“Election 2016: American Politics in a Time of Disruption”

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Greetings
Topics

• How we got here in 2016. Iowa, New Hampshire...
• Some big trends to watch.
• Minorities & gender.
• Can the GOP survive Trump? Can Democrats survive Clinton?
• Trump, Clinton & business
• “Down Ticket” campaigns.
Election 2016 - The Beginning

• Iowa and New Hampshire – “First in the Nation”
• Is that a good way to start? (Cruz & Trump, Clinton & Sanders)

• The Daily Show did not think so!
• In “Iowa: The Chosen Ones” they mocked me for Iowa being white, rural, “churchy,” agricultural, “Ethanoly,” and less than 1% of the nation’s population.

• play Video ?
  • Online
  • Offline
BIG issues:

**Issue 1. The rise of “No Party”**

- “Collapse of the parties?”
- **Voters** identifying as:
  - “Independent” 42%
  - Democrat 29%
  - Republican 26%
Issue 2. Growing Partisan Polarization

Democrats and Republicans More Ideologically Divided than in the Past
Distribution of Democrats and Republicans on a 10-item scale of political values

1994

2004

2014

Source: 2014 Political Polarization in the American Public
Notes: Ideological consistency based on a scale of 10 political values questions (see Appendix A). The blue area in this chart represents the ideological distribution of Democrats; the red area of Republicans. The overlap of these two distributions is shaded purple. Republicans include Republican-leaning independents; Democrats include Democratic-leaning independents (see Appendix B).
Liberal, Moderate or Conservative? See How Facebook Labels You

By JEREMY B. MERRILL  AUG. 23, 2016
Issue 3. Social Polarization

• “Inter-party marriage, even dating has become increasingly frowned-upon by both Democrats and Republicans.”

• Stanford communications scholar Shanto Iyengar
Koch Brothers – “Leave the GOP”

- The Koch brothers are pivoting with hundreds of millions funding a new movement:
- [Endthedivide.com](http://Endthedivide.com)
- “Let’s stop attacking people we disagree with and trying to silence them. Let’s instead try to find common ground and learn from each other so we can innovate.”
Issue 4. Anger

• “The angriest and most pessimistic people in America are the people we used to call Middle Americans.

• Middle-class and middle-aged; not rich and not poor; people who are irked when asked to “press 1 for English”, and who wonder how white male became an accusation rather than a description.”

• Source: The Atlantic
FEAR

• “Social media is taking over the world and I’m feeling like I no longer fit into this new age.”

• e-mail to Schmidt
Mega Analysis

Both Trump & Clinton have highest negatives in modern history
Change in favorability since June

Data from Quinnipiac University.

Clinton

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Trump

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Clinton vs Trump

- Trump’s negatives are high.
- Trump may sharpen the GOP divide (said Ted Cruz)
- He has no experience in government or politics. President is NOT like an all powerful CEO of a private corporation!
- Clinton’s negatives are high.
- Email scandal.
- Mistrust of “Clinton sleaze.”
Recent Republican performance with minority voters is bad.

- In 2012, Barack Obama won 93 percent of African American votes, 71 percent of Hispanic votes and 73 percent of Asian American votes over Mitt Romney.
- Will Trump do much worse than Romney?
- Yes. Hispanic support is lowest ever for GOP.
- Gender gap has been big and growing in favor of Democrats.
Clinton will be forced to defend the status quo

- Clinton’s experience - first lady, senator and secretary of state. Knows how to work the system.
- Is she uniquely disadvantaged to defend against Trump’s anti-establishment attacks?
- Or is the experience an asset?
Right or Wrong?

• In the most recent polls 26.9% of Americans think the nation is headed in the right direction.
• 64.9% down the wrong track.
• Who can benefit most, Democrats or Republicans?
Take Away

• Trump shaking the foundations of American politics.

• His **negatives** are HUGE. With EVERY demographic in today’s best polls.

• **Most important.** The business community & Wall Street are worried about Trump. They know more or less what Clinton will do which is Obama term3.
How big business lost Washington

By Steven Pearlstein  September 2 at 6:38 PM  

“Just about every Republican I know who is in business is apoplectic about the prospect of Donald Trump as president, but they are also afraid of him,” one former chief executive said. “They don’t want to put their companies in harm’s way.”
BUT, “... many chief executives have what one called “deep, residual anxiety” about Hillary Clinton. Those have deepened since Clinton joined hands with Sens. Elizabeth Warren (Mass.) and Bernie Sanders (Vt.) — two anti-corporate crusaders.”
Trump vs Clinton
Polling Update
The Great Republican Revolt

The GOP planned a dynastic restoration in 2016. Instead, it triggered an internal class war. Can the party reconcile the demands of its donors with the interests of its rank and file?

The 2012 GOP report warned that the party was “increasingly marginalizing itself” to a point where it would be “increasingly difficult for Republicans to win another presidential election in the near future.”

Unless the party expands its aging white base to include more immigrants, ethnic minorities, young voters, and women.
Clinton win big if she “holds on” to the 19 “blue” states, DC and wins Florida.

242 Blue States  
+29 Florida  
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271 WIN

Politico reported today on a Florida poll conducted for a business group in the state that shows Hillary Clinton beating Donald Trump by 13 points and Ted Cruz by nine.

Why is that important? Because if Clinton wins Florida and carries the 19 states (plus D.C.) that have voted for the Democratic presidential nominee in each of the last six elections, she will be the 45th president. It's that simple.

Here's what that map would look like:

And here's the underlying math. If Clinton wins the 19 states (and D.C.) that every Democratic nominee has won from 1992 to 2012, she has 242 electoral votes. Add Florida's 29 and you get 271. Game over.
But

• Trump can win if he holds the states Romney won plus Florida and a few rust belt states.
Little discussion of the Issues

- Dodd-Frank - De-Regulation – Who’ll be better Trump or Clinton? Net Neutrality.
- Cyber Crime; Cyber War. (US STRATCOM)
- The world economy. “Secular” (long-lasting or permanent) Stagnation.
- Interest rates - Zero or negative?
- Racial tensions; immigration.
- Defense spending & budgets.
- Gun control – No fly list; terrorists.
There's clear evidence Russian intelligence services broke into the Democratic National Committee, stole those emails. Experts saying Putin is releasing these emails to help Donald Trump.

“191 million US voter registration records online in an unprotected folder.”

Hacker Selling Entire US Voters’ Registration Records on Dark Net
“Down Ballot Races” -- Current Senate

GOP has 54 – Dems 46 (44)

Some GOP incumbents worried about reelection

- Mark Kirk, Illinois (vs Tammy Duckworth, D)
- Rob Portman, Ohio (vs. former gov. Ted Strickland)
- Ron Johnson, Wisconsin (vs Russ Feingold)
- Kelly Ayotte, New Hampshire (My second Senator) vs Maggie Hassan)
- Pat Toomey, Pennsylvania (But badly contested Dem primary)

EVEN

- John McCain (AZ) & Chuck Grassley (IA)
State Advocacy

• State House environments and advocacy strategies will be deeply affected by election 2016.
  – Banking regulations
  – Consumer issues
  – Race
  – Policing
  – Healthcare
BIG problems Trump can solve.

“On social media. #TacoTrucksOnEveryCorner surged to the top of Twitter’s list of trending topics.”

Marco Gutierrez, founder of the group Latinos for Trump
Are You Prepared For Disruption?
Questions & Comments

Thank you