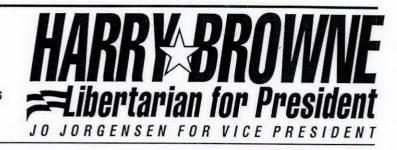


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They agree: Browne "deserves" a spot in the presidential debates

Include the Libertarian, urge three newspapers and two political columnists

WASHINGTON, DC — The demands are getting louder: Include Harry Browne in the presidential debates.

Over the past several weeks, three newspapers and two influential political columnists have urged that Libertarian Party candidate Harry Browne be invited to go head-to-head against Bill Clinton and Bob Dole in the televised presidential debates.

"As a party, the Libertarians have clearly earned inclusion in those debates. The fledgling Reform Party has not," editorialized the *Denver Post* on July 11th. "It would be fair to set 1996 debates between Clinton, Dole, and Browne as representatives of the only parties to meet the present yardsticks for national recognition."

The *Times Herald-Record* in Middletown, NY agreed: "Browne [is] the presidential candidate of the Libertarian Party. He would like to elevate his party to a status that gives it an invitation to the presidential debates. That would be interesting. [His] presence at the debate would make for a livelier, perhaps more meaningful, discussion." (July 9th)

Washington Post political columnist Colman McCarthy, syndicated in 26 newspapers, urged Browne's inclusion — even if Republicans and Democrats balk.

"Harry Browne, well-spoken and not sponging off the taxpayers, deserves a place at whichever forum hosts Clinton-Dole debates," he wrote on July 13th. "To keep out the Libertarian would be yielding to the might of the two main parties . . ."

The *Sunday Review* in Hayward, California noted approvingly that Browne would bring "new ideas" to the debate. "Members of the Libertarian Party want to be invited to this year's presidential debates, and we think they belong there," the paper wrote on July 14th. "We invite those who present presidential candidates to the American public to open the door wider. It is time for new ideas in the United States . . ."

And columnist Joseph Perkins at the *San Diego Union-Tribune* suggested that if Browne was invited to the debates, he could catapult the Libertarians into major party status.

"By the next presidential election, the Democrats and Republicans might very well find the Libertarians a third party to be reckoned with," he wrote on July 19th.