





**BE REGISTERED.**

**BE READY.**

**BE COUNTED.**

[VOTE.ORG](http://VOTE.ORG)

Know your options, vote early, and make a voting plan.

For resources and organizer's information:  
[VotingRightsAlliance.org](http://VotingRightsAlliance.org)

**SEPTEMBER IS VOTING RIGHTS MONTH**

**Voting Rights Month** occurs every year from September 1st - October 6th, the anniversary of Fannie Lou Hamer's birthday.

This year, we're educating about voting rights and encouraging voter registration, early voting, poll worker recruitment, and ensuring everyone who's intending to vote by mail if they're not in a state that automatically mails you a ballot must request your ballot no later than September 22nd.

III

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### VOTING RIGHTS CIRCLE

From Vote Denial to Vote Denial

**Vote Denial**

**Vote Suppression**

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Black soldiers fought and died for racial equality during the Civil War

- More than 200,000 Black soldiers served during the Civil War
- Forty thousand black soldiers died in the war
- It is estimated that one-third of all African Americans who enlisted lost their lives

### February 8, 2017- Black Soldiers in the Civil War

Today we honor the Black Soldiers who fought during the American Civil War, the outcome of which led to the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments. #VRABlackHistory



Picture Credits: Library of Congress

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Following the end of slavery, Congress passes 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution granting the right to vote for Black men.

Many White women infuriated, as Black men are deemed racially inferior



[The 15th Amendment](#) to the Constitution granted African American men the right to vote by declaring that the "right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude." Although ratified on February 3, 1870, the promise of the 15th Amendment would not be fully realized for almost a century. Through the use of poll taxes, literacy tests and other means, Southern states were able to effectively disenfranchise African Americans. It would take the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 before the majority of African Americans in the South were registered to vote."

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Source: The Library of Congress  
<https://www.loc.gov/rr/print/titles/19234.html>

Women Suffragist Movement results in passage of 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment (1920).

One major problem??



Mrs. Suffern with a home-made banner in the parade. "Help us to win the vote." 1914. Prints & Photographs Division, Reproduction Number: LC-USZ62-136533

The [19th Amendment](#) (PDF, 33KB) to the Constitution granted women the right to vote and was ratified by the states on August 18, 1920. A women's suffrage amendment was first introduced in Congress in 1878. Forty-one years later, on June 4, 1919, Congress approved the women's suffrage amendment and sent it to the states for ratification. Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby [certified the ratification](#) (PDF, 74KB) on August 26, 1920.

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Source: The Library of Congress  
<https://www.loc.gov/rr/print/titles/19234.html>

Nannie Helen Burroughs and other Black Women Suffragettes from D.C.



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"All the Blacks  
are men; all the  
women are  
White; but,  
some of us are  
brave."



Wells-Barnett marching with other women suffragists in a parade in Washington, D.C., 1913  
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1965: *Voting Rights Act* empowers all Black people to vote



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The modern-day fight for our democracy is driven  
by changing racial demographics and a  
resurgence of White Supremacy

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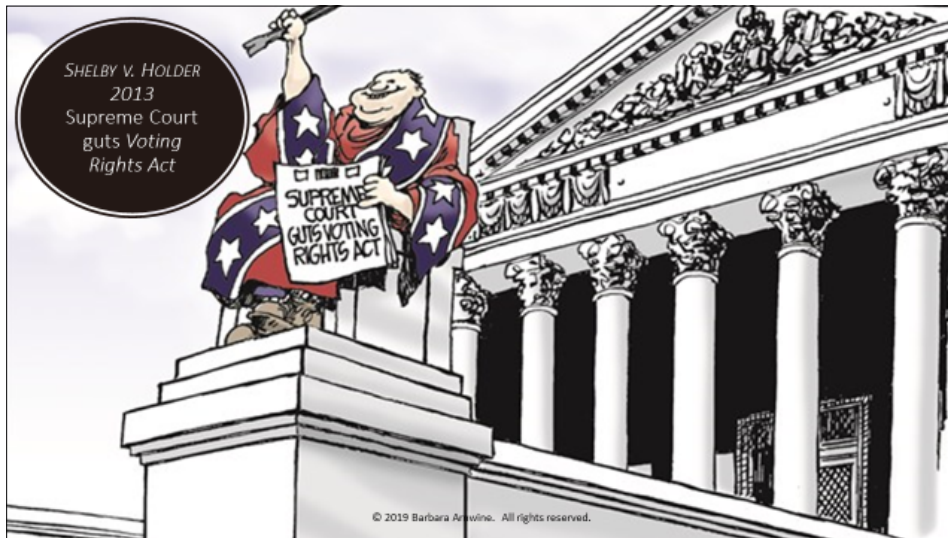
Racism, Patriarchy, Misogyny, and the Attack on Our Democracy:

Voter Suppression – 2011 Map of Shame



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**61 FORMS OF  
VOTER SUPPRESSION**

Printed in honor of Fannie Lou Hamer's 102nd Birthday

**61 Forms of  
Voter  
Suppression**

**ABSTRACT**  
Voter suppression is more than just photo ID laws. Barbara Arwine has been discussing the existence of voter suppression urgency of fighting it over the past 2 decades. Known for using visual representations such as her iterations of the "Map of Shame", Barbara now presents her 2019 list of the 61 forms of voter suppression. Much like Fannie Lou Hamer, Barbara is "sick and tired of being sick and tired".

Print your own copy or view online at  
[VotingRightsAlliance.org](http://VotingRightsAlliance.org)

By Barbara R. Arwine  
President & Founder  
Transformative Justice Coalition  
Author, 2011 Voting Rights Map of Shame

## Introduction

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### Voting in the Era of #VirusVoting & #VirusVoterSuppression Major Problems

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1. Due to COVID-19 shutdowns, voter registration is down significantly across the United States in many states.
2. States are actively exploiting COVID-19 to increase voter suppression.
3. Rampant support for vote-by-mail overlooks its negative impacts on African American, Latino, Native American, and Asian voters, and voters with disabilities.
4. Congress should pass the Vote Safe Act of 2020, which provides for civil rights protections for COVID-19-era voting.

**IF YOU HAVE VOTING RELATED ISSUES ON DURING  
ELECTION 2020  
ELECTION PROTECTION HOTLINE 1-866-687-8683**

## Background: Vote-by-mail impacts

- Vote-by-mail is no panacea in the time of COVID
- Vote-by-mail works very well for White voters
- Vote-by-mail is problematic for Black people and other People of Color
  - Reasons Why:
    - People of Color move/change addresses more often
    - Black people account for 50% of all homeless people in the U.S.
    - Black people distrust vote-by-mail
    - Literacy & translation issues
    - People of Color often do not have access to the internet in order to apply for applications for mail-in ballots (for example, in Philadelphia, 29% of all African Americans lack internet access)
    - Onerous Requirements for vote-by-mail compliance often results in mailed ballots from People of Color not being counted (for example, in Georgia, exact signature match requirements)
    - Threats to the United States Postal Service has made many people wary of voting by mail
    - Mail delivery is either nonexistent or infrequent to homes of Native Americans living on reservations
    - Even in states that traditionally vote solely by mail, Black voter participation is much lower than that of White voters
    - People of Color are more likely to be on state inactive lists & many of those states do not mail absentee ballots to those on inactive lists
    - 16 states require an excuse for an absentee ballot: efforts are underway to change those laws but some states are being resistant (for example, Texas)

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## The Voter Justice Network Supports VOTER OPTIONS

### 1. Vote By Mail= No Excuse, No Barriers Absentee Voting

#### • Need:

- No application process
- No witnesses or notarization requirements
- No exact signature match requirements
- Applications mailed directly to all voters
- Ballots mailed directly to all voters
- Return envelopes with pre-paid postage
- Postmarked by election day
- Aggressive outreach to all voters on inactive list
- Outreach to purged voters
- Strong outreach and voter education support for all voters: both digital and nondigital is essential
- No requirement for mail in of a copy of ID
- Must provide for forwardable ballots

Unless proper steps are taken  
to protect vulnerable voters,

# TWENTY-FIVE MILLION

voters could experience unexpected,  
preventable disenfranchisement  
with vote-by-mail only.

#VoterInfo #OurMarchToVoteByMail

**WHAT** are my options for voting by mail in my state?

State by State info: <https://www.vote.org/absentee-voting-rules/>

**WHEN** should I apply for a ballot?

As early as possible due to the high potential for mail delays!

**HOW** should I complete and return the ballot?

Carefully follow all instructions included with your ballot.

Plan ahead if you need a notary or witness.

Mail your ballot back as early as possible, no fewer than two to three weeks before the election.

Find out if your state allows you to return your ballot in person, or have a close family member do so for you.

**WHY** is my ballot important?

The late Rep. John Lewis said "The voters are the most powerful candidate that we have." - Joe Biden

## Contact

### -Personal-

Email: [Barnwine@tjcoalition.org](mailto:Barnwine@tjcoalition.org)

Twitter: @barbs73

Facebook: Barbara Arnwine

LinkedIn: Barbara Arnwine

### -The Transformative Justice Coalition-

Twitter: @TJC\_DC

Facebook: @TJC.DC

Website: [tjcoalition.org](http://tjcoalition.org)

### - Voting Rights Alliance-

Twitter: @VRAmatters

Facebook: @VRAmatters

Website: [VotingRightsAlliance.org](http://VotingRightsAlliance.org)

### -LISTEN TO the "Igniting Change" Radio Show -

with Hosts Barbara R. Arnwine, Esq. & Daryl D. Jones, Esq.

Tuesdays at 12:00 PM Eastern Time

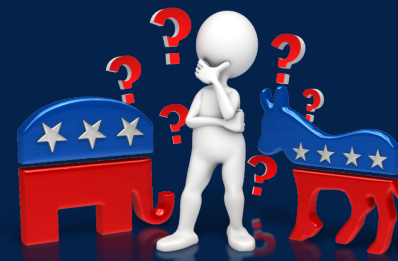
WOL 1450 AM & Online: [BarbaraArnwine.com](http://BarbaraArnwine.com)

## REGISTER TO



Register to vote in all 50 states  
+ the District of Columbia

[WWW.VOTE.ORG](http://WWW.VOTE.ORG)



## Register to



- ✓ Deadlines – **October 13<sup>th</sup>** by mail/online in DC, MD and VA
- ✓ In-Person and on Election Day (MD and DC only)
- ✓ Rules (i.e., age, citizenship, convictions)
- ✓ Convicted of a Felony
- ✓ Military
- ✓ Currently residing Overseas
- ✓ Note about **party affiliation**: if you choose **"unaffiliated"** you will not be able to vote in Primaries in MD and DC. Virginia's Primaries are open.

## ENCOURAGE YOUR CONTACTS TO REGISTER TO VOTE



DOWNLOAD on your cellular device  
right now the  
**OUT VOTE APP**  
(on Apple and Android)

**USE CODE 456100**  
(WHEN WE ALL VOTE.ORG)

## HOW TO OBTAIN YOUR MAIL-IN BALLOT



### DC

- The D.C. Board of Elections will send a mail-in ballot to every voter in the first week of October.

### VIRGINIA

- Request a mail-in ballot by **Oct. 23**. You can do so online or using a paper application form.
- Ballots will be mailed out starting in late September.

### MARYLAND

- To complete mail-in ballot application online Text VBM to 77788.
- You also have the option to print a form and return it by mail, fax or email by **Oct. 20**.
- You can choose to have your mail-in ballot mailed or faxed to you, or download it online.
- Ballots are set to be sent or posted to the website about three weeks before the election around October 5, 2020.

## PROCESSING YOUR MAIL-IN BALLOT



### DC

- Return your ballot **EARLY** by mail or at a mail-in ballot drop-off site. If you choose to mail it back, it must be postmarked by **Nov. 3rd**.

### MARYLAND

- Your mail-in ballot must be completed **EARLY** and signed in **BLACK INK**, be mailed or hand-delivered to an early voting center, polling place or drop box before **Nov. 3rd**.

### VIRGINIA

- Your ballot must be postmarked before **Nov. 3rd**.



## PROCESSING YOUR MAIL-IN BALLOT

### READ AND FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

- What color ink pen is needed?
- Voter ID or notary required?
- Signature required on the ballot or envelope?
- \* Did you fill the bubble in completely?
- Your mail-in ballot must be **completed EARLY** and **signed in BLACK INK** in Maryland.
- **Suggestion:** be mailed or hand-delivered to an early voting center, polling place or drop box **before October 27, 2020**. If you mail no later than **October 13, 2020**.

## PROCESSING YOUR MAIL-IN BALLOT

- ✓ Know locations of drive up/drop box sites: go to State Board of Elections website to find locations.

<https://usa.gov/election-office>

- ✓ **Plan ahead:** know the hours of operation: some locations have restrictive hours, others are 24/7

**You need time to track your ballot before Election Day on November 3rd.**

## HOW TO TRACK YOUR MAIL-IN BALLOT

### DC

[www.dcboe.org](http://www.dcboe.org)

Search "Track Ballot"

### MARYLAND

[www.elections.Maryland.gov](http://www.elections.Maryland.gov)

Search "Track Ballot"

### VIRGINIA

[www.elections.Virginia.gov](http://www.elections.Virginia.gov)

Search "Track Ballot"

## VOTING SAFETY AT THE POLL

- ✓ Bring a mask, water, & hand sanitizer & Be sure to socially distance while in line.
- ✓ Know your rights & call **866-OUR-VOTE** if you have any problems voting.
- ✓ Know the hours and locations of your polling place (**VOTE.ORG**)

## VOLUNTEERING AT THE POLLS



WANT TO VOLUNTEER AT THE POLLS?

VISIT **VOTE.ORG** TO BECOME  
AN ELECTION JUDGE  
OR  
POLL WORKER



Don't forget to complete the **U.S. Census**

- **Self-Response deadline**  
- September 30, 2020
- **Non-Response Canvassing**  
will also end September 30<sup>th</sup>

visit <https://my2020census.gov>

## RESOURCES

### Voting Rights General Information

[TJCoalition.org](http://TJCoalition.org)  
You can sign up for our  
newsletter here

[VotingRightsAlliance.org](http://VotingRightsAlliance.org)

[NationalCVI.org](http://NationalCVI.org)

[866ourvote.org](http://866ourvote.org)  
Hotline: 1-866-OUR-VOTE = 1  
866-687-8663; Spanish toll-free  
number: 888-VE Y VOTA.  
(888-839-8682)

### Voter Registration, Voter Verification, And Voting Rules

[Vote.org](http://Vote.org)

[RockTheVote.org](http://RockTheVote.org)

[WhenWeAllVote.org](http://WhenWeAllVote.org)

### Restoring the Vote for Returning Citizens (Formerly incarcerate)

[RestoreYourVote.org](http://RestoreYourVote.org)

Hotline:  
202-857-0324

### Churches

[LawyersAndCollars.org](http://LawyersAndCollars.org)

### Sample Ballots and Candidate Information

[HeadCount.org](http://HeadCount.org)

[Ballotpedia.org](http://Ballotpedia.org)

[Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org)



Questions?  
More Information?

[votingrightsalliance.org](http://votingrightsalliance.org)

[Civicengagement@fbcglenarden.org](mailto:Civicengagement@fbcglenarden.org)