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10 Craziest Moments of the 2010 Midterms



Who can forget the Demon Sheep Ad, Alvin Greene, or the Aqua Buddha story? Check out this list of the 10 weirdest moments of the 2010 midterm election. (Videos!)

POSTED BY W. E. MESSAMORE

COMMENTS (1)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2010

Libertarian Perspectives on Midterm Election



The Republicans have captured the U.S. House in a truly historic wave that even surpasses the 1994 "Republican Revolution." With a net gain of over 60 seats, the House GOP claims to have a mandate from the people to shrink government, including a vow to repeal Obama's health care legislation.

While Mr. Obama addressed the nation today by saying that the GOP's gains were not a referendum on his policies, but the result of frustration over a stalling economy, the truth is that Democrats who voted for Obama's health care legislation "dropped like flies" Tuesday.

To give an idea of how bad election day was for the Democrats, they have lost *literally centuries* of seniority in the House, with at least seven lawmakers of 20 years' or more seniority losing their elections. When all the votes are finally tallied, the Democrats may have lost as much as 430 years of seniority in the House.

So what are the libertarian commentators saying about the midterms?

The Cato Institute

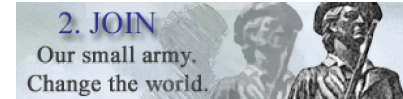
The Cato Institute's Michael D. Tanner has Ten Takeaways from the Big Night, while their Jeffrey Miron opines that Prop 19 to legalize and tax cannabis in California, failed because it overreached with some of its provisions and because its supporters overreached with

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"I love the name of your website... I'm a Humble Libertarian." -Gary Johnson, *fmr.* Governor of New Mexico

"Thank you for your great blog." -David J. Theroux Founder and President *The Independent Institute*

"A wide range of libertarian thought, from the left side of the libertarian spectrum to the right. It's on my Favorites bar, for sure!" -Eric Dondero, *fmr.* Senior Aide to Ron Paul

"The Ron Paul campaign is long over, but Messamore still promotes its platform." -The Tennessean



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their arguments for it. Finally David Boaz has [some words of admonition](#) for the GOP, urging them to focus on the issues they won on- economic issues- and stay away from social issues.

The Mises Institute

As a response (I presume) to all of those who say "If you didn't vote, don't complain," Art Carden [makes an excellent point](#) that we can all vote to elect the boards of directors for public corporations- all we need to do is own a share of stock- so following the reasoning of people who make this argument, if you don't vote in a corporation's elections, you shouldn't complain about corporate corruption. Clever.

Meanwhile, Jeffrey Tucker [notices](#) that liberty is the theme of the election yet again- and that the vast swath of American voters are always electing politicians on the promise that they'll curtail the size, role, and influence of Washington. Yet for some reason Washington continues to grow. Tucker offers an explanation as to why. Not to leave us without a solution, the Mises Institute also featured an article by Murray N. Rothbard entitled [Strategies for a Libertarian Victory](#).

Reason Magazine

Writes Michael Moynihan: "Of the many awful features of post-election punditry, perhaps the most irritating is the requirement that every writer find a new, heterodox angle on the previous night's results. Click around a bit and you'll doubtless find a depressingly large number of columns making a series of clever, original, and dubious claims—why [insert accepted narrative] is wrong and why the counter narrative I just thought up deserves your attention. But last night's results are, alas, [fairly straightforward](#)."

The American Conservative

Justin Raimondo [explains](#) how the Left was lost, arguing that it was not the Republicans' leadership that led them to victory on election day, but Obama's lack of leadership and betrayal of the Anti-War Left.



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