The Movement for

RANKED CHOICE VOTING

Presenter:
Kyle Herman
Executive Director of

RANK THE VOTE OHIO

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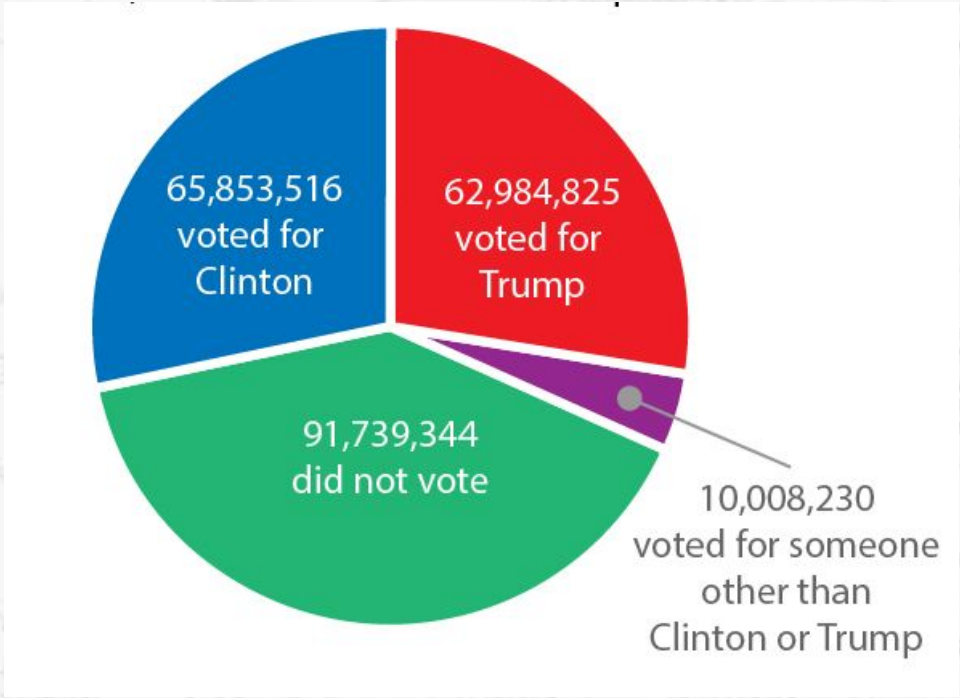
The Problem

Almost 45% of the country did not vote



Variety of Reasons

1. No one represents me
2. Nothing will change
3. I don't like any candidates
4. Don't have time
5. System is too broken anyway

2016 Statistics

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The Problem

What if you voted early?

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Introduction

Old Ballot

Rep. to Congress District 2	
Bond, Tiffany L. Portland Independent	○
Golden, Jared F. Lewiston Democratic	○
Hoar, William R.S. Southwest Harbor Independent	○
Poliquin, Bruce Oakland Republican	○
Write-in	○

New Ranked-Choice Ballot

Rep. to Congress District 2	*1st Choice*	*2nd Choice*	*3rd Choice*	*4th Choice*	*5th Choice*
Bond, Tiffany L. Portland Independent	○	○	○	○	○
Golden, Jared F. Lewiston Democratic	○	○	○	○	○
Hoar, William R.S. Southwest Harbor Independent	○	○	○	○	○
Poliquin, Bruce Oakland Republican	○	○	○	○	○
Write-in	○	○	○	○	○

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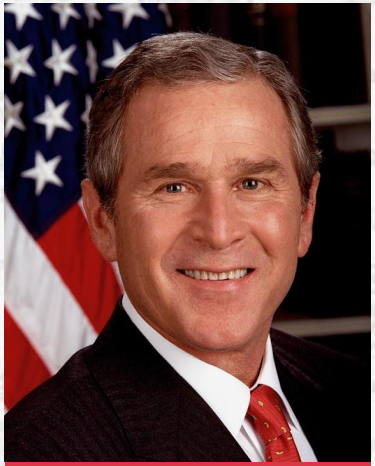
The Problem

U.S. Presidential Election in Florida, 2000

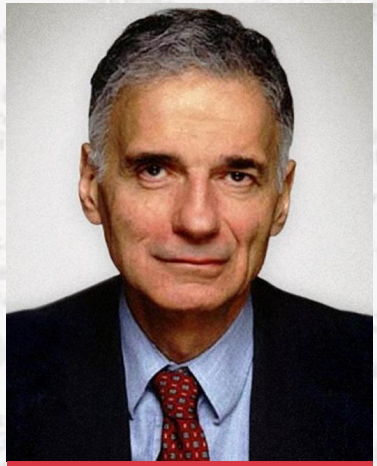


GEORGE BUSH

48.85%
2,912,790

AL GORE

48.84%
2,912,253



RALPH NADER

1.64%
97,488

537 vote difference

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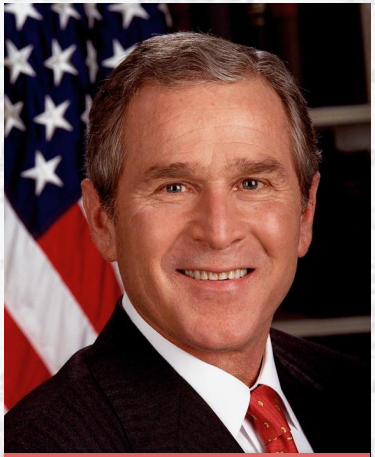
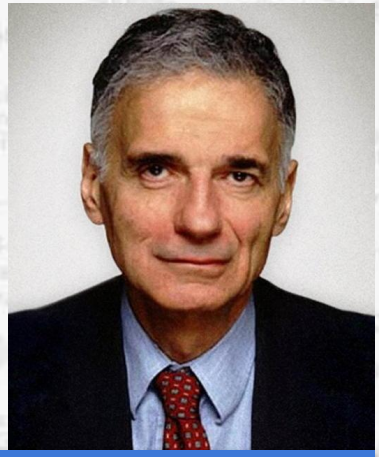
The Problem

U.S. Presidential Election in Florida, 2000



49.6%



50.4%

Nader called **“SPOILER”**

Effect on Elections

- Incumbents win 90% of the time - why?
  - “Electability”
  - Name Recognition
  - Fear of losing to ‘other team’
- No Minor Parties
  - 62% of Americans want a viable 3rd party
  - 2-3% are willing to vote for them
  - Why vote for someone you know will lose?

Voters don’t want to waste votes.

Voting System is the Problem

- Allows for the “spoiler” effect
- Fails to require majority support
- Discourages new candidates
- Restricts your choice and your voice

Ranked Choice Voting is the Solution

Instead of choosing one candidate, you **rank** your **choices** in the order **you want**.

Winner must win a **majority**, not just a **plurality**.

RANKED CHOICE (INSTANT-RUNOFF) SAMPLE BALLOT			
Mark one circle in each column	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice
Love 'em 😍	●	○	○
Like 'em 🙂	○	●	○
Hate 'em 😡	○	○	○

How Do We Choose the Winner?

The only way to win in a ranked choice contest is by gaining the **majority of votes**. This happens either right away or in **“Instant Runoffs.”**

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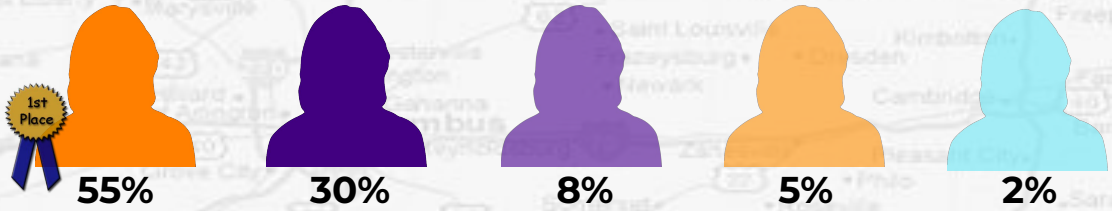
The Solution

Here's how it works

- 5 candidates, one with majority support

Round 1



Count only the 1st choice votes.

Majority in First Round!

What if there isn't a majority?

- 5 candidates, none with majority support

Round 1

35% 25% 19% 12% 9%

Count only the 1st choice votes.

No Majority in First Round

Here's how it changes the system

- 4 candidates left, still none with majority support

Round 2

35%	25%	19%	12%	9%
+0%	+4%	+3%	+2%	↵

Take the votes from last place and redistribute.

No Majority in Second Round

Keep going

- 3 candidates left, still none with majority support

Round 3

35% +1%

29% +7%

22% +6%

14% ↵

Take the votes from last place and redistribute.

No Majority in Third Round

Almost there

- 2 candidates left, still none with majority support

Round 4

36% +7%

36% +21%

28% ↵

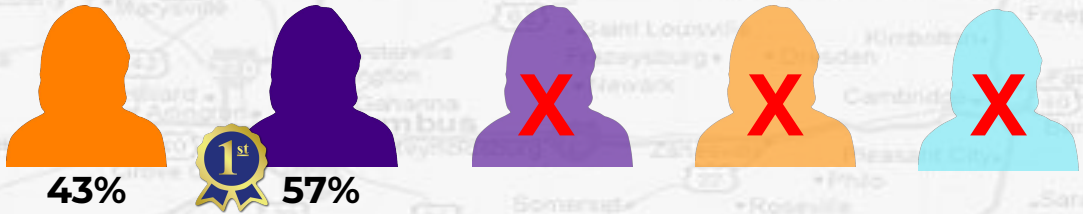
Take the votes from last place and redistribute.

No Majority in Fourth Round

Final Result

- A majority is found!

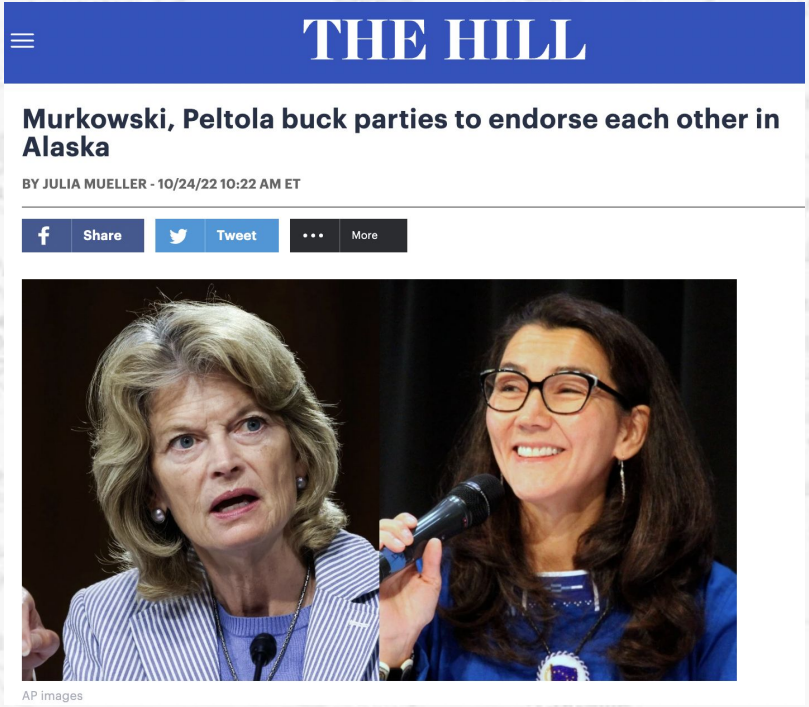
Final Round



Winner in the Fifth Round

A New Culture of Campaigns

- **No more hate campaigns**
  - Campaigning with opponents
- **Must appeal to wide range of voters**
  - Need to win 2nd choice
- **Candidates must consider how they will rank even with voters outside their base**



THE HILL

Murkowski, Peltola buck parties to endorse each other in Alaska

BY JULIA MUELLER - 10/24/22 10:22 AM ET

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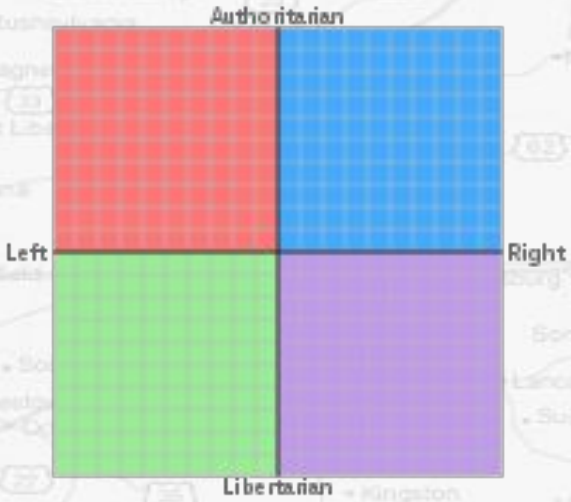
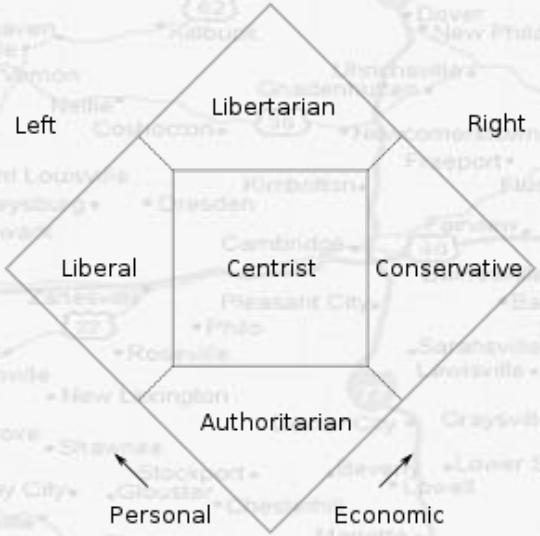
AP images

Issues Become the Focus

How many great ideas are we missing out on?





RCV Gives Power Back to the People

- It allows you to choose who **you** want
- Discourages negative campaigning
- Encourages more people to run
- Gives voters more **choice** and more **voice**

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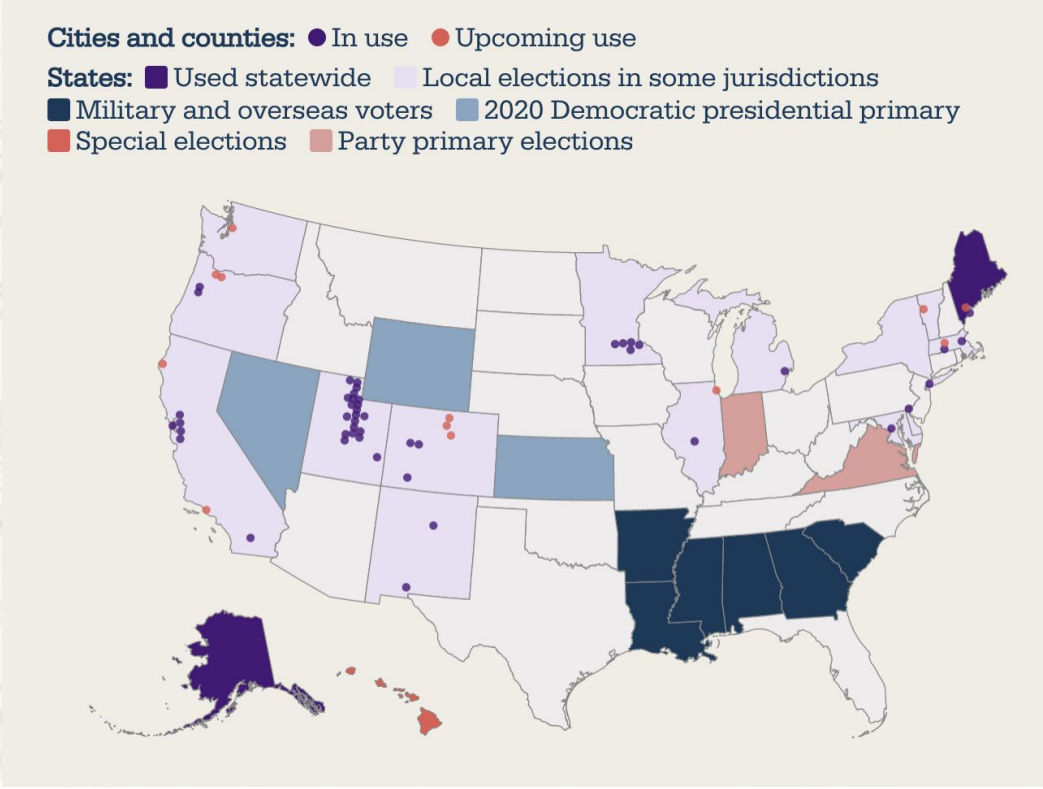
Progress on RCV Across the U.S.



- Maine and Alaska are the first states to use RCV statewide
- RCV is used in local elections, primaries, and for military/overseas voters in other states

See Full List

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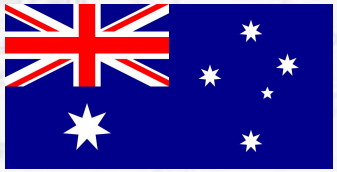
RCV around the world



Australia

100 years!

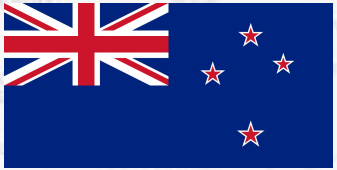
Ireland

100 years!

Canada

Scotland

India



New Zealand

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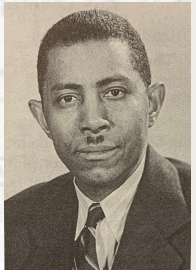
History of RCV in Ohio (1913-1960)

- Ashtabula, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Hamilton, & Toledo



THE FORGOTTEN RESULTS & FUTURE PROMISE OF RANKED CHOICE VOTING IN OHIO

Alex Ault | July 24, 2018

SHARE

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The RCV Ban Bill (SB 137)

- Financially punishes communities that use RCV.
- More than just about RCV: Power grab undermining the Ohio Constitution's 100-year-old Home Rule Authority.
- Talking points and petition: rtvo.org/stoptheban

Republican Ohio senator wants to ban ranked choice voting

Updated: Jul. 21, 2023, 8:08 p.m. | Published: Jul. 21, 2023, 2:58 p.m.

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Our Plan

How to make this happen?

- **People Power**
  - Canvassing, phone banking, text banking
- **Money**
  - Signatures, lawyers, ads, campaign infrastructure
- **Endorsements**
  - Show momentum for RCV

RANK THE VOTE OHIO

Supporters

Endorsements

- LWV Ohio
- Veterans for All
- BlackPAC
- Forward Ohio
- The Green Party of Ohio
- Libertarian Party of Hamilton County
- Principles First Ohio
- American Solidarity Party Ohio
- Our Revolution Ohio
- Cleveland Votes
- Move To Amend
- Unitarian Universalist Justice Ohio

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RankTheVoteOhio.org

How Can You Help?

RTVO.org/Action

- Sign on and spread the message
  - rtvo.org/petition
- Volunteer
  - rtvo.org/volunteer
- Donate
  - rtvo.org/donate
- Invite your friends
  - rtvo.org/calendar

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