

LIBERTY PARK INN®

A Syndicated Column

Name: Undecided Republican Electors

By: David Henry © 2012

“Hey, Julie,” I said. “What do you think about the three Republicans in the Electoral College who have not decided if they will vote for Mitt Romney in December?”

“Well,” Julie replied, “maybe I was wrong. Maybe it will be the Republican Party that will self-destruct, and not the Democrats.”

“Is it really that bad,” I asked?

“Yes,” Julie replied. “A division over an unexpected issue like the Democrats had in their national convention is bad, but this is almost unthinkable.”

“Ok,” I replied.

“I guess I should have expected it,” Julie continued. “Republicans have no sense when it comes to political strategy.”

“What do you mean by that, Julie,” I asked?

“Well, compare the two parties,” Julie responded. “The Democrats fight like cats and dogs in the primary election. Then later, the loser usually unites behind the winner so they have a better chance to win in the general election.”

“I’ve noticed that too,” I replied.

Julie continued, “The Republicans also fight a hard primary, but then the loser often refuses to endorse the winner in the general election. Sometimes their supporters stay home. Sometimes they vote for their candidate even though he’s not on the ballot. Republicans are stupid. They throw away elections they could have won if they had just supported each other.”

“Why do you think that is,” I asked?

“It’s simple,” Julie replied. The Democrat’s primary goal is to gain and hold onto power. So if they lose the primary election, they still work for the winner so their party remains in power. But the Republicans care too passionately about the issues they are fighting for and so they often refuse to support someone who isn’t in

complete in agreement with them. They would rather let the Democrats win the election than settle for a less than perfect outcome in their own party. Republicans don’t have much sense in this area. To the Republicans, the issue is the most important thing. To the Democrats, winning is the most important thing. Democrats want power. But Republicans are fighting for the issues they believe in.”

“That’s an interesting observation,” I replied thoughtfully.

“This is the same thing that happened in the last presidential election,” Julie added.

“Why do you say that,” I asked?

Julie answered, “You may remember that John McCain lead the so called ‘Gang of 14’ in the Senate when the Republicans were set to implement the ‘nuclear option’ to change the Senate rules so President Bush’s court appointees could be brought up for a vote.”

“Yes,” I replied. “I do remember that. It made a lot of conservatives very unhappy.”

Julie continued, “Even though these conservative Republicans knew that John McCain was much closer to their position on the issues, they refused to support him until after he selected Palin as his running mate. But by that time it was too little too late. McCain never really gained the momentum that he needed to win. So Obama became President.”

“Do you really think that’s why he lost the election in 2008,” I asked?

“Yes,” Julie replied. “I talked with many people in the Republican Party after that happened. Some people thought he did it to help his chances in the Presidential election. And I personally think that’s probably what he intended. But it backfired on him. He was considered a traitor to the conservatives. And they never forgave him and they refused to support him. And I see the same thing happening in this election cycle. Romney has done some things in the past to make the staunch conservatives distrustful of him. But he needs the conservative wing of the Republican Party to win.

However he didn’t do enough to gain their confidence. This is one of the reasons why there are undecided electors in the Republican Party right now. Romney made a good choice with Paul Ryan, but it could turn out to be too little too late again.”

“I sure hope you’re wrong about that,” I said.

“Obviously,” Julie continued, “nobody knows for sure how the election is going to end up. Obama could become incapacitated unexpectedly or he could do something politically foolish, or even be assassinated. Something serious like that could change the likely outcome of the election. But I just don’t foresee anything like that happening. Hey, it’s really not difficult to predict in advance what is going to happen if you have the right information. Unfortunately, the information that counts right now is leaning toward an Obama victory in November. My gut feeling at this point is that Romney is going to lose.”

“Why do you think that,” I asked?

“Look at the polls,” Julie replied. “Obama is only slightly ahead in the polls for the popular vote, but he is significantly ahead in the likely Electoral College vote and that is the only thing that really matters in determining who will be the next president. So unless something unexpected happens between now and election day, Romney’s chances are pretty slim. I hope the conservatives will wake up and vote intelligently or we could lose this election.”

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The author is a conservative and naturally wants a conservative win in November. But things don’t look good for a conservative victory in the presidential race this year.

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