

TURNOUT SUNDAY



AFRICAN AMERICAN FAITH-BASED VOTERS TOOLKIT 2020 ELECTION and BEYOND

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2020 ELECTION

What Can Go Wrong? What Can Go Right?

“The Lord said to Abram . . . “All the families on earth will be blessed through you.” Genesis 12:3
New Living Translation (NLT)

“Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works.”
James 2:26 New Living Translation (NLT)

2020 ELECTION

What Can Go Wrong? What Can Go Right?

**Bad Leaders Are Elected
By Good People
Who Do Not Vote.**

**You Are Either At
The Table or
You Are
On the Menu.**



5

KEY POINTS ON

2020 ELECTION

WHY ELECTIONS AND BLACK VOTES MATTER!

#1

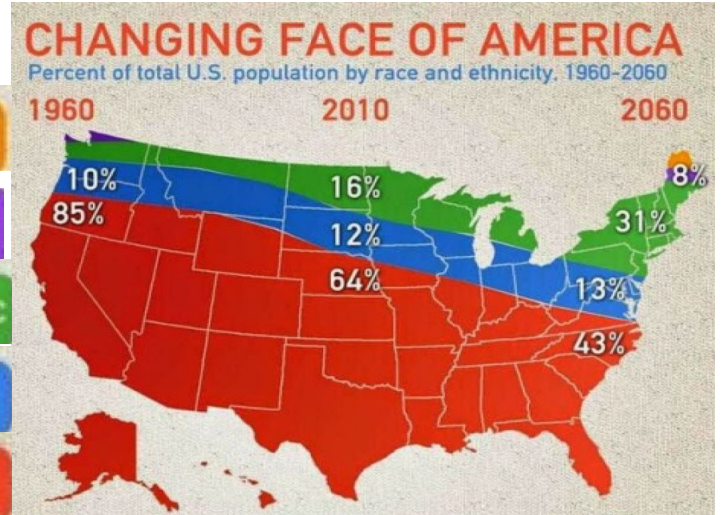
Demographic Change



FEAR



Voter Suppression



#2

November 3, 2020

Presidential Election Will Impact Our Lives for Years.

2020



2022



2024

National Election.
2020 Census

Mid-Term Election.
Reapportionment.

National
Election.

#3

Presidential **Power** Impacts

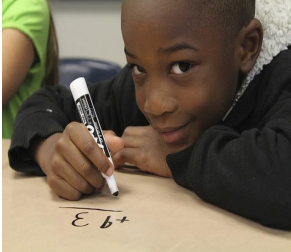


- Nation's **Values** & **Direction**
- **Supreme Court** Selections
- Selection of Lifetime Federal **Judges**
- America's **Image** Worldwide
- **Policies** Shaped Via Executive Orders
- **War** Powers

2020 ELECTION

WHY ELECTIONS AND BLACK VOTES MATTER!

#4



State & local elections
ALSO impact our lives
and community.

#5

Decisions of

- U.S. Congress
- Governor
- State Legislature
- School Board
- District Attorney
- Sheriff

IMPACTS

- Education Quality
- Police Relations
- Gun Laws
- Quality Health Care
- Affordable Housing
- College Affordability
- Census
- Political Representatives

KEY POINTS ON

WHAT COULD GO WRONG?

#1

8 Million Black People NOT Registered To Vote

Bad Leaders Are Elected By Good People Who Do Not Vote

Key States	Victory Margin	Af Am Pop	Af Am Unregistered
FLORIDA	112,911	2,999,862	336,235
GEORGIA	211,141	3,150,435	349,675
MICHIGAN	10,704	1,400,362	240,787
NORTH CAROLINA	173,315	2,048,628	177,421
PENNSYLVANIA	44,292	1,377,689	227,464
TEXAS	204,505	2,979,598	758,165

Source: www.politico.com | Unregistered Black Voters Larger Than 2016 Presidential Margin Of Victory

#2

(Young) Black People Not Voting



#3

Not Registered to Vote



#4

Can't Find My Voting Precinct



2020 ELECTION

WHAT COULD GO WRONG?

#5

Purged from Voting Rolls

17 million U.S. Voters Purged (2016 - 2018)

Steps

- Registered voters sent direct mail from state
- Undelivered mail compiled in a list.
- Assumption voters not at registered address
- Voters right to vote challenged.
- Violation of 1965 Voting Rights Act.



#6

Ex-Offender | Military | Disabled | Moving | Student | Voter Suppression



#7

Polling Station Moved

FROM CITY

Church | Public School | Library
Access to Public Transportation

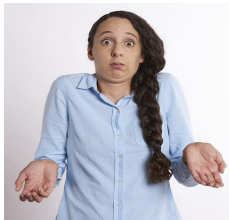
MOVED

TO SUBURBS

No Access to Public
Transportation

#8

Don't Know Issues on Ballot



#9

Failure to Protect the Vote



11

KEY POINTS ON

2020 ELECTION

WHAT COULD GO RIGHT?

#1

Educate Yourself on the Issues



HEALTH CARE

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

VOTING RIGHTS

COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY

CLIMATE JUSTICE

#2

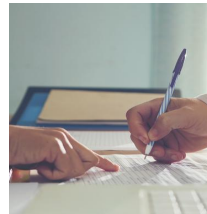
Use of Easy Voting Tools



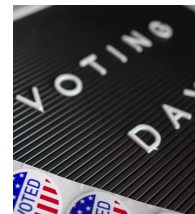
EARLY
VOTING



ONLINE
VOTING



MOTOR
VOTING



SAME DAY
VOTER
REGISTRATION



ABSENTEE
BALLOT

#3

Know What's On The Ballot

- **President** and **Vice President** of the United States
- Member of the **U.S. House of Representatives**
- Five members to the D.C. **School Board** (select two)
- Two **ballot questions**:
Question 1: **Gambling revenue for education**
Question 2 **Fund for health care.**



#4

Study Candidates on the Ballot

- Vision (national, local)
- Core Values
- Character
- Past Positions
- Past Votes on Issues
- Current Positions

2020 ELECTION

WHAT COULD GO RIGHT?

Take Actions To Protect Your Vote

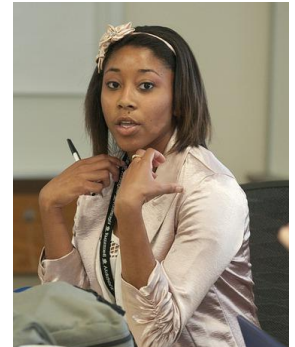
#5

- Verify That You Are **Registered**
- Verify what **ID is Required** & Obtain It
- Verify Your **Polling Location**
- Use **Easy Voting Tools** -
(Absentee Ballot, Online Voting, Early Voting, Motor Voting)
- Know **What's On The Ballot**
- Call **1-866-OURVOTE (1-866-687-8683)** to report problems

Know Your Rights?

#6

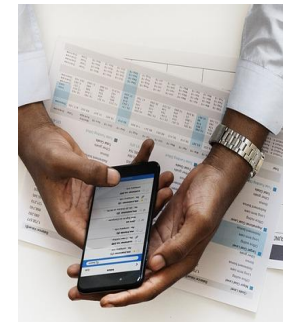
- If You Are **Turned Away At the Polls**
- If you want your rights restored if **criminal record**
- If you **moved**
- If you are in the **military**
- If you are a **student**
- If you are **disabled**
- If you need to **vote early**



Help Get Out The Vote

#7

- **Canvas** in your neighborhood door to door
- Join a church voter **phone bank**
- Take **5 people to the polls**
- Make sure **your household is registered**
- Encourage your **young people** to vote
- Share **voter protection tips**
- Share "**What's At Stake**" Information
- Help organize a **candidates forum**



Access Key Voting Resources

#8

- Find If You're **Registered to Vote** www.headcount.org
- Locate Your **Voting Precinct** www.vote.org
- Locate **Easy Voting Tools** www.voterparticipation.org
- If You're **Turned Away At the Polls** 1-866-OURVOTE.org 1-866-687-8683
- If you want **your rights restored** - criminal record www.campaignlegal.org
- If you **moved** www.headcount.org
- If you are in the **military** www.fvap.gov
- If you are a **student** www.brennancenter.org
- If you are **disabled** www.aarp.org, www.u.s.senate.gov
- To register to **vote in church** www.macucc.org

2020 ELECTION

WHAT COULD GO RIGHT?

#9

Know the Rights for Your Faith-Based Organization AND Leader

DOS



DO: Publish news stories about campaigns...the congregation must be kept informed as best as possible. Also, discuss candidates position on issues with congregation.

DO: Rent out the faith organization facilities (e.g. kitchens, athletic facilities, community rooms) for political activities...regular rates **MUST** apply.

DO: Provide rentals of membership lists at regular rates.

DO: Allow candidates to make appearances at the organization's events/services.

DO: Distribute candidate campaign literature as an individual faith leader.

DO: Distribute candidate surveys and/or voting records of office holders.

DO: Publish political ads; as long as the regular rates are applied'

DO: Use organization's vehicle to transport people to vote

DO: Lobby & Campaign for or against legislation as congregation or individual.

DON'TS

DO NOT: Support or oppose the candidates on the congregation's behalf.

DO NOT: Use the congregation's funding to give financial contributions of any kind to the candidates/office holders.

DO NOT: Impose your opinions on the congregation.

DO NOT: Publish faith organization editorials that support or oppose candidates.

DO NOT: Publish political ads as a donation.

DO NOT: Display candidate's literature on organization's vehicle used to Transport people to vote.

DO NOT: Distribute candidate campaign literature as a congregation

2020 ELECTION

WHAT COULD GO RIGHT?

#10

Help Your Church or Organization Prepare

PREACH | Sermons on justice and righteousness

TEACH | How the issues impact church members

PLAN | Volunteers, transportation, voting sites.

WATCH | Pastors visit polling sites of your members

PRAY | Prayer team - pray for trouble free election.

CONDUCT | Social Media Campaign encouraging voter turnout

REGISTER | Unregistered voters after church every Sunday

SHARE | Absentee Ballots with congregation

POST | Polling Site location & Changes up to Election Day

EDUCATE YOURSELF AND CHURCH ON BASIC VOTING FACTS. What your members need to vote (e.g. ID, polling places, candidates positions on issues impacting your community; special issues like restoring voting rights, veterans & students voting instructions, early and absentee voting; sample ballot).

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Understand what you/your church can legally do in elections.

KNOW WHAT'S AT STAKE

Issues impacting your community.

HOST TURNOUT SUNDAY SERVICE

(Nov.3rd)



Preach. Teach. Create a Plan. Mobilize. Watch. Pray.

2020 ELECTION

WHAT COULD GO RIGHT?

#11

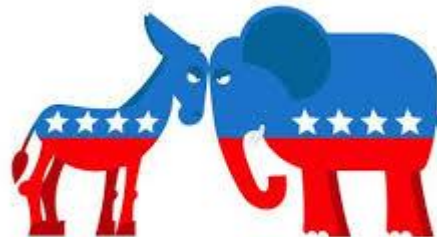
Become an Election Poll Worker

Poll workers contribution to protecting the vote to help ensure a free and fair election.

To determine the requirements for poll watchers in your state, visit <https://www.eac.gov>.

Poll Worker Duties Can Include:

- Issuing ballots to registered voters.
- Registering voters.
- Monitoring the voting equipment.
- Explaining how to mark the ballot.
- Using the voting equipment
- Counting votes.



Sample Sermon Scriptures

God's Concern for Justice, the Poor, and the "Least of These"

Psalms 10:17-18 - 17 Lord, You know the hopes of the helpless. Surely you will listen to their cries and comfort them. 18 You will bring justice to the orphans and the oppressed, so people can no longer terrify them. NLT

Psalms 82:3-43 - Enough! You've corrupted justice long enough, you've let the wicked get away with murder. 4 You're here to defend the defenseless, to make sure that underdogs get a fair break; your job is to stand up for the powerless, and prosecute all those who exploit them. THE MESSAGE

Proverbs 14:31 - Those who oppresses the poor insult their Maker, but helping the poor honors him. NLT

Proverbs 31:9 - Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy. NIV

Amos 5: 21, 23, 24 - 21 I hate, I despise your religious festivals; I cannot stand your assemblies...23 Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. 24 But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream! NIV

Micah 6:8 - He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. NIV

Zechariah 7:9-10 - 9 this is what the LORD Almighty says: 'Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another. 10 Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the alien or the poor. In your hearts do not think evil of each other. NIV

Matthew 25:31-46, 41 - 42 For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me. . . . 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'" NIV

1 John 3:16-18 - 16 this is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. 17 And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. 18 If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? 18 Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. NIV

Sample Pulpit Announcement

The prophet Amos reminds us to **“let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”** (Amos 5:24)

This year, we will be participating with other churches across the nation in Turnout Sunday Services in preparation for the November 6th elections. We, as Black Americans, and people of faith simply cannot afford to stay home. In fact, not voting has become increasingly dangerous to the economic and spiritual vitality of our community:

- With voting, we now have over 10,000 Black elected officials and helped to elect the first African American President in the White House.
- With voting, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, Lower Prescription Drug Costs, police/community relations, criminal justice reform, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/Food Stamps) and other financial stability programs are sustained.
- With voting, we have the power to vote for leaders who will support life-sustaining programs, for underserved Americans.

We ask all members to look out for instructions from our civic engagement coordinator (name/phone/email) as we prepare for the important November 2020 Election

I ask each of you to commit to encouraging 5 family members, friends, and co-workers to vote on Election Day and make sure they get to the polls. If you need to register to vote, or update your registration information, you can do so online at www.voterparticipation.org

Sample Church Bulletin Announcement

Your right to vote has been bought and paid for in blood and sacrifice!

Exercise your power to protect it by:

1. Registering you and 5 friends, family members and co-workers to vote in the upcoming November Election.
2. Make sure they turn out between now and Election Day.
3. Sign up to join our Civic Engagement Team and Volunteer to help educate and register others to vote.

Contact our Voter Engagement Team Coordinator _____ at _____ (phone number/email) for more information on joining our Voter Engagement Team.

Social Media Guide



SAMPLE TWITTER POSTS

#TURNOUTSUNDAY

- Our ancestors died for our right to vote. Don't take it for granted. **#TurnoutSunday**
- Medicare is a deal that must not be broken. Let's vote to keep the promise of affordable quality health care for 50+ Americans. **#TurnoutSunday**
- Critical issues like Medicare, Social Security, caregiving, and our financial security are all on the line in the Midterm election.. **#TurnoutSunday**
- Police shootings of unarmed black and brown people will not end unless you vote. **#TurnoutSunday**
- You have the freedom to vote! Protect it. **#TurnoutSunday**
- African Americans and other Americans of color STILL face oppression and discrimination. Voting says not to discrimination. **#TurnoutSunday**
- It's 2019: it is time we are all treated EQUALLY. Discrimination belongs in HISTORY. **#TurnoutSunday**
- Let's secure a better future for our youth by voting. **#TurnoutSunday**
- Our Vote determines our communities' future! **#TurnoutSunday**
- No one should serve a second sentence by permanently losing their right to vote! **#restoreexfelonvotingrights, #TurnoutSunday, #FREEAMERICA**
- 5.85 million Americans are denied the right to vote because of laws that prohibit voting by people w/felony convictions. **#TurnoutSunday, #FREEAMERICA**
- Immigrant detention, operated by Homeland Security, cost taxpayers over \$2 billion in 2012 alone **#TurnoutSunday.**



SAMPLE FACEBOOK POSTS

- Know the early voting dates for your state. Go to www.iwillvote.com to find out where and when you can vote. **#TurnoutSunday**
- Issues like voting rights, Medicare, Social Security, Medicaid, criminal justice reform, immigration, protection against police brutality, and life sustaining programs for low income citizens will not be protected unless everyone eligible to vote actually votes. **#TurnoutSunday**
- We've come a long way since the terror-filled years of the 1960s, but we still have a long way to go since bigotry still raises its ugly head daily. We need to be vigilant to prevent returning to those days when an individual was judged by the color of their skin rather than by their character. **#TurnoutSunday**

TURNOUT SUNDAY: Clergy Participation Pledge Form

YES ___ I would like to partner with the Turnout Sunday Campaign 2019 and will commit to do one or more of the following activities (PLEASE CHECK)

Host a Prayer Breakfast, Brunch, or Rally to inspire and educate local pastors and the community on voting by receiving “Know Your Rights” & “What’s At Stake Training.” _____

Participate in a Turnout Sunday Webinar – focused on my state – and receive “Know Your Rights” and “What’s At Stake?” Training.” _____

Identify at least one lawyer in my church to receive election protection training before the 2019 elections in my state. _____

Receive clergy training from election protection attorneys on how to provide an effective moral presence at polling sites in my church community in case eligible voters get turned away, or other election day crises take place. _____

List actions are you and pastors in your community are planning this Fall in preparation for the 2019 elections in your state - to educate, register, protect, engage, and turnout those you lead.

Pastor’s Name _____

Church Name _____

Address _____

Cell Number for Text Messages & Alerts _____

Email _____

Number of Members _____

For Follow up Contact:

National African American Clergy Network (NAACN)

Co-Conveners, Dr. Barbara Williams-Skinner, Dr. Otis Moss, Jr., Dr. T. DeWitt Smith, Jr.

dr.williams.skinner@gmail.com, www.SkinnerLeaders.com.

Confidentiality of information will be strictly observed. *“We have come this far by faith”*

EXTRA RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Download Turnout Sunday Toolkit of Clergy Election Resources www.skinnerleaders.org

Fill out the **Turnout Sunday Clergy Participation Pledge Form**. www.skinnerleaders.org;
Email to: dr.williams.skinner@gmail.com

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