

# How Can We Protect Voting Rights?

Today, voting rights are under attack like never before. The gutting of the landmark Voting Rights Act by the Supreme Court in the Shelby v. Holder case has opened the floodgates of voter suppression laws in state after state. The President's "Election Integrity Commission," created to justify false claims of voter fraud in the 2016 elections is laying the groundwork for even more dangerous voter suppression across the country.

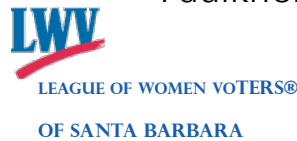


Wed, Sept 20

Noon-2pm

Santa Barbara Public Library,

Faulkner Gallery (40 E. Anapamu St.)



Speakers will explore how we can work together to protect voting rights:

A review of the League's work to protect voting rights at the local, state and national levels - **Helen Hutchison, President, LWV of CA**

A brief history of voting rights and voter suppression in the U.S. - **Ted Anagnoson, prof. emeritus of political science** at Cal State LA and a Visiting Prof. at UCSB

The impact of gerrymandering and other means of voter suppression on minority voters, and the results of CA's new redistricting process - **Dr. Gregory K. Freeland, prof. of political science** at California Lutheran University

Efforts of grassroots activists to promote civic engagement, remove barriers, and provide opportunities and information to support Latino and other underrepresented voters - **Marcos Vargas, Executive Director, Fund for Santa Barbara**

For nearly 100 years, the women and men of the League of Women Voters have worked every day to help make democracy work for everyone. Through a variety of activities at the local, state, and national levels, the League helps make sure that all voters, including traditionally underrepresented or underserved communities, have the opportunity and information to exercise their right to vote.

LWV promotes expanding early voting and online voter registration, ensuring that existing pro-voter laws are followed and challenging efforts that limit the ability of voters to exercise this basic right. The League actively opposes voter ID laws, which unfairly impact low-income, elderly, and minority groups. The League also advocates against barriers to the voter registration process, works to prevent last-minute Election Day barriers and helps millions of voters get the information they need to vote.

Our Forum will open with Santa Barbara's new City Clerk, Sarah Gorman, who will report on the city's Nov. 7 election.



*The forum is co-sponsored by the Santa Barbara Public Library, TVSB & Gary Atkins Sound System. It is free and open to the public.*