voting, or registering to vote, to break an election law. Voter fraud is covered by state statutes, as are the penalties. Voter fraud can be charged as a felony and entail prison and a fine. Incidentally, it applies not only to just a single person, but an organization that attempts such fraud.
- Election fraud is an attempt by a government official (election official, election worker, ...) to break an election law. The same as above applies (e.g., usually a felony crime).
- Election irregularities are things that go wrong or are unexpected, but are not crimes. E.g., closing a polling place too early, losing a box of ballots, miscounting, ... Election irregularities generally don't affect one party over another, but they can.
- Voter suppression is when a government makes it difficult or impossible for an eligible voter to vote. One could argue that Texas committed voter suppression in this election by providing only a single drop box in extremely large counties.

The following is a discussion of why it is extremely unlikely that any widespread fraud occurred. And since the misinformation floating around seems 100% pointed at the Biden/Democrat party, we take this point of view in the discussion.

1. **Motivation and pre-election polls.** Almost every pre-election poll put Biden significantly in the lead, and in fact he did win but not quite as much as the polls predicted. So if any party had thoughts of interfering with the election, it would be the underdog – i.e., Trump. If you are ahead in the polls and consider the risk of life in prison for multiple felony counts of fraud, you don't rock the boat.
2. **Large-scale conspiracies.** To conspire to change the result of a presidential election, you would need to enlist 100s or 1000s of people across multiple states. We know that large-scale conspiracies cannot exist; the probability that someone leaks the secrets is too high. Furthermore, for the leaders of such a large-scale conspiracy, the risk of life in prison goes up for each additional person who is "in on it."
3. **Down-ballot results.** On the top of the ballot, Biden got slightly more than 7M votes than Trump. But down the ballot, Republicans did far better than expected; the Republicans picked up considerable seats in the House, and saved some seats they expected to lose in the Senate. How can this be? The logical explanation is that many Republicans voted for Biden on the top but went party line for the rest of the candidates.

If ballots were fabricated via trucks or suitcases in the middle of the night, why would they be done so to keep the Republicans in control of the Senate and significantly tighten the balance of power in the House?

4. **Myth of 10 PM November 3.** Because of the pandemic, many states expanded mail-in and absentee ballots. These states had different rules when these ballots are tallied. Many of these states could not tally these ballots until the evening of November 3. And it was well known that Democrats would be more inclined to use mail-in ballots. Thus the media, prior to November 3, told us all that it was very likely that, in these states, Trump would appear to be in the lead in the evening of November 3rd. but that Biden would pull in the lead once the mail-in ballots were tallied. So what was predicted by many happened, and it thus isn't any indication of fraud.
5. **Smart versus Crazy Stupid Fraud.** Here we speculate what we would have done if we wanted to commit fraud. In short, we would use a single means of fraud that could affect a lot of votes in just a couple of states, and we would limit the people involved to ten or fewer well-known, well-trusted associates. Even here, the risk is uncomfortably high, with the downside of spending the rest of our lives in prison.

But this is the polar opposite of what has been claimed as fraud in the multitude of lawsuits and affidavits. These claims make it sound like anything and everything was deployed, involving 1000s of people. These include (just a small sample of many):

- a. In some states, observers were removed so that wrongdoing could occur. (Really? Someone would be dumb enough to do something so obvious?)
 - b. False ballots were secreted (in plain sight) under tables.
 - c. 96,600 absentee ballots in Georgia were counted but never recorded as returned.
 - d. Voting machines were seized in Ware County Georgia and the votes were switched to Biden. (But Trump won Ware County by 70%.)
 - e. In several states, so-called mysterious trucks showed up in the middle of the night with ballots.
 - f. Election workers were seen filling out ballots for Biden.
 - g. A fake urinal leak was announced so that the counting room would be closed but then reopened in secret.
 - h. Piles of ballots were tabulated as many as 50 times.
 - i. 160,000 to 400,000 votes from unknown voters occurred in Arizona.
 - j. Votes were tabulated in Spain, Ukraine, and Pakistan.
 - k. Certain elected Republican officials are part of the conspiracy. Maybe also judges.
 - l. China is in on the fraud. Also Russia. Also Iran.
6. **Fraud claims involving Dominion Voting Systems.**
 - a. Dominion systems were hacked to change votes. (Not sure this even works, because the voting system produces a paper ballot that the voter then hands in. And 100% of these paper ballots can then be recounted, as happened in Georgia. Also, if hacking did occur, it doesn't tell us the political leanings of the culprit.)
 - b. Dominion Voting Systems (the company) was in on the fraud. (One argument here is that Dominion is owned by private-equity firm Staple Street Capital, and some Chinese companies are investors in Staple. But Chinese investors are all over the place. E.g., because of the huge Federal debt of the U.S., the Chinese hold a huge amount of our national debt.) Of course, this would pretty much mean that most of the 250 Dominion employees must be in on the ruse.

- c. An adjudication feature in the tabulating system that deals with incorrectly marked ballots put these ballots in the Biden category (but apparently didn't do so for incorrect markings in the down-ballot votes?)
- d. Dominion's involvement dates back to Hugo Chavez in Venezuela. He got Dominion to create backdoors in their systems to change votes.

All this said, some fraud does occur, but it is pretty much single-voter fraud and is often caught and prosecuted. For instance, in my home state of Oregon, five people were convicted of voter fraud in the 2018 election – Marjory Gale, Betty Clark, Jeremy Robbins, Michael Cruz, and Katie Meyer. They committed their crimes independent of one another. Even in the recent 2020 election, people have already been arrested for voter fraud. Bruce Bartman faces felony counts for casting an absentee ballot for Trump on behalf of his deceased mother. Ralph Thurman faces the same by his attempt to vote for Trump twice, once disguised as his son. Kelly Reagan Brunner has been charged with 147 counts by attempting to register for absentee ballots from unaware residents of a long-term care facility.

Of course there is the fact that no election bodies in any of the states have found any significant fraud, nor have fifty-some courts who have heard complaints, many of them being Trump-nominated judges.

In short, there is no reason to believe that any widespread fraud occurred.

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