



Is Trump's refusal to concede election if he loses unprecedented?

Trump refuses to say he will accept election results: 'I will keep you in suspense'

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In the third and final presidential debate of 2016, there was one exchange that seemed to garner the fiercest reaction.

When moderator Chris Wallace of Fox News said to Donald Trump, “No matter how hard fought the campaign is, at the end of the campaign the loser concedes to the winner,” Trump suggested he wouldn't be able to answer that question now.

“What I'm saying is, I'll tell you at the time,” said Trump. “I'll keep you in suspense.”

Hillary Clinton called his answer “horrifying,” but is the winner's unwillingness to concede an election really unprecedented?

Let's not forget the 2000 election, complete with lawyers, hanging chads and a Supreme Court decision. It took about five weeks for former Vice President Al Gore to concede.

And then there was the election of 1876 between Samuel Tilden and Rutherford B. Hayes. It was one of the most contentious elections in this country's history and it took months for the results to be decided.

“The Democratic candidate clearly won the popular vote, but this was Reconstruction,” said David Boaz, a political analyst with the Cato Institute.

“There were all sorts of questions about who was eligible to vote and so it wasn't clear who won the electoral vote,” he said, but added there is one thing very unique to this year as well.

“You don't spend the month before the election saying you expect the election to be stolen, because then you're saying this is a corrupt system - our democracy doesn't work,” Boaz said, referring to Trump's claims of a rigged election.

They are claims not likely to go away, especially in light of a new undercover video released by conservative activist James O’Keefe with Project Veritas Action.

The video captures a Democratic operative seemingly discussing how to commit voter fraud.

“The plan that was discussed was to bring people from one state to another state to vote illegally,” O’Keefe said in the video.

Still, many other Republicans have come forward, insisting the system isn’t broken.

“Whether it's him or Hillary Clinton, there'll be a new president, and I think all of the other elements of government will go forward, just as we've seen it here in Wisconsin and other states in the past," said Gov. Scott Walker, R-Wisc., himself a former presidential candidate.