

Countries have different voting systems. The more “democratic” the system is (the more positions people have the right to vote for) the more sensitive the system becomes to have “educated” voters. In this regard the US system has the highest level of built-in sensitivity.

Sensitivity and danger come in many forms, but the most critical problem is the unfortunate fact that between 50%-65% of any population of any country around the world is a herd mentality, mindless moron, easy to take practically anywhere on the political spectrum. Time to time this factor has the potential to take a country to the brink of collapse. It happens when they elect an honest ideologue (whose political views and conviction qualify him/her as “politically mad”) surrounded by large number opportunistic ruthless gangsters in a historical time when a large segment of the population is ready for some major change. The population is not ready for a “turn-left/right-and-go-as-far-as-you-can” change; they are just ready for any change. These are the times when mad ideologues think their philosophy is finally understood, and people surrounding them see their time and chance have finally arrived.

If you do not believe in “herd mentality”, you should read a bit about how Austrians greeted the occupying Nazis in Vienna. I mean these people crowded the streets of Vienna, wildly cheering for the Nazis marching in, ***while being occupied!!!*** How much more “herd mentality” do you want to get? Since I do not think you believe me, let me quote Professor Eric R. Kandel, an Austrian born Nobel Prize winner, from his book “In Search of Memory”:

*“....Even though the president of Austria acquiesced to all of Germany’s demands, Hitler invaded the country the next day. Now came the surprise. Rather than being met by angry crowds of Austrians, Hitler was welcomed enthusiastically by a substantial majority of the population. As George Berkley has pointed out, this dramatic turnabout from people who screamed loyalty to Austria and supported Schuschnigg one day to people who greeted Hitler’s troops as “German brothers” the next, cannot be explained simply by the emergence from the underground of tens of thousands of Nazis. Rather, what happened was one of history’s ‘fastest and fullest mass conversions’. Hans Ruzicka was to write ‘These people who cheered the Emperor and then cursed him, who welcomed democracy after the Emperor was dethroned and then cheered [Dollfuss’s] fascism when the system came to power. Today he is a Nazi, tomorrow he will be something else...’ (In Search of Memory P.27.)*

I always cite this argument when I discuss this topic with people: in my view, in the United States everyone has an unconditional chance to make it, if the person is willing to work for it. During my 25 years in the US, I knew numerous people who made it out of poverty; a friend, who came from Kenya, dirt poor. He lived in his car (he bought it for \$500) for two months after he arrived to the US; he is now a finance manager. Another friend of mine comes from a dirt poor, alcoholic, El Paso based Mexican family. He graduated from UT Austin and became a director at IBM. To make it in this country, is not based upon your skin color. There is a long list of people serve as “Exhibit A”: Barack Hussein Obama, Justice Thomas and Justice Kagan among many others (Colin Powel, Condelisa Right...)

In my opinion, you can blame your local school system to the tune of 10% of your problem. The remaining 90% shall be evenly distributed between you and your parents. Granted, some school systems are not good. But even if your parents live in a housing assistance program, they can move to another part of the city, or into a new city altogether. I mean if they are interested in your education at all. The other half of the 90% is yours. Just because your grandpa and your father were on welfare all their life, does not mean you should continue the practice. Actually, I cannot claim to be the first with this observation: one of the most famous among my predecessors was Bill Cosby. Mr. Cosby’s skin color notwithstanding, he caused a firestorm in the black community by saying: get off welfare, do something and stop blaming others.

While I have many non-white friends who pulled themselves out of poverty, I also know a handful of white people, who fully qualify for the “white trash” or “trailer trash” definition. So, it is not your skin color.

Up until the 1950s, voting rights in fact were based upon skin color, which was very wrong. By now on the other hand, not just everyone has access, but minorities also have a running start through Affirmative Action. So let us think about the voting right by approaching it from the “skin color notwithstanding, what’s in your head” angle. Because it is truly your responsibility how much is in there. Those of us who were not cursed with Outcome Based Education know that the US system is very unique in the world: we vote for a long list of positions, such as school board members, city council members, judges, state and federal house members and senators, to name a few. Not to mention the President of the United States. By looking at this model, one can easily conclude how dangerous, how anti national-security and anti-US an uneducated voting public can be and really is.

If anyone cares to look back at the 2006 election, there was a telling moment on CNN (if my memory serves, but the channel is not the point). Two days before the election (remember: by then, election news for about three months blanketed every single part of the US media) CNN went down to the streets of N.Y., and randomly stopped people. The reporter had a board in his hand with Nancy Pelosi, Harry Read and Dick Cheney’s picture on it. The other side of the board had Britney Spears’ picture. They stopped approximately 40 people. **No one** recognized Pelosi and Read, maybe three recognized Cheney and every single one of them recognized Britney Spears. **Is this the society we are building?** Is this the cultural and education level we are demanding? It would be funny if it was not tragic: this “electorate” (if you want to define this MTV educated, rap infested, mindless mass an “electorate”) will vote not only for your president, but your senators, house members on the local and federal level, judges, school board members, and a long list of other representatives and officers who will be in position to influence your life.

I want to share another experience with you showing how little (close to nothing) we expect from our own citizens, and how much it is already in the cultural fabric of America, that we assume: 90% of the voting public is mindless. It is safe to say that between July and September, 2010 John Boehner was not only on TV and radio, but his statements were literally coming from the garden hose. About tax cut, Obama care, Nancy Pelosi, national debt, “stimulus”, and Obama’s economic team, to name a few topics. And yet, one of the most popular conservative commentators said at least three times a week in different contexts: “...*well, most Americans do not even know who John Boehner is*”...” For those of you, coming out of Outcome Based Education: John Boehner at that time was the US House of Representatives’ Minority Leader. In January 2011 he became Speaker of The House and have been two heartbeats away from the presidency. To wildly assume that “most Americans” have no clue who he is, is an indictment of US education and societal culture. It is horrible and frightening. It was even more frightening how matter of fact this commentator was (by the way, I fully agree with him).

It is my strongly held view that we should abolish the general voting rights and replace it with an “education-based” system, where anyone (skin color, gender, sex orientation notwithstanding), receives a voting card after completing the second year in an accredited college. As I argued, no one in this country is excluded from education, provided you actually want to do it. Therefore, an education-based voting structure is most reasonable. Wow! This is radical! No, actually it is not. It is common sense. I refuse to live in a country where people who have never had a book in their hands, and Britney Spears is the only one they are able to recognize will have the power to vote for the judge who might preside over a case I am involved in. I do not care if you disagree with me. I do not care if you are a socialist, a communist, a Nazi, or a liberal. I do not care if you are black, brown, yellow, or polka-dot. I do not care if you are gay, strait or a transvestite. I do not care if

## Voting Rights

---

September 24, 2011

you're poor or rich. I do not care if you are a CEO of a large company or walking the streets in Las Vegas. So long as you can put a reasonable argument together to defend your position, I am OK with you and I will listen. But if Britney Spears is the only one you can recognize, then **as a voter you are worthless** to me and to America. Because I do not want you to elect my president, senator, house member, judge, and council man.

If we apply the "50%-65%" rule and add the referred experience on TV, we must come to a conclusion that the US with its policies on education, immigration, healthcare, welfare, and a list of others has been working hard over the last 25-30 years to push the "55%" as high as possible. It is a real danger for our country. But maybe it's just me.