

As someone who cherishes the concept of democracy, and the ideals it structurally embodies (collaboration, learning & growing together, adapting to new circumstances using our collective, diverse knowledge & insights based on multiple, diverse experiences & POVs), I especially embrace the Ranked Choice Voting system.

Why?

RCV offers an easy way for people of diverse political beliefs and backgrounds to collaboratively vote on issues, regardless of whether they agree about everything. And that's vital. RCV takes the discussion away from the "cult-of-personality and soundbites" and focuses the voters' choices on policies and issues – the very things that determine real outcomes.

Ask yourself...

Would you, as a politician, prefer dancing to the tune of your funders or prefer the freedom of paying attention to the needs of your constituents, discussing creative ideas and collaborative solutions, and leaving a legacy that improves the lives of ALL, (including the non-humans who are also your constituents and upon whom humanity relies for our own survival)?

As a voter, would you prefer voting for a candidate who had the best funding, (mostly from those who already hold wealth & power), so they are able to manipulate public perception by stoking fear or directly attacking the opposing candidate? Or would you prefer a system where votes are counted based on nuances of desired outcomes, so that the most common choice (based on policy & issues) becomes the winner?

RCV forces politicians to focus their attention on the issues and policies they find most important. It removes the current structural incentive to stoke fear and push personality over policy – veneer over substance – soundbites over measurable outcomes. As a result, imagine the constituent gratitude focused on those politicians who support RCV. You will be seen as one who prioritizes the needs of your constituents and the desire for a true democracy, first.

Finally, I invite you to pull back the lens a bit. Humanity is currently facing multiple, life-threatening issues that need immediate attention. Let's use a voting system that makes addressing those issues far easier and more productive. It is time to step away from the political games our current voting structure encourages with the goal of "winning at any cost," to finally focus our efforts on doing the work necessary for humanity's survival. Not only will our quality of life improve in multiple ways - as policy is prioritized over personality - but those improvements will be felt and acknowledged by all future generations to come!

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March 15th, 2023