

The Electoral College

By: Jesse Davis

For almost two centuries the Electoral College has played a major role in the decision of which individual would be the President of the United States. The Electoral College was founded in 1787 at the Constitutional Convention by members of the convention. It was agreed that each state, based on how ever many congressmen that state had, would have equal number of electors. The founders concluded that the Electoral College would bring balance between a state's representation and popular sovereignty. This gave every state equal representation in the selection of the President. I believe that the Electoral College is important for the United States voting system because of the balance it brings to all states and it brings democracy to a state of equilibrium.

The Electoral College allows the voices of less populated states an opportunity to be heard. For example, Wyoming may not be as populous as Florida but still has two electoral votes for senators and one because of its representative. This allows people in Wyoming to express their political voice. It not only voices their opinions, it prioritizes their stances. The Electoral College also prevents states from altering laws to their advantage in elections. For instance, a state such as California might want to lower the voting age to increase the popular vote in order to monopolize the vote for a candidate. A candidate in the situation of a majority vote could easily spend his campaign in the state he/she is from and raise his vote. This would create an unfair advantage for other states. Not one region of the United States has enough electoral votes to where if a candidate won that region he would win the election. Furthermore the Electoral College helps avert the country from turning into a monarchy. In American history it was evident that the founders of this democracy feared that a voting system that utilized only popular vote would end in a ruler that abused his powers. Today the Electoral College continues to protect the United States from turning into that by creating a way for every part of the nation to express their concerns. In the past election, Donald Trump had less popular vote than Hillary Clinton. But because of the electoral votes, Donald Trump won the election. Although studies showed that Clinton would win in a landslide, voters in smaller or more rural states were looked over actually played a crucial role in the outcome of the election. Ultimately, when these voters went out and voted, it changed states that were typically blue to red which gave Trump more electoral votes.

In all, the Electoral College is the backbone to the American voting system. It is the foundation and stepping stone to who will lead and protect this country. To me the Electoral College gives me confidence that my voice matters in my political views. It allows me to vote and not worry that the wrong decision will be made on who will lead this country. It gives everyone the opportunity at equality.

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