

# The Passy Press

## Letter to the Editor

**From:** Haven Pell [havenpell@undisclosed.com](mailto:havenpell@undisclosed.com)  
**To:** TPP Nick Gardiner [enpg@thepassypress.com](mailto:enpg@thepassypress.com)  
**Date:** October 24, 2016 at 11:31:04 PM GMT+2  
**Subject:** Letter to the Editor re Cadwalader Essay

Dear Sir,

I read with interest George Cadwalader's October 2016 essay on Mandatory Voting.

He argues for a greater number of votes, but it is hard to see the difference between 120 million low information voters and 180 million low information voters except, of course, a 50% increase in the cost of trying to drag them to the polls to check the preferred box.

Most low information voters fall in to one or more of three categories:

1. Those who have not tried to learn the various sides of the relevant issues;
2. Those who have been lied to by the candidates; and
3. Those who disagree with whomever is complaining about low information voters.

The solution to the first category is education, an area in which our national success rate is questionable; the solution to the second is stopping candidates from telling lies, an area in which our national success rate is non-existent; and the solution to the third is irrelevant because it is facetious.

If the amount of effort necessary to implement Mr. Cadwalader's proposal were devoted to creating a truly competitive multi-party system instead of a self-serving duopoly, I suspect our progress would be greater.

That would not require amending the Constitution or yet again telling people what to do when they are little interested in doing it.

Sincerely,

Haven N. B. Pell

Haven Pell is on version 6.0 as a political blogger. [www.libertypell.com](http://www.libertypell.com). Versions 1.0 - 5.0 were Navy officer, lawyer, investment banker, and foundation director and investment manager. His prior career exposed him to the importance of debt in political decision-making. Three dozen years living in Washington have taught him that smartisan creates better solutions than partisan. He was educated at Institut Le Rosey, St. Paul's School, Harvard College and Fordham Law School; he is married with three grown children and two grandchildren.