

## **Voting - Achilles Heel of Democracy?**



**WHEN PEOPLE FIND OUT THEY CAN VOTE THEMSELVES MONEY, THAT WILL BE THE END OF THE REPUBLIC - Benjamin Franklin**

What Benjamin Franklin, and other early writers, saw was a potential weakness in the Republic as founded that would allow Congress to prostitute itself by rewarding those who would vote for them with funds from the public Treasury. In other words, voters can vote money from the Treasury into their own pocket by simply voting for the "right" members of Congress.

This little essay is not really about people. It is about a system that, perhaps without meaning to, encourages irresponsible behavior by appealing to the side of human nature that wants an abundant life without working for it. We all love Santa Claus.

Here is an example I have heard and will share: A group of students go to college. Some students work hard, study diligently and get all A's & B's. Other students party, skip classes, do not study, attend marches and protests for "causes" and get D's & F's. Their Professor says that in order to be "fair" to all students he has decided to "tax" the hard working students A's & B's and share those grades with the lazy students who got the D's & F's. In this way all students can average out at a "C" grade. Some of the students are going to love this idea and others will likely hate it. Can you guess which ones will love it?

If through the ballot box we give the power of giving the money of those who earned it (other peoples money) to those who did not earn it, and if congress lacks the integrity to be fiscally responsible in order to gain votes - we are ultimately doomed as a nation.

The only possible fix for this would be to not allow "non-producers" to vote. Good luck getting that through Congress.

At least we will have lots of historical company. The dustbin of history is littered with the remains of failed "so called" democracies.

For a more humorous look at what I am writing about you might want to read an article I wrote back in November of 2012. Just type Locust in the "Search" box on the left side of the page and hit enter on your keyboard.

**Bob Bandy**

**Stop Pulling the Wagon**

Are You Tired Of Government Lies, Hypocrisy and Corruption?

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