

August 31, 2016

The Media's Job

Do nearly two-thirds of Americans want Libertarian Party presidential nominee and former two-term Republican governor of New Mexico Gary Johnson in the presidential debates?

Snopes.com, the hoax-busting website, investigated the truthiness of a widespread Internet meme making just that claim.

The verdict?

It's true.

An August 25th Quinnipiac University poll showed 62 percent of likely voters saying yes, "Gary Johnson, the Libertarian candidate

for president, should be included in the presidential debates." Among 18-to-34-year-olds, a whopping 82 percent felt Johnson deserved a podium.

Or perhaps more accurately, these voters want an opportunity to hear about *all* their choices, not just Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton—deliciously dubbed "the unloved presidential candidates" in the Quinnipiac news release. Which leads to the most important number in the survey: 68 percent felt they "haven't heard enough" about Gov. Johnson to even form an opinion.

He still garnered 10 percent support overall and was the only candidate with a higher favorable* than unfavorable rating.

Voters are dissatisfied with the major party choices, so why limit the debate to just Trump and Clinton? Because the Commission on Presidential Debates is a crony organization, a wholly owned subsidiary of the DNC and the RNC. With 68 percent of the public totally uninformed about Johnson, he'd have to win nearly a majority of everyone else to hit the 15 percent support required to get in the debates.

Where's the Fourth Estate? Doesn't the American voter deserve enough information about Johnson and Stein to form an opinion?

Or will they be broadcasting rigged debates?

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.

* By the way, once again, the contest was closer when the polling included Libertarian Johnson and Green Party candidate Jill Stein. While head-to-head Mrs. Clinton bested Mr. Trump by a full 10 percentage points, 51-41, with Johnson and Stein included, Clinton's advantage shrank to 45-38 percent, a seven point lead.



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