

Democratic Primary Voters in South Carolina

Byron A. Ellis – April 11, 2020



Democratic primary voters in the South followed the DNC leadership and rejected Medicare for all, as well as free college tuition for their offspring by backing Biden's incrementalism.

Biden argued that the country did not have the money to pay for universal healthcare and free public colleges for high school graduates; he argued for the status quo.

COVID -19 proved, beyond any doubt, that the country has money to bail out businesses in the tune of one trillion dollars again and to hand breadcrumbs to taxpayers.

Progressives should understand by now that the DNC is not interested in reversing inequality, and their electability candidate is similar to their 2016 candidate, in many respects; then, and now, they assured themselves that an establishment middle of the road candidate would easily beat Trump. But, Trump is skillfully mendacious and will trip Biden's cognition.

If progressives don't leave the DNC and form a new party, they will remain sidelined players, and nothing will ever change.

Senator Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren were the most progressive candidates on the issues of universal healthcare and free public college tuition.

COVID-19 showed that Obama-Biden's healthcare incrementalism would not suffice for covering the uninsured and underinsured. According to [Business Insider](#), on Friday, March 18, 2020, in Los Angeles County, an urgent care clinic denied treatment to a 17-year-old patient because he did not have health insurance; he later died of COVID-19, and other cases have surfaced. [Chicago Eater](#) reports that six Chicago hospitality group sued their insurance over COVID denials. More than 27 million Americans lack insurance, and even those that have can't afford hospitalizations co-payments.

[Wendel Potter](#) from the Guardian noted the irrationality of linking health insurance to employment status because when workers become unemployed, they lose income and health insurance coverage. He noted that roughly half of Americans receive their health insurance from employers. The DNC and their representatives hide this risky linkage from Democratic primary voters, particularly poor Southerners.

[Time](#) lists the cost of COVID-19 testing and treatment at \$34,927.43, which is sticker shock for most voters. So, why would rational voters reject universal healthcare? Social judgment theory argues that the receiver in the communication process may be subject to perceptual distortions termed "assimilation and contrast effects (O'Keefe, 1990).

Thus, when congressman Clyburn prepositions his endorsement of Biden on the racial conditions of the South and M. L. King's legacy. But, photos documented Sanders participating in the civil rights movement. The NY Times noted that Mr. Biden exaggerates his civil rights participation. Furthermore, they noted that he does not consider himself a civil rights activist.

O'Keefe tells us that "Assimilation and contrast effects are perceptual effects concerning the judgment of what position is being advocated by a persuasive message, and if we examine the [video](#), we cannot deny that Clyburn was persuasive.

According to social justice theory, only by understanding a person's judgment on the various alternative positions on an issue, we can understand the reaction to persuasive messages. Many voters are prone to persuasive messages.

Congressman Jim Clyburn's endorsement of Biden appeared persuasive enough to South Carolina's black voters to kill Senator Sanders Medicare for all momentum. It delivered overwhelming black votes to Biden throughout the South.

However, Congressman Clyburn represents the [congressional district 6](#) of South Carolina since 1990. The district is about 57 percent black. It is 32nd out of 436 other congressional districts in income below the poverty line, it is 1st in South Carolina out of 7 other congressional districts in residents younger than 5, it is 2nd in South Carolina out of 7 other congressional districts in units inside multi-unit buildings, it is 23.8 percent below the poverty level, and its income per capita is \$18,257.

If a congressperson in remains in Congress for thirty years and has been unable to change the standards of living of constituents, it not only reflects poorly on his administrative capacities but also voters' reasoning capacities.

Copyright of TJP is the property of The Jethro Project, and its contents may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserver without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users, however, may print, download, or email articles for individual use.