



The "Anti-Establishment" Election

By **WILL SWETT**
STAFF WRITER

One of the common tropes of this election season is that so-called anti-establishment politicians and voters are challenging the authority of the current political establishment because of its corruption and ineptitude.

Tea Party activists originally employed anti-establishment rhetoric to unseat ineffective establishment politicians at the local, state, and federal level in favor of more ideologically consistent, albeit less experienced, amateurs, such as Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio.

Now professional politicians themselves, those Tea Party politicians have continued to use inflammatory speech to reinvigorate the many voters who, for good reason, still feel disillusioned by the current political scene. In the name of anti-establishment politics, self-professed conservatives are not only falling for, but vigorously defending the nonsensical jabbering of a billionaire blowhard and his brand of eclectic populism.

Ted Cruz, who has a far more consistent political track record than Trump, has also capitalized on the anti-establishment sentiment by staking his bid for the GOP nomination on his assurance that he will fight "the Washington cartel."

Anti-establishment rhetoric has become little more than the hollow battle cry of Trumpkins and riders of the Bernie Bus.

It was clear from the beginning of the race that experience alone wouldn't carry any candidate to the nomination. The presence of outsiders like Trump, Ben Carson, and Carly Fiorina deemphasized coverage of traditional qualifications, such as policy beliefs and voting records, and forced candidates to prove themselves as the most outside of the outsiders.

Although Jeb Bush entered the race with the most super PAC money, establishment support, and media attention,

his campaign fizzled, partly because of his lackluster efforts, but also in part because of his well-established and familial connections to GOP elites. Bush could not escape the associations with his brother's legacy, which his opponents did not hesitate to exploit. The presidential race is an especially dirty and unforgiving game this year, and so it goes that a competent and impressive candidate in his own right failed to pass the politics of personality test.

Despite riding to the Senate on the Tea Party wave as an anti-establishment alternative to a sitting Republican Senator, Marco Rubio has picked up Jeb's mantle as the establishment champion. Establishment politicians believe that Rubio's broad appeal to independents and conservatives gives the party its best chance to win the White House and reunite Republicans.

Even the Democrats have not been immune to the anti-establishment sentiments that have plagued this election. When she entered the race, it seemed that Hillary Clinton's coronation as the Democratic nominee was all but assured. With a fifty-point lead over the hypothetical candidacy of Joe Biden, it seemed that Hillary would proceed to the general

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Poland's Hostility to Refugees

By **AMY ELINSKI**
STAFF WRITER

For those fleeing ISIS, north has been the simplest path, with many members of the European Union accepting refugees with open arms. Not everyone in the EU welcomes the mass migration, however. On Saturday, February 6, anti-refugee protestors marched in cities throughout the EU to protest allowing refugees into their nations.

In Warsaw, Poland, 1,500 protestors gathered in the Castle Square in Old Town. The rally, organized by supporters of the country's far-right government, was a show of support for the government's plan for handling the refugee crisis. While neighboring Germany took in 1.1 million refugees in 2015, and plans to take in at least that number in 2016, Polish Prime Minister Beata Szydlo has

This Week's News in 140 Characters

EDITORIAL REPORT



David Burge @iowahawkblog · Feb 3

Most generations laugh at what previous generations censored. Millennials censor what previous generations laughed at.

2.4K 2.3K



Stephen Miller @redsteeze · Feb 4

Structural racism exists in inner cities overrun by Democrat politicians and policies for 50 years so clearly this is all Republicans fault.

78 90



Izzy Ortega @IzzyOrtega · Feb 1

In an overwhelmingly white electorate, Iowa GOP voters gave 60 percent of their vote to two Cuban Americans and an African American.

664 576



David French @DavidAFrench · Feb 1

If Rubio does well after establishment candidates crushed him with millions in neg. ads, how can that be spun as an "establishment" victory?

14 16



Political Math @politicalmath · Feb 2

"Trump IS the GOP party" [Trump gets under a quarter of the vote]

"We Democrats aren't socialists" [socialist get 50% of the vote]

338 353



Comfortably Smug @ComfortablySmug · Feb 1

60% of Republicans voted for a Latino or African American tonight

0% of Democrats voted for a minority.

777 790



Caleb Howe @CalebHowe · Feb 1

With O'Malley dropping out, the average age of Democrats running for President is now 71 years old.

737 469



Michael Barbaro @mikebarb · Feb 3

Q: Did you really need to take \$675,000 for Wall Street speeches: Clinton: That's what they offered.

147 140

POLAND'S HOSTILITY cont.

declared that Poland will accept no more than 400 refugees in 2016.

While the previous party in power declared that Poland would accept at least 7,000 refugees, the Law and Justice Party swiftly reversed its predecessor's decision, deviating from the plans of the EU.

Many see the new far-right government as anti-democratic.

Poland faces a problem due to its refusal to accept refugees as an EU state. One does not need a passport to travel within the EU, making it easy for individuals to enter Poland without detection. Upwards of 55,000 refugees have already crossed into the EU since the start of 2016. Poland's refusal to accept refugees in numbers as great as its neighbors has caused great tensions within the EU.

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...And Then There Were Fewer

By **RYAN GLENN**
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Ted Cruz narrowly won the Iowa Caucus last Monday with 27.6 percent of the vote. Trump and Rubio trailed Cruz by 3 percent and 4 percent, respectively, with Carson following with 10 percent of voters.

It is worth noting, and perhaps celebrating, Ted Cruz's historic victory as the first Hispanic American to win a state primary. Additionally, almost 60 percent of the republican Iowa caucus votes went to non-white candidates (Cruz, Rubio, and Carson). The last 16 percent was split between the remaining candidates, each below 5 percent. Barring a strong comeback from a more moderate candidate, the primary will come down to Cruz, Rubio, and Trump.

Given recent history, we cannot attach too much to the

election unopposed. But of the lingering few token challengers to Clinton, the only one to emerge was an aging socialist who was not a Democrat until 2015.

Of course, Sanders still poses little threat to Hillary, but the strength of his support is nonetheless concerning to the former Secretary of State. Hillary has shown herself to be somewhat resistant to charges that she represents the Democratic establishment, which has received some criticism as a result of rising disapproval of Obama's policies.

When, for example, Bernie accused Hillary of shilling for the establishment, she feigned disbelief that anyone could characterize her, "a woman running to be the first woman president as exemplifying the establishment." Hillary easily dodged Sanders' establishment dig with her judicious use of the gender card, and received tumultuous applause by reminding people of the historical significance of her campaign. She also suggested that, as a woman, she could never be a part of any "establishment."

In attacking Clinton, Sanders unwittingly expressed the *raison d'être* for his recent success in the polls. He claimed that he "represent[s]...ordinary Americans, and, by the way, who are not all that enamored with the establishment."

Luckily for both Democrats and Republicans the supporters of these extreme candidates are still outnumbered by a majority of voters who adhere to the platform and values of their respective parties. Although some anger towards the establishment of political elites is fully justified considering the state of American politics and the government's divisiveness, idleness, corruption, and general incompetence, the anti-establishment rhetoric invoked by the media and the outsider candidates has become little more than the hollow battle cry of Trumpkins and riders of the Bernie Bus.

Granted, sometimes when a party becomes gluttonous, lazy, and dishonest it can be healthy to purge it of its failures and remind it that it's supposed to vaguely follow the desires of its constituents. It becomes dangerous, however, when ideological outliers use the discontent to make their own radical agendas more palatable to angry voters, who are hungry to hear someone in politics eloquently—or, in Trump's case, forcefully—present themselves as representative of the voters.

The anti-establishment insurgents gain recognition and support for the anger and

passion they display in presenting their platform, but in gaining that support, their followers pay less attention to the substance of their ideas and more to the emotion with which it's invoked.

POLAND'S HOSTILITY cont.

The Law and Justice Party is unyielding in its policies, and with its swift grabbing of power, many worry that Poland's status as a bastion of democratic power in Eastern Europe may quickly wane. Between its grabs for power in the Supreme Court, acquisition and limitation of speech on public radio, and increase of government surveillance capabilities, many see the new far-right government as anti-democratic.

Nevertheless, at least half the country supports Poland's anti-refugee declarations. In the wake of the terror attacks in Paris in 2015, Prime Minister Szydlo has said she will not jeopardize the safety of her country's citizens to accept the EU's quota of 4,500 refugees. The nation, which is 88% Catholic, is largely hostile to immigrants, particularly Muslims.

Prejudice aside, many argue that Poland's economy is not equipped to handle mass immigration. While Poland has the 6th largest economy in the EU and the 20th largest economy in the world, the average salary in Poland is 42,360.01 zloty (pronounced zwoty), or less than \$11,000 per year.

The Polish government allots to each refugee only 70 zloty per month, essentially pocket change. One can easily 70 spend zloty in a single day, with meals costing on average over 20 zloty. The Law and Justice Party makes it deliberately difficult refugees to integrate into the economy.

"This is not a country for refugees," a Chechen refugee told APF, a French news agency, "When we're at the store, people give us dirty looks. Some insult us, treat us like dirty foreigners. That wasn't the case two years ago."

The new government in particular has perpetuated the fear of refugees. Since acquiring an overwhelming majority in the last election, during which fewer than 25% of the eligible voting population turned out, the Law and Justice Party has passed measure after measure to ensure its anti-refugee policies get enacted.

Without a large enough coalition to stop Law and Justice, the opposition, composed of largely center-right politicians, can do nothing but sit and watch their nation slip from their grasps.

...AND THEN THERE WERE FEWER cont.

first few primaries. Instead, the candidates' momentum will be much more telling. The states with earlier primaries tend to be

more conservative and the later primaries tend to favor more moderate candidates. Thus, we should expect Cruz's ascent to continue into Super Tuesday (especially among the states with large Evangelical populations), tailing off in March and May.

Rubio appeals more to moderate republicans, we can expect him to gain momentum throughout the primaries, particularly late in March and into April and May. Carson's campaign staff and funds are collapsing, and he continues to lose support. Trump is much less predictable. As in Iowa, I sincerely hope he performs much worse among voters than he has with polls. His significant drop in polls following the Iowa caucus is reassuring. When candidates drop out, I expect them to endorse Rubio or Cruz.

So far in this primary, we can discern that consistent, principled conservatism is gaining momentum, while Trump's populist, contradictory nonsense-peddling is running out of steam. The republicans should eventually settle on a candidate that can appeal to moderate voters that will not callously insult his way to the general election.

The Democrats, meanwhile, split the popular vote between Clinton and Sanders in Iowa. Due to sheer luck and a series of coin flips, Clinton "won" the caucus by a razor-thin margin. Although Clinton still leads the Democratic national polls by double digits, the Iowa caucus was clearly no victory for her. Sanders gained momentum, and is now expected to win New Hampshire.

The Democratic National Committee has evidently prepared to crown, not elect, Hillary Clinton. The few inconveniently placed debates and superficial coverage show the DNC intends to shelter

Clinton from opposition. Who, however, could have anticipated the rise of a progressive self-proclaimed socialist, ready to take on the Clinton machine?

Despite Clinton's numerous scandals and a potential federal indictment for sending and receiving top secret and Special Access Program (SAP) information on a private server, she manages to lead national polls. Due to numerous flip-flops in policy and opinion, Clinton is not considered trustworthy by most Americans.

Sanders, conversely, has been consistent throughout his career. He also appears to speak honestly and genuinely. Some of Sanders' enthusiastic supporters mirror Trump's populists who cannot accurately define their candidate's platform, much less basic political ideologies as socialism or communism.

In his widely praised political advertisement, Sanders approves the "message" of... Simon & Garfunkel's "America"? The advertisement was brilliant precisely because it advertises neither political content nor platform; it normalizes his platform through quick shots of cities, countryside, and Sanders rallies.

The president's job is to execute the law and to command the military. It is not, as some progressives and conservatives have insisted for decades, to simply "get things done," ruling unilaterally by arbitrary executive orders.

To reverse the continual overreach of federal powers, we should start by electing a president who respects the office's enumerated Constitutional powers, not one who illiberally dominates the American republican process and implement personal will.

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