



VOTE HER GUIDE

Q. What are the campaigning restrictions near polls?

A. The practice of campaigning within 100 feet of a polling place, called "electioneering", is illegal.

Q. Does this include: pins, shirts, and other paraphernalia?

A. Yes, it is definitely a problem because of intimidation issues, so we advise you to just play it safe and dress neutrally.

Q. How do I know my vote counted?

A. After you vote, please be sure to hand your ballot to a precinct inspector, who will place your ballot into a machine. The machines will acknowledge receipt of your ballot and the precinct inspector will return your stub to you.

- Be sure that there are no "hanging chads" or "half marked" dots on your ballot prior to returning it to the precinct inspector.

- If you believe your ballot was improperly handled, you should report it immediately to the Election Fraud Investigation Unit at (916) 657-2166 or to your local elections official.

- The Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) requires each state or local elections official to establish a "Free Access System," such as a toll-free telephone number for voters to call or an Internet website that voters can access free of charge, to ascertain if they voted a provisional ballot at the polls, whether or not their vote was counted, and, if it was not counted, the reason why it was not counted.

Q. Is there a place to practice vote?

A. We do not know of any places to practice voting at this time. Give yourself some time to figure out new technology. Get a new ballot if you make a mistake.

Resources

Election information- <http://www.SmartVoter.org/>

California Secretary of State- http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_vr.htm

Voter Registration Information- 1 (800) 345-VOTE

League of Women Voters of California- <http://ca.lwv.org/lwv/edfund/voterreg/r3reg.html#form>

Voter Bill of Rights: http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter_bill_of_rights.pdf

U.S. Veterans Party- <http://www.veteransparty.us/homeless.htm>

Local Election Issues:

Call your County Clerk or Registrar of Voter's office. See the contact list on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_d.htm

State Election Issues:

Elections: (916) 657-2166
Elections E-mail: Elections@sos.ca.gov
Secretary of State's Website: www.sos.ca.gov

Federal Election Issues:

Federal Election Commission: (800) 424-9530
United States Department of Justice
Public Integrity Section: (202) 514-1412

Black Women for Wellness

P.O. Box 282516 • Los Angeles CA 90029

www.bwwla.com • www.bwwla.org • www.myspace.com/bwwla
323.290.5955



VOTE HER GUIDE

VOTE NOV. 4

EVERY VOTE MATTERS! READ THIS GUIDE TO ENSURE YOU FILL YOUR BALLOT OUT RIGHT!

events...

Black Women for Wellness

is a woman-centered, culturally appropriate, health education and advocacy organization on a mission to enhance the health and well being of Black women. We are a membership organization and welcome new members, volunteers and resources

Upcoming Programs

Kitchen Divas – our interactive food preparation and cooking class meetings on Thursday through Oct 31, 2008 at 5:30. Join us at Blazers Higher Learning Center 1517 W 48th Street as we share culinary skills enhancing and expanding our cooking styles to reduce food boredom and create a social network toward healthy and tasty eating patterns in our lives, families and community. Call Veronica 323.290.5955 for more information

Sisters in Motion

Black Women for Wellness is training for the marathon on Saturday mornings 7:00am sharp! Don your running or walking shoes, meet us at 5001 W Rodeo (Rancho Cienega) to get your move on while mentoring young women of Students Run LA training for the next Los Angeles Marathon.

Engage Her

Eso Won Bookstore and Black Women for Wellness partner with California Latinas for Reproductive Justice, Reproductive Justice Coalition of Los Angeles to present the film "Engage Her," Sunday, Oct 26, 2008 @ 3:00pm 4331 S. Degan Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90008 **Free Event**

Community Forum – No on Prop 4 – Oct 23, 2008

Join a vibrant women of color coalition as we speak out against Prop 4 at Holy Faith Episcopal Church 260 N Locust Street, Inglewood CA 90601 – call Gabby at 213.346.3227 at California Latinas for Reproductive Justice for more info Time: 6:45 – 8:00 light refreshments

Sisters @ Eight

Our monthly meeting: Sisters @ Eight (8:00am) Nov 14th next meeting held at Lucy Florence 3551 W 43rd Street Los Angeles, CA 90008, RSVP

Black Women for Wellness Wants You!

JOIN, VOLUNTEER, MENTOR, INTERN, WORK

www.bwwla.com • www.bwwla.org

www.myspace.com/bwwla

323.290.5955

JOIN BLACK WOMEN FOR WELLNESS STAMP HERE

Black Women for Wellness

P.O. BOX 282516 • LOS ANGELES CA 90029



VOTE HER GUIDE



Please vote No on Prop 4 – this parental notification initiative is on the ballot for the 3rd time, each time a bad idea and each time draining resources for reproductive health education and care from our communities.

MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT

Election day is Nov. 4th
No on 4



Black Women for Wellness Reviews the 2008 Propositions

Black Women for Wellness is delighted to share this voter guide with you, it comes from discussion in our offices, at our meetings and programs highlighting the concerns women and men have shared. Our community already faces significant barriers to quality medical care and the resulting health disparities. Our community needs increased access to health care and education, not less. Prop 4 provides no real solutions to promote our health and safety and limits health care service, education and resources. In our community, our families are our strength. Black families are often extended, including aunts, sisters, cousins, ministers, mentors and advocates, if our daughters cannot come to us for whatever reason, we want them to go to someone WE trust... Prop 4 complicates this extended network by involving the court system, law enforcement and restricting health care providers. Black Women for Wellness is delighted to be able to share with you our thoughts on voting at this moment in history, the entire ballot is important, as you cast your vote for president please remember to continue down to the propositions – they are important and our votes count.





Arnold Schwarzenegger
Opponents: American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, District IX , California School Counselors Association ,California Teachers Association ,Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California

**Yes on Prop 5
 Non Violent Offender Rehabilitation Act**

Prop 5 creates a new comprehensive model for approaching substance abuse as a public health issue rather than a simple crime issue. It would reduce the number of nonviolent people unnecessarily incarcerated, specifically offenders with substance abuse problems. Today, substance abuse disorders continue to proliferate in alarming numbers, especially in the African-American community. African Americans comprise approximately 12% of the population in the United States, yet in 1999 they accounted for 23% of admissions to publicly funded substance abuse treatment facilities. This initiative WILL create meaningful change and promote alternatives to the costly war on drugs, which has served as a war on poor people of color.
Supporter: ACLU- <http://www.aclu-sc.org>

**No on Prop 6
 Police & Criminal Funding**

It would redirect vital state resources away from schools, hospitals and emergency services into programs already proven to be ineffective. Prop. 6 would sentence youth as young as 14 years old as adults; erode civil liberties and target communities of color and low-income families; and increase penalties for alleged gang membership, causing even more unequal, punitive sentencing based on the race of the individual rather than actual gang involvement. Prop. 6 is heavily supported by prison-industry groups.

Supporters: Mike Reynolds, author of the original 3 Strikes Initiative,
Opponents: California Democratic Party, the California Professional Firefighters, the California Labor Federation, former Los Angeles Police Chief Bernard Parks, the California Teachers Association.
 For more info:
ballotpedia.org/wiki/index.php?title=California_Proposition_6

**NO on Prop. 7
 Renewable Energy**

Proposition 7 calls for the mandate that half of all the power produced in the state should come from solar, wind and other alternative resources by 2025. For decades California has led the nation in the procurement and use of renewable energy—from solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, and small hydroelectric facilities. However many of those projects will not be operational within the timeframe. A good idea, but not quite thought out yet.

Black Women for Wellness

**We Can
 THINK FOR
 OURSELVES!**



Supporters: Dr. Donald Aitken, a pioneer in the renewable energy field, Dolores Huerta co-founder of the United Farm Workers Union.

Opponents: The California Labor Federation, the California Taxpayers' Association, the League of California Cities and the California Solar Energy Industries Association
 For more info Physicians for Social Responsibility – <http://www.psr.org/>

**No on Prop. 8
 Eliminates rights of Same Sex couples to marry**

If it passes, it will add a new constitutional amendment to the California Constitution that will have the following text: "Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California." The ballot title for the measure says that Prop. 8 "eliminates the right of same-sex couples to marry".

Supporters: Focus on the Family, American Family Association, Knights of Columbus

Opponents: Let California Ring, Equality for All, Equality California, the Equality California Issues PAC, and the Human Rights Campaign. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger

**NO on Prop. 9
 Criminal Justice system & parole**

Erodes due process protections and limits inmate rights to legal representation and parole while hiding behind the guise of expanding victims' rights. In reality, Prop. 9 provides nothing to help victims heal, and it provides no standards or accountability. Strong protections already exist for victims through California's Victims Bill of Rights, passed in 1982. Rather than spending millions of taxpayer dollars on increased punishment and prison construction, strategies that have proven ineffective in the past, isn't it about time California made investments to reduce violence and support victims through prevention, intervention and rehabilitation instead?

Supporters: Law Enforcement

Opponents: league of women voters

For more info:
www.prisonlaw.com/pdfs/Prop9Summary.pdf

**Draw on Prop. 11
 Redistricting Reform Act**

It takes redistricting out of the hands of elected officials and into an appointed body that advocates would have little influence over. If enacted it would probably result in legislators being more 'moderate' as they'll be from more competitive districts, probably fewer legislators of color, and many more Republicans in the legislature. But the reason to oppose is the lack of accountability for the whole redistricting process it would create. For more info, contact ACLU or League of Women Voters – we trust both and they have different positions...the real question centers on the creation of a committee that draws new lines...

VOTEHERGUIDE

Do your research. Make informed decisions and Vote...

YES on: 1A, 3, 5

NO on: 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

NO info on: 2, 12 & Measures R & Q

You're on your own on: Prop 11

CHEAT SHEET

**Black Women for Wellness
 VOTING TIPS FOR 2008**

1. **Vote early!** The later you go - the longer the wait
2. **Be prepared to wait in line at least 2 hours**
3. **If you are taking seniors or others who need assistance with voting - don't forget to vote yourself first**
4. **Take your time - it is a long ballot**
5. **Please vote more than only the top of the ballot**
6. **Remember Poll Workers are people too, and might not have all the answers**
7. **Dress to vote not to campaign (sorry I know many of us are proud supporters)**
8. **After you finish the voting process - do not linger, make space for those to come**
9. **Take your identification and proof of residence (bill or mail demonstrating your address and name) might not need it but it won't hurt**
10. **Enjoy this historic occasion but know we have hard work ahead of us ...**

**Black Women for Wellness
 VOTEHERGUIDE**

**Dispelling Myths and Misconceptions about Voting
 Questions...**

Q. When is the LAST day to register to vote?

A. Oct 20, 2008

Q. Who is eligible to vote?

A. If you are:

- A United States Citizen
- 18 years of age on or before November 4th.
- A resident of California at least 15 days before election date
- Not in prison or on parole for the conviction of a felony. (If you have served your time and are off Parole, you ARE eligible to vote)

Q. I am homeless. Can I register to vote?

A. Yes, if you live in California

- If you live in a shelter- You are eligible to vote
 - If you live on the street- You are eligible to vote
- As long as:
- You have a valid Identification card
 - You are able to provide a mailing address on the application

Q. If I have memory loss issues, who can assist me?

A. If you need assistance at the precinct, one of the poll workers can assist you or you may have a caregiver assist you.

Q. If I have literacy issues, who can assist me?

A. If you need assistance at the precinct, one of the poll workers can assist you or you may have a caregiver assist you.

Q. When should I re-register to vote?

A. If you have moved, we recommend that you re-register to vote, in order to have a polling place near your new residence. However, you can vote at your previous residence's polling place.

- If you recently married and/or changed your name.
- If your identification is in another name – You should bring a certified copy of your new name that includes the date of change in addition to your identification card.
- If you wish to affiliate with (join) a political party or change your political party affiliation

Q. Where can I register to vote?

A. Call toll-free number and request that a form be mailed to you. English (1-800-345-VOTE) Spanish: (1-800-345-VOTA).
 • Pick up a form at Post Offices, public library or Department of Motor Vehicles offices.
 • Online at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/nvrc/fedform/>, but you must sign and mail.

And send it to the Los Angeles County Registrar:
 Dean Logan, Registrar - Recorder/County Clerk
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1024, Norwalk, CA 90651-1024
 Or in person at: 12400 Imperial Hwy.
 Norwalk, CA 90650-8350

Q. How do I locate my precinct?

A. The sample ballot you receive in the mail includes your poll location, but if you misplace it you can:

- Call the registrar office at (800) 815-2666 (Local Callers Only) or (562) 466-1310
- Or go online to find your polling place at: <http://lavote.net/locator>

Q. I am a student, how do I register to vote? Does where I register to vote impact my financial aid ?

A. If you are a college student living away from home you may register at your college residence address (on or off campus) or at your permanent home address, but only at one of those places. If you register on campus, it will not affect your financial aid.

Q. How do Absentee Ballots Work?

A. Any voter may apply for an absentee ballot up to 7 days before the election. No special reason is required. An application form is attached to your sample ballot, or you may write to: Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
 Absent Voter Section
 P.O. Box 30450, Los Angeles, CA 90030-0450
 Tel: 562-466-1323

• The absentee ballots need to arrive by Election Day, Tuesday November 4. You may also take your absentee ballot to a precinct and hand it to the poll workers.

Q. When are naturalized citizens and citizens of U.S. Territories eligible to vote?

A. If they are naturalized before October 20th 2008 and registered to vote.

• If naturalized on or before the 7th day prior to the election they may go to the County Elections Official's Office with proof of residence in the county and proof of citizenship and register and vote.

Q. What if you feel that you have been wrongfully turned away from the polls?

A. Don't leave. Please request to fill out a provisional ballot. The law requires that you be permitted to fill out a provisional ballot if you are registered to vote.

• Contact the Secretary of State's confidential toll-free voter hotline at 1800-345-VOTE (8683)