Letter to the Editor of the Van Zandt News January 12, 2025

Dear Editor,

Are you aware of the numbers of actual voters in the 2024 election?

The 2024 General Election data, as compiled by the UF Election Lab, shows a U.S. voting-eligible population (VEP) of 244+ million. VEP is the count of all those of voting age minus those not eligible to vote. A portion of the VEP, although eligible to vote, cannot vote, because they do not register.

The U.S. VEP turnout rate was 63.9% - over 88 million not voting. Texas had a VEP of 20+ million with a turnout rate of 56.6% and 18.6 million registered voters. That means a million and a half Texans do not even register, and 40+% who do register, do not bother to vote!

The recent Presidential election turned out 155+ million voters, significantly less (63.9% versus 66.8%) than 2020. Popular votes showed DJ Trump at 49.9% of votes cast and K Harris at 48.4%. That is a difference of 1.5% of the votes, neither person having half! (Stein, Kennedy, Oliver, etc. each had about 0.5%).

This apathetic American condition gives new meaning to the complaint I have heard that 'we are ruled by the minority'. We actually are: That 1.5% translates to 2.3 million votes swinging the Electoral College (most states are winner take all, even if the win is 10 votes) to one candidate. 1.5% determines whose policies are enacted. Over one-third of the VEP did not care enough to vote!

244+ million of voting-eligible population and the outcome was determined by 2.3 million!

Wow! Most everyone I know consider themselves a Patriot. We are supposed to have a Representative government. Why are they not voting?

Thank you, Edie Booth

Some data from the US Census Bureau. Other citations included below.

https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elec.../historical/nov2024.shtml

https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elec.../historical/nov2022.shtml

https://election.lab.ufl.edu/2024-general-election-turnout/

https://www.census.gov/.../2020-presidential-election...

https://www.census.gov/.../2022-voting-registration.html