

The Good Ole Boys Club

In Collin County, it's a tight knit bunch of white Republican males who meet behind closed doors and/or inconvenient hours for working people to attend their meetings and hand out no-bid contracts to the son of Sam Johnson, the US Representative for the Third Congressional District of Texas, an 80 year old incumbent who has been in office for 20 years. In Washington DC, the Good Ole Boys Club consists of BOTH the Democratic and Republican parties as well as the professional lobbyists—many of whom are former members of Congress.

Underemployment in the USA stands at 20% according to a recent Gallup poll. Yet the most that members of the Senate were willing to muster for a jobs bill for the American people yesterday [Feb. 22, 2010] was \$15 billion. Yes, this is the same government body who bent over backwards to hand over \$800 trillion of taxpayers' money for the Bush Administration/Hank Paulson/Goldman Sachs/Chicken Little heist just before George packed his suitcases last fall. How's that for twisted priorities?

Many Americans cry out to allow the Republicans to filibuster a jobs bill and anger the American people. But this is where the good ole boys step in to protect one another's interests. The Senate Democrats don't want the Senate Republicans to go away and the feeling is mutual because they belong to the same club. Like grifters they have a con game in play and they need each other in order to play their game—a game in which the American people are losers.

The Democrats and Republicans are joined at the hip to keep the Independent “riffraff” from seriously competing with them and forcing them to discuss real issues that really do matter to Americans. They officially welded themselves together in 1987 when they kicked the Women League of Voters out and decided that the two parties themselves would run the debates and decide what the topics of discussion would be and in fact who could even participate in the debates. Talk about putting the fox in the hen house. In 1987 they established the [Commission on Presidential Debates](#)

In 1988, the League of Women Voters withdrew its sponsorship of the presidential debates after the George H.W. Bush and Michael Dukakis campaigns secretly agreed to a “memorandum of understanding” that would decide which candidates could participate in the debates, which individuals would be panelists (and therefore able to ask questions), and the height of the podiums. [The League rejected the demands and released a statement saying that they were withdrawing support for the debates because “the demands of the two campaign organizations would perpetrate a fraud on the American voter.](#)

*In 1998, former CBS news anchor Walter Cronkite wrote, “The debates are part of the unconscionable fraud that our political campaigns have become . . . the candidates participate only with the guarantee of a format that defies meaningful discourse.” It is a testament to the state of mainstream journalism that leading news anchors happily agree to participate in these farces. It's great PR exposure, after all. [SOURCE](#)

**An interesting and disturbing note: A couple of months ago I used the WIKI source for another post that I wrote about the CPD. Today I returned to WIKI and I see that their original reference with the quote from Walter Cronkite has been scrubbed off the WIKI site. I had to look elsewhere on the Internet to find it so I could post it here. In addition, the WIKI article has been shortened considerably.*

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Emma Berry for U.S. Representative of the Third Congressional District of Texas

<http://emmaberry.org>