

DISCUSSION & REVIEW QUESTIONS:

- Towards the beginning of the video, Mr. Eggers shares with us that “Twenty-four million voter registrations in the United States are either ‘invalid or significantly inaccurate.’ And, nearly 3 million people are believed to be registered to vote in more than one state. These numbers have a shocking implication: It is very easy to exploit our voting system. During an undercover investigation, New York City detectives made 63 attempts to cast illegal ballots based on flawed voter rolls. They were successful 61 times. Similar investigations in other cities and states produce the same dismal results.” How do you think that so many voter registration rolls get so messed up? Explain. Why do you think that some people purposefully attempt to cheat by voting twice in elections? Why do you think that it is still so easy for unscrupulous people to exploit the U.S. voting system? Explain.
- Mr. Eggers goes on to point out that “In California, organizations with a clear political agenda are legally permitted to go to a location, say, a nursing home or a church, and collect, literally harvest, ballots. The third party then transports these ballots to a polling place or an election office. This raises an obvious question: Once this third-party collects the ballots, what’s to stop them from changing them-or from just throwing out the ones they don’t like? A guilty conscience? How do we know ballot harvesters from Democratic organizations aren’t destroying Republican ballots? Or Republican harvesters aren’t destroying Democratic ballots? We don’t. We have no way of knowing.” Why do you think that places like California allow ballot harvesting, when the opportunity for fraud is so obvious and so exponentially greater than not allowing ballot harvesting? Explain.
- When sharing the third example of voter corruption, Mr. Eggers asks, “Should you have to be a citizen to vote?” How would you answer this question? Explain.
- Later in the video, Mr. Eggers notes that “Bloated Voter Rolls. Ballot Harvesting. Voting by non-citizens. These are just three ways in which the Left creates a clear advantage for itself on Election Day. The major media will tell you that corrupt voting practices either don’t exist or are so minor they don’t matter. But to believe that, you have to believe two things. That voter registration rolls are accurate and secure from fraudulent registrations. And, that no one is trying to manipulate the results for political purposes. Those are two very big leaps.” Why do you think that the Left has to engage in corrupt voting practices in order to be politically competitive? Explain. Why do you think that most of the mainstream media is complicit with Progressives engaging in voter fraud? Explain. Why is it such a huge leap to believe that registration rolls are accurate and that no one is trying to manipulate election results? Explain.
- At the end of the video, Mr. Eggers warns that “...if you care about free and fair elections, no matter which party you belong to, you need to pay attention. Or pretty soon, free and fair elections will be a quaint relic of the past. No foreign government can undermine our democracy. But Americans can- and some do.” What do you think that Mr. Eggers means, specifically, when he advises viewers to ‘pay attention’? Explain. Why do you think that free and fair elections will be a thing of the past if the electorate does not ‘pay attention’? Explain. Do you agree with Mr. Eggers that foreign governments do not interfere with U.S. elections, but that Americans do? Why or why not?

EXTEND THE LEARNING:

CASE STUDY: Opinion Journalism

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the article “Voter Fraud Exists – Even Though Many in the Media Claim It Doesn’t” then answer the questions that follow.

- How did journalists respond to President Trump’s tweet warning about law enforcement looking for voter fraud? What unsubstantiated claim have journalists made about voter registration and absentee ballot laws in Georgia and other states? What did the preference for opinion reporting over legitimate reporting prompt Carl Bernstein to tell a CNN summit? What did David Wasserman have to say on the topic? Georgia’s Secretary of State explained that out of the total 7 million registered voters in the state, how many are minors? How many had used a fake address? How many weren’t citizens? How many had already registered? Of the remaining registered voters, what percentage had erroneous Social Security information? Who is Stacey Abrams, and what did she tell a crowd in Jonesboro? Who is Leticia Sanchez, and what have her and her cohorts been indicted for? How many ineligible voters has the state of California admitted to have mistakenly registered? What is PILF, and why have they had to sue state officials? What did PILF find that the state of Michigan is lacking? Where else has PILF found that non-citizens are on voter rolls? How many dead people did the Pew report find were registered to vote? What did President Obama’s Justice Department decide, in terms of enforcing federal law that requires states to maintain accurate voter rolls? What did Senator Dodd declare the goal of our voter laws should be?
- Why do you think that most of the mainstream media tends to dismiss voter fraud as being real and prevalent? Why do you think that most of the mainstream media twists efforts to make elections equitable by accusing government officials of ‘voter suppression’? Explain. Why do you think that so many jurisdictions have so many problems with running fraud-free elections?
- What do you think could be done to ‘fix’ the U.S. voting system so that it is fraud-proof? Do you think that voting systems across the U.S. should all adhere to a uniform standard? Why or why not?



QUIZ

IS VOTER FRAUD REAL?

1. In _____ counties across the United States, there are more registered voters than there are people legally eligible to vote.
 - a. 24
 - b. 224
 - c. 244
 - d. 442

2. According to the Pew Study, how many people are believed to be registered to vote in more than one state?
 - a. nearly 3,000 people
 - b. nearly 30,000 people
 - c. nearly 300,000 people
 - d. nearly 3 million people

3. In California, organizations with a clear political agenda are legally permitted to go to a location and collect ballots to take to election officials located somewhere else.
 - a. True
 - b. False

4. According to a recent poll, what percentage of Democrats support granting illegal immigrants the right to vote?
 - a. 23%
 - b. 33%
 - c. 43%
 - d. 53%

5. Federal law prohibits noncitizens from voting in federal elections, but ___ states, all run by Democrats, currently allow noncitizen voting of some kind.
 - a. 5
 - b. 11
 - c. 20
 - d. 32



QUIZ - ANSWER KEY

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<https://www.heritage.org/election-integrity/commentary/voter-fraud-exists-even-though-many-the-media-claim-it-doesnt>

Voter Fraud Exists – Even Though Many in the Media Claim It Doesn’t

Oct 29th, 2018

Commentary By John Fund, Senior Fellow and Director of Government Finance Programs

Hans A. von Spakovsky, Election Law Reform Initiative and Senior Legal Fellow



CNN’s Jim Acosta tweeted “voter fraud in this country is actually very rare.” CHRIS KEANE/REUTERS/Newscom

President Trump warned on Twitter last week that law enforcement would be looking for “voter fraud” in the midterm elections. Many journalists quickly responded – as they always do – by dismissing the very existence of voter fraud.

CNN’s Jim Acosta tweeted “voter fraud in this country is actually very rare.”

Glenn Thrush of The New York Times claimed: “there is essentially no voter fraud in this country.” He instead asked, “Will the (Justice Department) Civil Rights division prevent/investigate a real threat-voter suppression?”

Journalists have credulously repeated unsupported, patronizing claims that in Georgia and other states, voter registration and absentee ballot laws somehow suppress minority votes.

The preference for opinion journalism over real reporting prompted Carl Bernstein of Watergate fame to tell a CNN summit last Monday, “We need to be doing stories that really look at whether or not there is widespread voter fraud.... we still need to be doing that basic aspect of the reporting.”

David Wasserman of the Cook Political Report said there are “valid concerns about the restrictive impact of new voting laws and voters improperly removed from rolls, but there's also a lot of outrage-stoking and sloppy journalism in this realm that are counterproductive to fixing real problems.”

For example, to improve the accuracy of Georgia’s records, state legislators last year required that information on a voter registration application match a “driver’s license, state ID card or Social Security record.” Inconsistencies can cause a voter’s registration to be flagged as “pending” while the discrepancy is investigated.

Brian Kemp, the GOP candidate for governor and current secretary of state in Georgia, is being accused of “voter suppression” because of this law. But a “pending” status does not prevent anyone from voting as long as he or she has a government ID that substantially matches the registration application. In any event, every voter can cast a provisional ballot that will be counted once the registration information is verified.

As the secretary of state told radio host Erick Erickson, there are 75,000 pending voters among a record total of 7 million registered in the state. Of these, 9,224 are minors under 18; 2,935 used a fake address; 3,393 are not citizens, and 5,842 were already registered.

Of the remaining applications, 75 percent submitted erroneous Social Security information. Almost a quarter of those “sloppy forms” came from a registration effort by the New Georgia Project, a group founded in 2014 by Stacey Abrams, the Democratic nominee for governor.

Abrams seems unconcerned about voter integrity, telling a crowd in Jonesboro that the "blue wave" would include "those who are documented and undocumented.” She later claimed she didn’t mean to imply noncitizens should actually vote.

While journalists have chased down the Georgia rabbit hole, law enforcement and citizen watchdog groups have uncovered serious voter fraud problems that have received almost no national attention.

For example:

In Texas

Court filings by the Texas attorney general reveal that funding for a voter fraud ring came from the former head of the Texas Democratic Party in Fort Worth.

Leticia Sanchez and three other vote “harvesters” have been indicted for allegedly submitting fraudulent absentee ballot applications and then either intercepting the ballots in mailboxes or improperly “assisting” elderly voters in filling out their ballots.

Separately, the Texas attorney general has announced he’s investigating mailers sent to non-citizens by the state Democratic Party asking them to register using applications that already had the box asking about citizenship checked ‘Yes.’”

In California

California was recently forced to admit that it had mistakenly registered almost 25,000 ineligible voters. The state didn’t even realize it was registering noncitizens until a Canadian who is a permanent resident of

the U.S. contacted The Los Angeles Times to say he had been improperly registered under the state's new automatic voter registration system.

In a letter calling for an audit, Democratic Secretary of State Alex Padilla admitted that such "persistent errors" will "undermine public confidence."

In Pennsylvania

Over a 20-year-period, Pennsylvania Department of Motor Vehicles officials have allowed thousands of noncitizens to register to vote and many have actually voted.

After state officials withheld documents from the Public Interest Legal Foundation (PILF) and even state legislators with oversight authority detailing this mess, the PILF sued to enforce a federal disclosure law. After months of litigation, state election officials are still concealing the information that no one in the media seems interested in uncovering.

In Michigan

PILF found that Michigan lacks a system to keep false citizenship claims from being accepted during voter registration. The group's preliminary study of the Detroit metro area found at least 1,444 non-citizens have been registered to vote in recent years.

PILF has also found thousands of non-citizens – many of whom have voted – on voter rolls in other jurisdictions, including New Jersey, Illinois and numerous sanctuary cities.

In states around the U.S., major problems with our voter registration systems have been tolerated for years. A 2012 report by the Pew Center on the States found that more than 1.8 million dead people were registered to vote and 2.75 million people were registered in more than one state.

The Pew report found that 24 million registrations were either invalid or inaccurate, making the registration systems vulnerable to fraud. Despite this abysmal record, the Justice Department under President Obama decided it wouldn't take any action to enforce a federal law that requires states to maintain accurate voter rolls by regularly removing ineligible voters

When the 2002 Help America Vote Act passed Congress with bipartisan support in the aftermath of the 2000 election debacle in Florida, it's co-author – Democratic Sen. Chris Dodd of Connecticut – declared the goal of our laws should be to "make it easy to vote and hard to cheat."

Indeed, there is no reason why we can't pursue both goals. But the media aren't doing our democracy any favors by summarily dismissing the existence of voter fraud – like the almost 1,200 proven cases in the Heritage Foundation's election fraud database – while questioning the very need for accurate voter rolls.

This piece originally appeared in Fox News