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Professor Allan Lichtman

American University and Presidential Prognosticator

Professor Allan Lichtman of American University has correctly predicted the winner of the popular vote in every presidential election since 1984.

Lichtman has been a full professor at American University since 1980, having received his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1973. He specialized in modern American history and quantitative methods. He was the recipient of the Scholar/Teacher of the year award for 1992-93.

He has published seven books and several hundred popular and scholarly articles. He has lectured in the US and internationally and provided commentary for the major US and foreign networks and leading newspapers and magazines across the world. He has been an expert witness in more than 75 civil and voting rights cases.

His book, *White Protestant Nation: The Rise of the American Conservative Movement* was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in nonfiction.

Subject Area/Topic: TRUMP WILL WIN, SAYS AU'S LICHTMAN

Highlights: Lichtman reviewed the Keys with the audience and noted that because there are six false answers, the Keys predict a victory for the Republican candidate—Donald Trump.

By applying his Keys to the White House, Dr. Lichtman has correctly predicted the winner of the popular vote for President since 1984. The 13 Keys are true/false questions that cover matters such as whether the incumbent party candidate is the sitting President, whether there has been real per capita income growth and whether a candidate is charismatic or a national hero.

He stressed that polling is not relevant to these predictions. The Keys are readily available on the web and are described in detail in Lichtman's book, *The Keys to the White House: A Surefire Guide to Predicting the Next President*.

Lichtman developed the keys in collaboration with a Russian expert on volcano prediction. Retroactively, they based the Keys on an analysis of conditions that existed in every election from Lincoln to Reagan. He noted that his early work was subject to severe academic criticism because the interpretation of the keys required some subjective judgment. While he agreed "the hardest thing about forecasting is putting aside your own personal preferences..." he said that the academic world has come around to his position that a completely objective system is impossible—judgment is required.

In the Q&A session, Lichtman mentioned that because he is an expert in election irregularities, he was hired to review the Bush/Gore vote in Florida. He found that 180,000 votes were "tossed out" because of ballot irregularities — for example, writing in Al Gore rather than Albert Gore. One in nine minority votes were "tossed out" as opposed to one in fifty other votes. Had these votes been counted, Gore would have won. The Election Commission, having received his report, took no action.