

November 4, 2004

Dear Editor,

All Americans need to try and remember that the outcome of democratic elections is merely a winner and a loser. Democratic elections by any majority do not determine what is right and what is wrong.

Electoral majorities throughout our history have voted for slavery, denied the right of women to vote, outlawed interracial marriage, and enforced discrimination and they will continue to attempt to deprive citizens of this great country other civil rights. Pundits speak of "mandates", the "will of the people" and "mainstream" political views, but none of these ultimately determine what is right and what is wrong. Our inalienable rights are not subject to the tyranny of the majority over the minority.

The reason our founding fathers chose to give separate but equal power to the legislative, executive and judicial branches of the government was to prevent exactly the sort of political abuse that occurs when the majority feels justified in disregarding the viewpoints and civil rights of those citizens who are not represented by the majority election process.

The next time you hear someone rant against "activist" judges or claim that "the people have spoken", remember that in March 5, 1933, the National Socialist German Workers' Party won the popular vote in democratic elections. Did that election decide what was right and what was wrong or simply the victor?

Try to remember this: one can be victorious, one can be absolutely certain, and one can still be wrong.

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