

A Word Or 2

“Our own Black nation, the Republic of New Afrika, is Our only Real solution”

When the USofA was born, the white men who took control of the country wrote a constitution called the Articles of Confederation. There was no provision in the Articles of Confederation that gave the everyday person the right to vote. Up to that time, there was no tradition of allowing everybody to vote anywhere in Europe, and the overwhelming majority of the white men who took control of the USofA were in agreement with that tradition. They didn't care much about rewarding the men and women who had fought and sacrificed to free the colonies, but they cared a lot about rewarding rich white men who had sacrificed relatively little.

Point Number 1: White America's early leaders were against allowing everybody to vote.

What white American men wanted was a form of government that allowed more white men to participate in the governing process, instead of the handful of men (essentially a king and his advisors) who were traditionally involved. That is why, when the Articles of Confederation were illegally replaced by a new Constitution, there still was no provision added that gave everyday people the right to vote. George Washington, the 1st president, was never voted for by the people. Only a handful of white men made GW president, and it was intended that a handful of white men would always elect the president.

But everyday persons got restless because, when the new constitution was approved, it did not include a Bill of Rights that provided citizens some protection against governmental excesses. But even as they fought for a Bill of Rights, they did not press for giving every citizen the right to vote. So the USofA ended up with a system whereby national elections would not be decided by the vote of the people, they would be decided by the vote of a few white men with property.

Point Number 2: The US Constitution intended for members of Congress to elect the president, not everyday USofA citizens.

But these men with property had some issues to resolve. One was fair representation between the lesser populated states and the larger populated states. One part of that solution was to give each state the same number of Senators. The other part of the solution was to determine the number of Representatives in Congress each state would have by its percentage of the country's overall population. This process is called apportionment.

There are no exact figures insofar as the population of the colonies in 1780 is concerned. It is estimated that the population of the 8 non-southern states in 1780 was around 1.4 million people. Almost all of these persons were white males and white females, including white immigrants. The 5 states in the South had an estimated total population

of around 1.3 million people, but 40% of the males and females who lived in the South were Black slaves. Since the Blacks had no legal standing, their numbers should not have been considered for apportionment purposes. But, the southern white men argued that since the white immigrants in the North were counted, the Blacks in the South should be counted also. The 3/5 Compromise ended the debate. It gave the South more than 300,000 “votes” more than their white population had a right to. This added voting power proved to be critical when it came to electing the President of the United States.

Point Number 3: If any of the whites thought the Blacks had legal standing in the USofA, they did not get it written into the US constitution. The constitution saw Blacks as property, not participants.

With the question of apportionment settled, white southerners complained that national elections unfairly worked against them because the white voting population of non-slave states was greater than that of the slave states. They demanded that the election of the president be based on a vote of an electoral college. Based on apportionment, each state would get an elector for each of its congressional districts, but the electors were not required to vote for who the popular voters had voted for. So, even if a few thousand white men in 1780 (just to pick a year) could vote for president, the vote of the hundred or so white men in the electoral college could annul the vote of the thousands by electing a different person. But, even worse, if the electoral college became engulfed in a dispute, the southerners demanded that the new president be elected by a vote of the states. The southern states got their way and gained a disproportionate advantage in determining who would be elected as President of the USofA.

So, in the 1780s, a popular vote of thousands could be legally annulled first by an electoral college vote of around a hundred, and later by a state vote of 13 persons. So, in the years 2024 and beyond, the popular vote of hundreds of millions or persons can be annulled by an electoral college vote of 538 persons, and a state vote of 50 persons. Since that time, the electoral vote has annulled the popular vote in several elections, and the House has annulled the popular vote once. A vote of the states can, but has never, occurred.

Point Number 4: What the republicans are doing in 2021 is constitutional and has been done before.

In the year 2020, the republicans were not prepared to illegally annul the popular vote, but they have their ducks lined up now. Plus, the Supreme Court cannot legally say their actions are unconstitutional. Meanwhile, Black organizers are urging YOU to vote. That's all they know how to do. **They should be declaring themselves New Afrikans and telling you about the Republic of New Afrika instead.**

**Be Black Smart
Think New Afrikan**