

## Local Politics Matter

# The Democratic Party Belongs to the Democrats

## Get Your Own Party Senator Sanders

It's basic. It's a simple truth that has held since the beginning of time. You can say anything that you want about your family (by blood), but you don't take kindly to criticism from outsiders. It's different. It's more like an attack and you and yours circle the wagons to deal with the outsider, that's just how it is. Why is this important?

Senator Sanders has made it very clear that he is not and never was a Democrat. His colleagues in the Democratic Party have also made it very clear, almost to a person, that they don't see him as a member of the Democratic Party. He's an outsider, a Party of one. Over the years, he has made a habit of publically criticizing the Democratic Party. So when he made the decision to run for President as a Democrat those of us who knew of his history with the Party were a little suspicious of his motives. Was he aligning with the Party because he believed in the Party's platform, or was he aligning with the Party because he needed to tap into the Democratic Party's resources and organizational structure? Many believe that it was the latter. So, surprise, surprise! The Party faithful (those who self identify as Democrats) did not support him.

Now that the Primary elections are over and it is clear that Senator Sanders will not secure the Democratic nomination, his motives have become alarmingly clear. He wants to change the Democratic Party. I saw this coming and hoped that I was wrong. Nobody was paying attention, but here we are and what are we going to do

about it? How can Senator Sanders who's not even a member of the Democratic Party determine what the Party should be, what it should believe in? The nerve of him! Senator Sanders is like that pushy, loud mouthed in-law that you've welcomed into your family despite the fact that you don't like him very much. He comes into your home and trashes you and yours. He's always complaining that you don't know what you're doing. Never mind the fact that his family is a wreck and he has no real accomplishments to hang his hat on. It makes for an uneasy relationship because you're polite and don't want to make trouble within the family. Neither of you want to be together, but you're stuck with each other, waiting for the time when one of you can get the upper hand and toss the other out. Oh happy day!

Senator Sanders used his following to gain a toe hold in the Democratic Party. He began to believe that he could actually win the nomination, but that wasn't to be the case. Secretary Clinton remained steadfast in his way. In a cowardly way he and his campaign would use words like untrustworthy, liar, secretive when referring to her, than ask why she is not trusted. Yeah, the oldest trick in the book.

Senator Sanders has had a tremendous impact on the Democratic platform, but he lost none the less. Now he's holding the party hostage because he can't legitimately make the changes that he wants to the Party. The voters have spoken, by every metric the voters have shown their preference for Secretary Clinton but Senator Sanders is not



listening. Imagine that from a man who constantly rails against the Democratic Party for not listening to the people. Go figure! Instead of acknowledging the loss, he's making every excuse in the book to negate, minimize and diminish Senator Clinton's victory and the Democratic Party's processes. For example, he postulates that the use of super delegates is unfair and that it's unfair that independents are not allowed to participate in all of the primary elections. He's trying to change the Party to some form of a Socialist Party. We can not let this happen. The democrats must continue to choose their own nominee. We can not allow persons who are not committed to the Party to make this decision for us.

He ignores the fact that Secretary Clinton has more votes, more pledged delegates and has even won more states. He boasts about his caucus wins stating that the caucuses are a better representation of the democratic process and that he does better when the turnout is higher. He repeatedly claimed that he does better than the Secretary when the turnout is high, but au contraire Senator. There were two states where this was put to the test. The turnout was almost 97% higher in the [Washington State Primary](#) than it was in the caucus. Senator Sanders won the cau-

cuses 73% Clinton 27%, but he lost the primaries to Senator Clinton 47% to 53%. The same held true for the Nebraska primaries. The turnout in the primaries was 57% higher than the caucus turnout. Senator Sanders won the caucuses 57% to Clinton's 43% and lost the primaries to Clinton 47% to 53%. On June 7th, Secretary Clinton hit that magic number of delegates needed to win the Democratic nomination (2382). The Democratic voters must rally around her. We can not let Senator Sanders' search for the perfect, destroy the possible. Don't misunderstand me. We want his support and the support of his voters. However, they will come home to the Party or they won't, I do believe that the true Democrats will come home. However, no amount of coddling Senator Sanders will change the fact that some will not come home. Senator Sanders will continue to hold out because, I believe that what he really wants is to take control of the Democratic Party, to change it from what we know. We will continue to be polite, congratulate him on a hard fought fight and send him on his way. The Democratic Party belongs to Democrats.

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