

Analysis of Woman Vote in 1916 Upsets Theories

Figures of Last Election Prove That It Possesses No Independent Political Power and Was Merely an Echo of Man's Vote

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By J. S. Eichelberger.

A STATISTICAL study of how women voted in 1916 shows many interesting facts, as will be developed by an examination of the accompanying tables.

The woman's vote is a duplicate vote; a miniature, an echo, of man's vote, possessing no independent political power, and unable to reward its friends or punish its foes.

While it cannot be used as a lever to effect the "emancipation of woman," it may be used as a tool for the enslavement of men by other men. These are the facts, confirmed by common sense, and proved by the Arabic figures as follows:

1. The 4,160,316 women eligible to vote for President in 1916 cast 1,850,000 votes, according to a conservative estimate, and 1,950,400 votes according to a generous estimate.

2. The eligible women are from 20 to 30 per cent. more neglectful of their political duties than men are, and this, together with the fact that the men outnumber the women—by an average of 10 per cent. throughout the country—and up to 90 per cent. in some of the suffrage States, makes an average ratio of 173 men's votes to every 100 women's votes!

This is a most important fact to note. It reduces the suffrage argument to its fundamental fallacy in plain figures. It shows that in a count at the polls the women's vote cannot do anything independent of the men's vote; that its political effect appears only when dominated by a group of men who can get a larger proportion of their women to vote than another group of men can.

Let us explain how we get the tables and figures attached to this article. The "cause" is not eager to have anybody know exactly how women suffer under suffrage. One of the laws suffragists have not asked for in a suffrage State is one that would require the separation of the sexes at the polls, so that we could readily tell what woman suffrage is not doing.

Illinois alone, of the twelve States in which woman voted for President, incidentally separates the ballots of men and women.

With Illinois as a base line, as it were, we have a chance to estimate the women's vote fairly. We find, in Illinois, that 152 men voted to every 100 women. For President Wilson and Mr. Hughes, combined, 148.4 men voted for every 100 women; for President Wilson, 148.0 men to every 100 women; and for Mr. Hughes, 151.0 men voted for every 100 women.

Here we have a fairly constant ratio between the sexes. The women's vote varies hardly a hair's breadth in relation to the man's. With this fact established in Illinois, where over 41 per cent. of the double suffrage vote was cast, we can easily find the ratios in the States where the ballots are not separated, and get a good idea of how double suffrage—it ought to be called duplicate suffrage—works.

This we have done in the accompanying tables. In regard to these tables, it

The Vote in Twelve Double Suffrage States

State.	Electorate. (1916.)	(4,680,511 Men Over 21 in 1910.)			Total Vote. (All Parties.)	P. Ct. Voting.
		Chief Candidates. Wilson.	Hughes.	Plurality.		
Illinois:						
Men	1,687,414	566,957	693,334	126,367	78.9	
Women	1,623,213	383,292	459,215	75,923	53.7	
Total	3,310,627	950,229	1,152,549	*202,320	66.2	
Ratio	103.9	148.4	151.0			
California:						
Men	994,964	297,954	295,549	2,405	65.3	
Women	817,532	168,335	160,967	1,368	44.1	
Total	1,812,516	466,289	462,516	3,773	55.2	
Ratio	121.7			177.0		
Kansas:						
Men	560,637	197,948	174,766	23,242	70.8	
Women	483,982	116,640	102,950	13,690	48.3	
Total	1,044,619	314,588	277,656	36,932	60.5	
Ratio	116.0			199.7		
Washington:						
Men	523,370	123,740	112,828	10,902	48.0	
Women	569,403	59,648	54,406	5,242	32.1	
Total	892,773	183,388	167,244	16,144	41.7	
Ratio	141.8			267.4		
Colorado:						
Men	318,915	113,910	65,173	48,737	58.9	
Women	266,754	64,906	37,135	27,771	40.1	
Total	585,669	178,816	102,308	70,508	50.3	
Ratio	120.9			175.5		
Oregon:						
Men	319,196	86,152	90,813	4,661	56.7	
Women	298,616	33,935	36,000	2,065	34.9	
Total	617,812	120,087	126,813	*6,726	49.6	
Ratio	153.4			224.4		
Idaho:						
Men	141,626	48,667	39,238	9,429	66.4	
Women	99,964	21,354	17,130	4,224	45.2	
Total	241,590	70,021	56,368	13,653	58.1	
Ratio	155.8			227.9		
Montana:						
Men	159,285	71,039	46,770	24,269	84.7	
Women	99,997	30,024	19,980	10,044	43.3	
Total	259,282	101,063	66,750	34,313	68.6	
Ratio	159.4			234.1		
Utah:						
Men	169,913	53,055	34,103	18,952	82.7	
Women	92,150	30,970	20,030	10,940	57.0	
Total	262,063	84,025	54,133	29,892	70.7	
Ratio	177.1			171.2		
Arizona:						
Men	72,977	22,700	14,046	8,654	54.4	
Women	49,223	10,470	6,478	3,992	37.2	
Total	122,200	33,170	20,524	12,646	48.4	
Ratio	148.2			216.8		
Wyoming:						
Men	67,628	20,845	15,973	4,872	46.9	
Women	35,594	7,471	5,725	1,420	37.8	
Total	103,222	28,316	21,698	6,292	50.3	
Ratio	190.7			279.0		
Nevada:						
Men	46,420	13,296	9,067	4,229	53.7	
Women	22,907	4,480	3,069	1,420	36.6	
Total	69,327	17,776	12,127	5,649	48.0	
Ratio	202.7			296.5		
Grand total:						
Men	5,002,365	1,616,243	1,591,610	24,633	68.0	
Women	4,160,316	931,525	929,076	2,449	46.9	
Total	9,162,681	2,547,768	2,520,686	27,082	58.4	
Ratio	139.2	172.5	160.0			
*For Hughes. †Men to 100 Women.						

Twelve Male Suffrage States

State.	Electorate. (1916.)	Vote for Chief Candidates. (4,699,910 Men Over 21 in 1910.)			Total Vote. (All Parties.)	Per Cent. Voting.
		Wilson.	Hughes.	Plurality.		
Ohio	1,485,384	604,946	514,886	90,110	1,105,391	73.3
Michigan	836,506	286,775	339,667	*52,822	650,998	76.0
Oklahoma	554,600	148,123	97,233	50,890	292,416	52.8
West Virginia	361,991	140,403	143,124	*2,721	289,677	80.5
Nebraska	382,620	158,827	117,771	41,056	287,270	75.2
Connecticut	291,278	99,766	106,514	*6,746	213,974	73.5
Maine	213,682	64,118	69,506	*5,388	138,405	64.0
North Dakota	217,159	55,271	52,651	2,620	115,379	53.1
South Dakota	214,218	59,191	64,261	*5,070	128,986	60.3
Vermont	104,554	22,708	40,250	*17,542	64,465	62.0
New Mexico	108,874	33,553	31,161	2,392	66,963	62.0
Delaware	96,214	24,521	25,794	*1,273	51,876	78.4
Total	4,856,980	1,698,222	1,602,198	96,024	3,463,700	71.3
*For Hughes.						

should be remembered that the estimate of the women's vote is perhaps too large, rather than otherwise.

The reader will notice a table of twelve male suffrage States, having, in 1910, about the same number of men as the double suffrage States. Since 1910, the Western States have grown a great deal more than these States, and yet we find that the men in the male suffrage States, according to the table, are credited with more votes than the men of the West.

It is very doubtful that more votes were actually cast by the men of the male suffrage States. It is to be assumed that the 5,002,365 eligible men of the suffrage States cast more votes than the 4,856,980 men of the male suffrage States. The men of the West probably cast at least 3,500,000 votes, instead of the 3,399,250 for which they are credited. This would be 70 per cent. of their qualified voters. There would remain less than 1,850,000 votes for women to have cast, and this number is probably nearer the truth than the figure given. This would make a difference of a little over 2 per cent. in the proportion of eligible women who voted.

Again, we have carefully calculated the increase in population so as to make the comparison more nearly correct. We have checked and rechecked all these calculations until the margin of error is small and in favor of the woman voter. There is no juggling the ratios of in-

crease to expand the electorates. The calculations are made so that the woman voter, in all cases, has the "benefit of the doubt."

The present adult population is estimated on amount, instead of rate of increase, the method approved by the United States Census, as its margin of error is on the side of conservatism. For instance, in ten years, seventy-eight cities increased in population by an average amount of 407,028. The next ten years, the same cities increased by an average amount of 414,794. The rate of increase fell from 46.8 per cent. in the first ten years to 32.5 per cent. the following ten years. Obviously, an estimate based on the rate would have been false, whereas the total amount exceeded by less than 2 per cent. that of the previous ten years, and could have been calculated with fair precision.

Besides checking the amounts of increase in the population over twenty-one by comparison with the age groups of 1910, fifteen years and over—who are now obviously over twenty-one where immigration and inter-State migration have made up for death losses, we have checked the adult population by proportion to the latest census estimates, and furthermore reduced the electorates by subtracting the number of aliens among the males—except in six States, three in each group, where certain aliens may vote.

The number of foreign-born women

eligible to vote is computed from the naturalization and immigration tables in connection with marital condition.

Throughout, the margin of error in these calculations will be on the side of overestimating the number of women voters and underestimating the number of men voters, or the increase of electorate.

If, in this estimate, the women's vote appears wholly without political effect, and only as an additional expense to the State and of no benefit to women whatever, as we know it is in Illinois, where at least 45 per cent. of the women's vote at this election was cast, then our case is established, and the impotency and uselessness of woman suffrage are demonstrated.

Glancing at the table we find some interesting facts. For instance, male-suffrage Delaware, with only 66,000 men, casts more votes than woman suffrage Wyoming, with 67,000 men and 35,000 women! If the men of Wyoming vote as well as the men of Delaware, woman suffrage has become automatically repealed in the oldest State that has it!

It is noticeable that the combined proportion of eligibles who vote falls below 50 per cent. in six of the twelve suffrage States, and only in one, Mormon Utah, does it rise to the average masculine rate of 70 per cent.

There is something distinctly significant about this. The Mormon seems to be the only man who can get out 70 per cent. of the effectives with women voting. Is it true, we wonder, that Wyoming women practically ignore their suffrage, while Mormon women vote just like men?

An examination of the two tables shows the following curious facts:

President Wilson obtained a larger popular majority (96,024) in the twelve male suffrage States than in the twelve woman suffrage States (27,082). And Mr. Hughes, who so actively courted the woman voter, obtained forty-seven of ninety-eight electoral votes in the male suffrage States, and only thirty-four of the ninety-one electoral votes of the woman suffrage States.

Again, President Wilson carried anti-suffrage Ohio and suffrage California by about the same plurality percentage as Mr. Hughes carried anti-suffrage West Virginia and suffrage Illinois! The influence of the woman voter anywhere is absolutely indiscernible as affecting the result.

In Chicago the men cast 217,328 votes for Wilson and 235,668 for Hughes, a plurality of 18,340, or 4.04 per cent. for Hughes.

The women cast 135,847 votes for Wilson and 141,533 for Hughes, a majority of 7,686, or 2.43 per cent. for Hughes.

Thus has "man, the usurper," demonstrated that he dominates not only the amount of his majorities, but in the percentage of his preferences!

Woman suffrage cannot grant political favors to its friends, and woman suffrage cannot effect political failure for its foes.