* **It is fundamentally unjust and unfair**

**because it:**

* + Imposes a collateral punishment unrelated to the crime, adding an unnecessary punitive impact on offenders;
  + Denies tax-paying citizens (at least parolees and probationers) the opportunity to have a say (taxation without representation) and renders them politically powerless in matters important to them and their families such as school policy, taxes, employment, housing, healthcare, and policing;
  + Has a grossly disproportionate effect disenfranchising African Americans thereby diluting minority voting power;
  + Perpetuates and compounds the harm caused by discrimination in the New Jersey criminal justice system
* **It is counterproductive to the good of the**

**social order because it:**

* + Removes an important incentive for incarcerated offenders to rebuild their lives and for all offenders to be contributing citizens;
  + Contributes to offenders feeling disconnected from society and that they are not full-fledged members of their communities;
  + Is a factor resulting in higher rates of recidivism and erosion of trust in government and the justice system;
  + Has the side effect in states with more punitive disenfranchisement laws of lowering electoral participation even among legally eligible voters; and
  + Compounds the isolation of formerly incarcerated individuals from their communities and is counterproductive to effective reentry.