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Subject: Re: Why did you vote for Obama?

Posted by [Nukelt15](#) on Wed, 17 Dec 2008 01:21:30 GMT

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Oh, I don't know if he's any more intelligent than McCain, but his campaign managers certainly had a far better grasp of subtle manipulation (knowing when to release statements, image control, and most importantly when not to speak up). He was never directly dishonest, no- but there is a certain indirect dishonesty in the way the campaign was run.

For one example (my favorite), take Obama's stance on the Second Amendment- he stated openly that he "supported the Second Amendment" yet never clarified how he interpreted it. His voting record and ties with various anti-gun groups reveal which way he comes down, as does his choice of VP (Biden was instrumental in passing Clinton's so-called "Assault Weapons" ban). A lie by omission- implying that he supports the right to keep and bear (having specified nothing of the kind) while, in fact, he doesn't. That sort of thing, however, is pretty common in politics- when candidates aren't busy flinging mud at each other instead. Perhaps Mr. Obama isn't quite as different as most people seem to think?

Mastering public opinion does not make a candidate honest. Knowing when to shut up and let the other guy sink himself (which is, more or less, what both Obama and Biden did) does not make a candidate honest. It makes them and their handlers more skilled at the art of political maneuvering, not at telling the truth. To paraphrase a very old bit of wisdom: "A bad liar may present a finely crafted fabrication, but all a great liar has to do is present a bit of truth."

Quote:On the flip side, I was put off by McCain's blatant attempt to win over ex-Hillary supporters with Palin

Palin was a terrible choice on McCain's part. Terrible. There had to have been some other Republican woman willing to jump on his ticket... I'm of the opinion that she lost him the race. To his credit, though, he's been trying to distance himself from her since November (going as far as to say that he wouldn't support her in a Presidential bid). Not that it's going to help him any in the future, but it might just keep her from grabbing the spotlight if her former running mate doesn't want anything to do with her.

Quote:McCain is too old and I personally think that being a war veteran is a good reason NOT to make someone in charge of the country, if anything at all.

Some of our most popular and successful Presidents have been veterans- including, among others, Washington and Kennedy, and their terms saw some of the most responsible and efficient uses of military resources to resolve conflicts with a minimum of bloodshed. Some of our worst military cluster-fucks, on the other hand, have taken place during the terms of Presidents with no combat experience... Carter (Iran- the botched attempt to rescue American personnel from the embassy), Clinton (Somalia), and Bush Jr. for instance (the latter served in the Air National Guard but never flew in combat). Perhaps such experience is useful, even if it doesn't make or break a Presidency on its own?

Quote:it's pretty clear you think that anyone who voted for Obama did so because he is black. This is completely wrong and offensive to all the Obama voters who took the time to inform

themselves about the issues. I could just as easily accuse you of voting for whoever you voted for because he's white.

You cannot deny that at least a large number of voters turned out in favor of Obama because of his skin color. All of the major news agencies covered that aspect of the race (no pun intended), and people were saying left and right how proud they were of being able to vote for the first black President- and mentioned no other reason for their votes.

No, not everyone voted based on pigmentation- I sure as hell didn't (though I also didn't vote for Obama- who I did vote for is my little secret), and nobody's insinuating that you did either. However, a great many people did. I'm sure that a large number of people voted against him with similar motivations, but claiming it was a non-issue is utterly naive.