

Political inequality

No iron rule in American politics says an electoral majority greatly disadvantaged by the country's political institutions has to operate with effusive respect for them.

A Democratic presidential candidate who wins the popular vote and loses the Electoral College — like Hillary Clinton and Al Gore — is not bound by law to concede promptly.

A popular president constrained by the Senate's rural majority does not have to keep private his view that the institution is obsolete.

**Alexander Burns,
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