



ADVERTISEMENT

ConsumerReports.org

What GPS units offer the best RATINGS, REVIEWS AND VALUE?



Home The Corner All Blogs Tweet Tracker Hot Topics NRO Radio & TV Magazine Shop! Donate Media Kit Contact Search

NRO BLOG ROW | THE CORNER | ARCHIVES SEARCH E-MAIL PRINT RSS

ADVERTISEMENT

Sign Up for Free NRO Newsletters

Enter Your E-Mail Address to Sign Up

GO

NATIONAL REVIEW BOOK SERVICE

<p>Morning Jolt Jim Geraghty's Sharp Take on Politics and Campaigns Every Weekday A.M.</p>	<p>The Goldberg File Jonah's Back, Observing the Culture as Only He Can Every Thursday</p>	<p>NRO Digest Our Daily Guide to All That's Happening on NRO Every Weekday P.M.</p>
---	---	--

the corner

Thursday, January 21, 2010

Where Is the Libertarian Vote Going These Days? [Veronique de Rugy]

Scott Brown's victory in Massachusetts seems to confirm some of the points made by David Kirby and David Boaz of the Cato Institute in their new study, "[The Libertarian Vote in the Age of Obama](#)," released today. Among other things, and based on official data, the authors show that the libertarian-leaning voters have become the swing voters.

Once again, using ANES data, we found that libertarians are about 14 percent of the electorate.

Libertarian voters swung away from Bush and the GOP in 2004 and 2006, but in 2008 they swung back, voting for McCain by 71 to 27 percent.

Other analysts find larger estimates of the libertarian vote: Gallup and [Washington Post](#) polls suggest 23 to 25 percent, and a Zogby poll found 59 percent of respondents agreeing that they are "fiscally conservative and socially liberal," and 44 percent agreed that made them "libertarian."

What are their predictions for the November elections?

Before the 2006 elections, we predicted that if the swing away from the Republicans continued, "Republicans will lose elections they would otherwise win." Now we offer the reverse prediction: if libertarians continue to lead the independents away from [Obama](#), Democrats will lose 2010 midterm elections they would otherwise win.

If you are the type who counts votes and follows political races closely, or if you are just hoping for a more libertarian world like I am, [this study](#) is worth reading.

01/21 12:28 PM [Share](#)