

From the Democrat's Convention Projecting to the Presidential Election

Mainstream and Organic Views

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Abstract

The Democrats had the advantage of having the three-day weekend to respond to the Republicans' convention platform and their rally speeches, but a bombshell news about the embarrassing email leak (DNC officials played an unfair game against Presidential candidate Bernie Sanders) almost derailed the convention. In the end, The Democratic Convention was successfully concluded with Hillary Clinton accepting the Nomination. In her acceptance speech she made a lot of promises to every diverse group of Americans to respect their rights and solve their problems all achievable by raising taxes on the Wall Street and the rich 1% of the populace. Since Donald Trump believes in the opposite, reducing taxes to pump the economy then solve the problems, we the voters must demand a serious debate between the two candidates outlining the specifics of his/her first 100 days in office

The Democrat's convention at the Wells Fargo Convention Center in Philadelphia started on July 25th at the heels of the Republican's convention ended on July 21st at the Quicken Loans Stadium in Cleveland. The Democrats had the advantage of having the three-day weekend to respond to the Republicans' convention platform and their rally speeches. However, the highlights captured the media over the weekend and the following Monday were these two specific events.

The first was Hillary's timed announcement of her pick of Tim Kaine, Senator from Virginia as her running mate. The second which created a bombshell news was the resignation of Debbie Wasserman Schultz, the Democratic National Committee chairwoman, in the eve of the Democratic Convention, due to an embarrassing email leak published in WikiLeaks. Apparently, the DNC mail server was allegedly hacked by Russian hackers who released the damaging email revealing that the Democratic National Committee (DNC) officials had played an unfair game against Presidential candidate Bernie Sanders. The Hillary campaign manager, Robby Mook, immediately suggested that the Russian hackers breaking into DNC's server had Russian government involvement and the hacking was

intended to help Hillary's opponent Donald Trump. This suggestion seems to be Mook's desperate tactics of damage control. Naturally, the Trump camp was furious and rejected this allegation. Over the weekend, the DNC did come to a quick decision that Wasserman had to resign and step down from the Democrat convention chair duties as well.

Despite of the email leak surprise, the Democratic Convention was opened on 7/25 as planned with Ohio Representative Marcia Fudge as the permanent Democratic Convention Chair and with DNC Vice Chairwoman Donna Brazile to serve as the interim DNC chair through the election period. Brazile being a CNN political commentator had to suspend her contract with CNN and to remain on CNN programs without pay. This move might be prompted by the sudden turn of events, but it did not smell Kosher for CNN or DNC. I was glad that I could watch the two conventions on C-Span without subjecting myself to the bombardment of "Expert" opinions from the talking heads in the other TV channels.

The rank and file Republicans claim of Trump's successful bid for the Presidential nomination is due to the fact that he started a movement, an anti-establishment movement, speaking the truth to the people and the people rewarded him with primary votes. In the end, Trump succeeded in winning against the party establishment. The sign of unity at the Republican Convention indeed suggests that the people is fed up with political talk, whether it is disguised in correctness or it is veiled with lies. On the other hand, the Sanders campaign is also an anti-establishment movement. With Bernie's liberal ideas, the movement may be considered as a revolution just as Sanders himself intoned. Unfortunately, this movement met the resistance of the Democratic Party establishment as evidenced by the leaked emails. In addition, Hillary is a very seasoned insider of the establishment, hence Sanders failed to win the primary against her, principally due to the DNC machinery (and the super delegates) stacked against him.

In the first day of the Democratic Convention including the satellite pre-convention meetings, there was apparent anger among the large number of Sanders' supporters. Their emotions were clearly vented through the loud boos given to any speaker who did not carefully craft their speech to woo the Sanders' agenda and supporters. There were many short speeches given by individuals who support Hillary. Elizabeth Warren, Bernie Sanders and Michelle Obama were the key speakers on the first day. Warren gave more sharp attacks on Trump than endorsing statements to Hillary. Sanders' speech repeating many of his winning lines used on his campaign trail was very well delivered and cheered enthusiastically by his supporters. He strategically kept his endorsement of Hillary towards the end of his

speech which of course was what Hillary desperately needed. The sideline interviews conducted by media plainly showed that the Sanders supporters felt cheated and they were forced to support a candidate they really did not like or trust. It was clear that Sanders tried and perhaps succeeded in influencing Hillary on the Democratic platform, for example on the free tuition for public colleges. Michelle Obama gave a warm endorsing speech citing Hillary's accomplishments especially her devotion to children's education.

The second day continues with a number of caucuses and a string of speakers before and after the roll call of delegates, which is just like the one in the Republican convention, a tradition the delegates enjoyed to perform and the public was interested to watch on television. Bernie Sanders' supporters showed far more emotions than Ted Cruz's supporters in their respective convention. Even though Sanders lost the nomination to Hillary but he had won the roll calls of 16 States plus the group of Democrats from abroad. Sanders gracefully made a motion to suspend the convention rule to accept Hillary's nomination by acclamation. The day included a video from former President Jimmy Carter and was ended with the highlight speech by President Bill Clinton who offered some intimate stories about his college days courting Hillary in addition to characterizing her as one of the most qualified President and Commander-in-Chief. The crowd loved it. The mood of the delegates was also soothed by some beautiful music performances shown by video during the convention.

The third day had more caucuses and more speakers representing the wide diversification of American societies covering ethnic and racial groups, disabled, youth, labor, veterans, LBGT, faith, etc, etc as well as individuals with stories to tell related to social issues such as victims of violence crimes. Many speakers had been worked with or helped by Hillary. Vice President Joe Biden and President Barak Obama's endorsement speeches were excellent but together with Hillary's acceptance speech on the fourth day, they seem to be too eager in patting each other's back. The 4th day included more public officials' endorsements which intended to show that they were all with her – Hillary. Chelsea gave the introductory speech on her mom, it was very touching and smoothly delivered but in comparison with Ivanka's introduction of her father, Donald Trump, both speeches could get an A. Perhaps the real difference could only be found by measuring the number of 'online clicks' on their speeches. My guess is that Chelsea may get more clicks but Ivanka will get longer viewing time.

Hillary commented on Trump's acceptance speech being too negative and pessimistic about the U.S. problems with no specific solutions. It is true that

Trump had been hitting the nails on the head regarding American problems, domestic economy, social ills and global relations. He offered few specifics other than boldly claimed that he could fix them. Hillary, in her acceptance speech, focused more on attacking Trump than giving specific problem solvers herself. She made a lot of promises to every American belonging to every diverse minority group that she will fix all their problems (wages, jobs, free education, infrastructures, healthcare,) and defend all their rights (except second amendment). Then she promised that she could accomplish all that by taxing the Wall Street and the top 1% rich Americans. Thus, the crux of the matter between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton seems to be that DT believes in lowering taxes to pump the economy then deal with the other problems whereas HC believes in raising taxes to solve all problems. These beliefs seem to be too simple to be effective, judging by the deeds of the current and past administrations. No, we can't let the parties blame each other or use the grid lock as an excuse. The leader must produce results by working across aisles. Before the November election, the voters should demand serious answers from DT and HC issue by issue? Who are the appointees of the cabinet and Supreme Court? What proposals will be submitted to the Congress in the first 100 days? What votes are needed to pass them? Make the Presidential debates interactive with the American public 'call ins' and develop solid mandates on the President's proposals. Together we will be strong and let America to be great again!