Dr. Walter R. Mebane, Jr. | University of Michigan
Professor, Department of Political Science and Department of Statistics
Sourcelist: https://websites.umich.edu/~wmebane/

Highlights of Election Forensics Writings:

- **A Guide to Elections Forensics** (2017). Allen Hicken and Walter R. Mebane, Jr. United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

- **Lost Votes and Posterior Multimodality in the eforensics Model** (2023). Walter R. Mebane, Jr.

- Dr. Mebane's eforensics analyses of:
    - Venezuela 2024 Presidential Election
    - Turkey 2023 Presidential Election
    - Kenya 2022 Presidential Election
    - Philippines 2022 Presidential and Vice Presidential Elections
    - Peru 2021 Presidential Election

Summary of Dr. Mebane's eforensics model of Estimating Fraudulent Votes

- Mebane characterizes "election frauds" as **malevolent distortions of voters' intentions** that change, or potentially can change, election outcomes.

- Election frauds therefore **thwart the accurate reflection of voter intention.**
    - This is different from procedural failures in administering an election, or from unintended accidents such as a machine malfunction.
    - This thwarting may result from undemocratic actions, such as actions undertaken by authoritarians.

- The intent of Mebane's eforensics model is to detect "realized frauds," not procedural frauds. Specifically, the intent of the model is to estimate **how many votes are misdirected or misallocated due to malevolent distortions of electors intentions.**

- Measuring election frauds comes with fundamental ambiguities. Voters' intentions are not observable, and in politics people act not merely based on what they prefer, but also on what they expect other people to do through strategic behavior.

- The estimates produced by the eforensics model are characterized by Mebane as **valid, though imperfect.** The model is intended to be inclusive of malevolent distortions of voter intent that may not be detectable through post-election audits.

This summary of Dr. Mebane's eforensics model is drawn from *Lost Votes and Posterior Multimodality in the eforensics Model* (Mebane 2023). https://websites.umich.edu/~wmebane/pm23.pdf (archived)