



Hillary Clinton
@HillaryClinton

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Delete your account.

Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump

Obama just endorsed Crooked Hillary. He wants four more years of Obama—but nobody else does!



Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump

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How long did it take your staff of 823 people to think that up--and where are your 33,000 emails that you deleted?



GETTING INVOLVED

For students who turned 18 before November, this was the first election that they were eligible to vote. With record low candidate approval ratings, some seniors were proud to vote for the candidate that they supported, while others chose the candidate that they disliked the least.



Clinton voter

"I didn't agree with all of her policies, but I felt like she had better character and was more calm headed."

Ethan Aylesworth, 12

[Hillary Clinton] was the lesser of two evils. This was a terrible election to have my first vote in."

Peyton Rives, 12



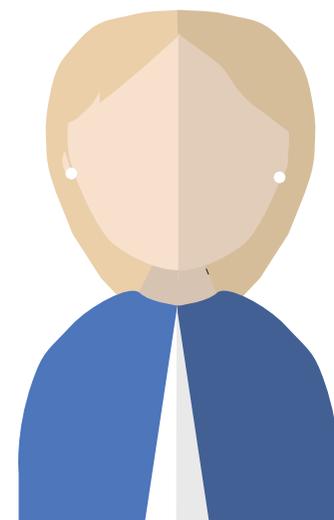
Trump voter

"I feel like his policies affected the middle class better and a lot of businesses."

Trevor Branscum, 12

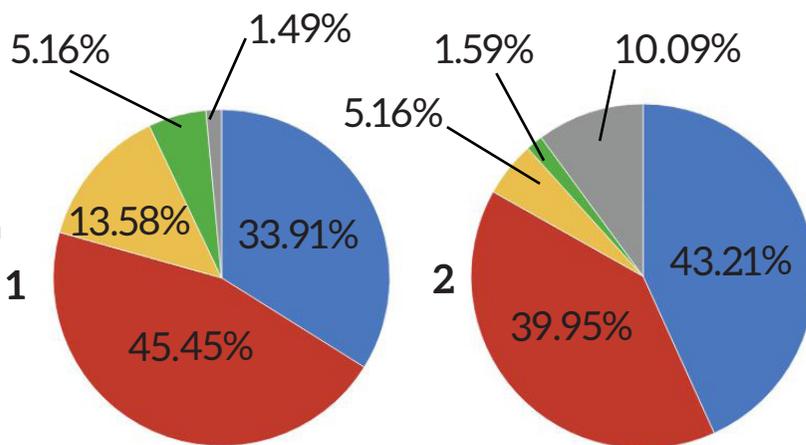
"No matter who you are, you're putting some part of yourself out there and you actually can change things."

Dallas Johnston, 12



HERE'S THE STATS

Kids Voting USA is a program aimed to educate America's youth about the importance of voter participation. Students across the country simulated the voter registration process and filled out mock ballots around the time of the real election. Here are the results from the votes casted at FHN.



1 ● Clinton ● Trump ● Johnson ● Stein ● Castle
 2 ● Kander ● Blunt ● Dine ● Ryman ● McFarland

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Student Life
Elections

Election GONE VIRAL

The power of media takes effect in one of the most controversial elections in US history

Every four years, Americans get an important glimpse into the democracy their country was founded on during the election of the President. With the rise of social media such as Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, media is playing an increasingly essential role in politics in today's society. After a close race between Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican Donald Trump, Trump was elected the 45th President of the United States with 306 electoral votes on Nov. 8, 2016.

"This particular election seems to be an anomaly because the media loves Hillary Clinton; they were not really fond of Trump," AP Government teacher William Crow said. "Generally speaking, I think the media can make candidates and carry candidates. This particular year seems to throw everything in flux."

The framing of a story can completely change the way a person perceives the circumstances, and given that media outlets only have a few minutes or a certain word count to accurately describe a situation, framing could mean everything. Many believe that news stations such as Fox and MSNBC have strong conservative and liberal biases respectively, meaning the TV channel someone chooses to get their news from can directly affect their opinion on certain issues.

"Media definitely has an effect on our society as a whole," sophomore Riley Lawson said. "It definitely seems that for some people, their beliefs are shaped by what they watch in media, which is why I think it's important to watch multiple sources to prevent your views from being based purely upon another person's opinions."

Modern technology provides

a vast array of methods to instant communication that existed only in science-fiction a half-century ago. With so much knowledge and research at society's disposal, one would think people would be significantly more informed about current events. Nevertheless, some believe that the constant creation and consumption of media can prevent people from analyzing the issues on a deeper level.

"I really wish more people would look into the candidates' beliefs and ideals," Crow said. "They rely so much on these snippets, or these blurbs, or these stories put out by the opposite candidates that make them form their opinion about the candidates. There's no depth to their thought process, they don't know what the candidate has or has not done and it just frustrates me."

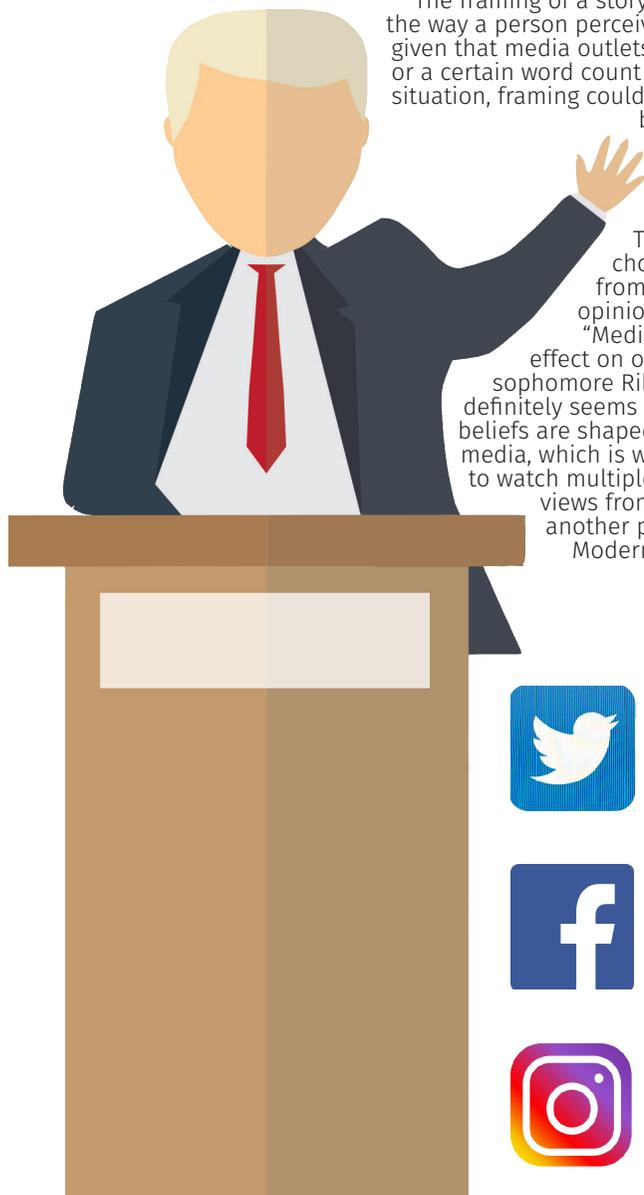
Senior Sasha Kaganov was initially an avid Bernie Sanders supporter, and when he lost the Democratic candidacy, she actively supported Hillary Clinton until nearly election day. However, her opinions changed dramatically after doing some thorough research into the each candidate's potential policies.

"I supported Hillary originally because her ideas first seemed okay, but then as time went on, I realized that her ideas are exactly like Obama's and he didn't really create the change that I wanted," Kaganov said. "As I started to listen and hear more of Trump's ideas, I started realizing that 'Oh, maybe he can change America, maybe he can fix it and his ideas can work.'"

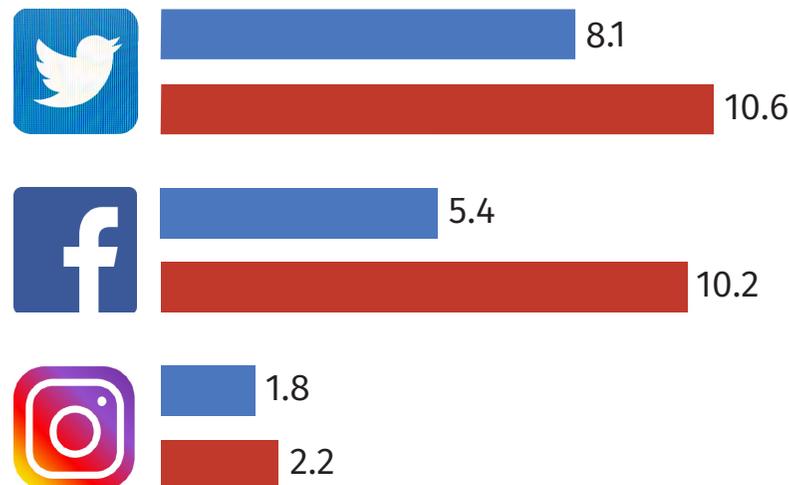
As with any election, many Americans were left unhappy with the results. However, Lawson believes it's crucial to remember the power given by the fundamental rights of an American citizen.

"I would have preferred the other candidate to be elected because that's who I was supporting at the time, but I think it's important not to hope it went differently because it didn't," Lawson said. "There's nothing we can do about it now, so I think the best thing is to accept the results of the election and just be sure that we use our constitutionally given rights to make sure the Trump administration does what's best for the American people."

Aimee Clive | active1@gmail.com



Millions of Followers/Likes



SOCIAL MEDIA RACE

Though Trump often complained about the pulished media, social media was on his side during the race. He became known for his consistant and unfiltered presence on social media sites. He had a larger following than Clinton, which benefited him during the election. This graph shows the number of followers in millions that each candidate had as of October 2016.

Spread By

Audrey Baker and Aimee Clive

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