

In March 2014, Barack Obama, then President of the United States of America, visited the Netherlands in order to take part in the Nuclear Security Summit that was held in The Hague. It was hosted by Mark Rutte, then Prime Minister of The Netherlands. On the first day of this summit, municipal elections were taking place in The Netherlands. During lunch, Mark Rutte of course shared a table with Barack Obama and what else could they talk about than the elections? At the same table some Chinese emissary had taken a seat and Obama, being diplomatic and socially skilled, tried to involve him in the conversation by politely asking: Do you have elections too? The Chinese responded with: Yes, mistel plesident, evely molning!

Suppose there is some club where a new president is to be elected.

Mom, how do lions make love? I don't know, all your father's friends are Rotarians.

There are 19 voters who express their preferences of candidates {A,B,C} as follows:

voter	1 st choice	2 nd choice	3 rd choice
1	A	C	B
2	A	C	B
3	B	C	A
4	C	B	A
5	A	C	B
6	A	C	B
7	A	C	B
8	B	C	A
9	B	C	A
10	A	C	B
11	B	C	A
12	B	C	A
13	A	B	C
14	B	A	C
15	A	C	B
16	C	B	A
17	C	B	A
18	C	B	A
19	B	C	A
resulting in:	8×A, 7×B, 4×C	1×A, 5×B, 13×C	10×A, 7×B, 2×C

A and B are the top two as both the first and the last choice. As 1st choice, **A clearly won**, but he beats B by just 1 vote. As 3rd choice he has an absolute majority, beating B by 3, so **shouldn't B win?** But let's take **all** votes into account by assigning a penalty according to the rank of each vote:

A:	8×1	+ 1×2	+ 10×3	= 40	worst!
B:	7×1	+ 5×2	+ 7×3	= 38	less penalty than A
C:	4×1	+ 13×2	+ 2×3	= 36	least penalty!

There are two absolute majorities: A as the most disliked (10/19) and C as the 2nd choice (13/19), but he has the least overall penalty, so shouldn't C win?

When fairly taking **all** votes into account, it ends up in the middle. In mathematics this is called *regression to the mean*. **A true democracy is ruled by the silly average instead of the clever top.**

*Now A (not gay but gray) & B (black & yellow) must play the parts of some stinging insects. Shouldn't **B be bee?***