

## Best Indicator

November 5, 2020

The pollsters were way off. Again.

Sure, there were a couple outfits that, prior to Election Day, said the race between Trump and Biden was going to be close, but most portrayed Biden as way ahead.

Instead, it's a squeaker.

Still, Biden's pulling ahead — Michigan was declared for the Democrat as I type this.

Before we blame the pollsters for drawing the wrong conclusions from their data, let's not draw the wrong conclusions from the most important data of all: Tuesday's actual votes.

We must remember: people vote for and against candidates for a variety of reasons — personal, tribal,

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single-issue, broad-spectrum, you-name-it. But how do we determine their *actual political values*?

Here's one good indicator, voting . . . *on ballot measures*.

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Just before Election Day, the Democratic Vice Presidential candidate explained why equality of treatment wasn't enough: people must be compensated for their past disadvantages, to *make outcomes equal*. She was pushing a recent meme common on the left, framed as “equality” versus “equity.”

Mrs. Harris may be on her way to Number One Observatory Circle (the vice president's residence) and then the White House, but Americans aren't onboard her socialistic egalitarianism. On Tuesday, her home-state Californians repealed Proposition 16, which would have stricken down an equal rights measure of the 1990s in favor of a compensatory hiring and firing scheme based on racial qualifications.

Woke socialists really like this sort of thing. Yet supposedly ultra-blue (pink?) Californians defeated it 56/44.

Once the politics of personality and party are put aside, Americans are *not* as divided as the Democratic/Republican divided as the political class wishes we were.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.