



Your Vote Counts ... or does it? Did it?

“Election Investigation / Reform”  
A Rally, Teach-In and Public Hearing

Bring a friend!

Still uneasy about the 2004 Election? You're not alone.  
If you haven't yet told your story, here's another opportunity to testify.  
What's being done to investigate Ohio's Election?  
What reforms are needed and being sought?

What can we do to save our democracy?

Friday's Speakers include:

Bev Harris, Black Box Voting – Keynote speaker; Bob Fitrakis, The Free Press; Bob Koehler, Tribune Media Services; Thaddeus Jackson, NAACP; Jonathan Simon, Verified Vote; Dorothy Fadiman, documentary film maker, and Rev. Marvin McMickle, Antioch Baptist Church

Friday, June 3rd, 6pm to 9pm

Antioch Baptist Church, 8869 Cedar

Saturday, June 4th, 9am to 5pm

Cuyahoga Community College,

2900 Community College Avenue

Saturday's Workshops and Discussion Groups (with more on back) will cover:

Cleveland

- **Ohio's Election** —systematic voter suppression and countless irregularities! Or was it a “model election”, as Blackwell claims? Reports from Cuyahoga County, Summit County and elsewhere.
- **Mainstream media's suppression of the truth** about the election despite the “screaming numbers.” The **media lock-down**. How can we demand that media tell us the truth? How can we “be the media?” The need for grassroots communication/organization. How to be videographers? Bloggers? Reporters?
- **Exit Polls** — What do they tell us? Were Exit Polls wrong this time? The unexplained “shift of 5.5%” from Kerry to Bush. The plausibility of the “Reluctant Bush Responder” hypothesis.
- **Other explanations for the “numbers” discrepancies**-- e.g., massive canvassing in exurban/rural areas that brought out Bush voters; Rove's late-in-the-day “call” got voters to the polls; the gay-rights issue brought out enough conservatives to tip the scale for Bush.
- **History of voting rights** and the struggle to obtain them. “The long shadow of Jim Crow: Voter suppression and intimidation in America today.” Reauthorization of the **Voting Rights Act**. History of Democracy in Ohio. **Voting Rights** is a “**Civil Rights**” issue. Components of the struggle include investigation, prosecution and reform. We need to build a movement that includes all Americans!
- What's so bad about **electronic voting machines**? “Black-box” voting? What does “**transparency**” mean? Are *voter-verified paper trails (VVPAT's)* enough? What are **voter-verified paper ballots**? How do other countries do it? **Hand-counted paper ballots**. Mail-in ballots. A machine/paper compromise?
- What was wrong with **Ohio's “recount?”** Non-random selection. Pre-counted ballots. 3% isn't enough! Private investigation of Cuyahoga County's recount. Bills affecting future recounts. **Recounts and DRE's** —Can they co-exist? Non-automatic recounts—who should pay? **Who can pay?**
- Legislative assaults on immigrant rights. Voter ID requirements. The “Real ID” Act. *Proposition 200* — “Protect America Now”

Public Hearings to be held on Saturday from 10:30 to 4:30!

Watch videos describing countless Americans who were disenfranchised and ask,

“Can this be happening in America?”

Sponsors: Ohio Vigilance, Black Box Voting, Ohio Voters Reform, Global Exchange, J30 Coalition, Ohioans For Democratic Values, Citizen Act, CASE-Ohio, The Free Press, NAACP, Rainbow Push and others

# "Election Investigation / Reform"

*Workshops and Discussion Groups (tentatively planned) continued :*

- How to **audit the counting of the vote**? "He who casts a vote counts for nothing; he who counts the vote counts for everything." -- Joseph Stalin
- **Ohio's Open Government Act** – what information can we ask for? Why were we **denied access** to public information? How can "regular citizens" submit **public-records requests**? Case studies of public-records requests and acquisition. Our **rights to public information**. "Public" vs. "executive" meetings—our rights.
- **Election fraud?** Social reality vs. scientific reality. Psychological resistance to the "**F-word**." Errors in one direction → "bias". "So many people would have to be involved. That's impossible!"
- **Election Law** – Federal and State. Breaches of election law and **lack of accountability**. **HAVA** (Help America Vote Act) – unfunded and ill-defined mandate. **Where are the Standards?** How it legitimizes "black-box voting."
- **Blackwell's directives / decisions** that disenfranchised thousands of voters.
- The need for ongoing **public-awareness efforts**: *teach-ins, public hearings, public forums, town-hall meetings*, etc. How to organize and promote them?
- **When people can't vote** because of "policy decisions" or "errors of omission," who is **accountable**?
- **Election-related legislation** – Federal and State. "Count Every Vote" federal legislation. Ohio SB 3. Newly introduced Reform Ohio Now (RON) bill. How can we follow/influence legislation? Citizen **lobbyists**.
- How can citizens push through our own **ballot initiatives**? Ohio law regarding initiatives and referendums.
- **Campaign Finance Reform** — Corporations and Democracy. Corporate personhood and elections.
- Alternative voting methods: **Instant Runoff Voting** and **Preferential Ballots**.
- **Other reforms** being sought? **Voter-reform groups** - who is working on what? Voter Bill of Rights.
- Things we can do to **save our democracy** – in our homes, in our neighborhoods, at our election boards, in our state house, in Washington. Use your talents. **Fifteen minutes a day for democracy**. New "citizen" roles: *lobbying, recording video/audio, private investigator, research, collecting data, writing, organizing*.
- Be "**Columbo!**" **Keep your your boards of elections on their toes** – attend board meetings religiously. Investigative projects. Things to ask for / watch for.
- **Stop your county from purchasing touch-screen direct-recording voting machines**.
- **Hands-on workshops**: *lobbying; organizing teach-ins, bus trips, public hearings, town-hall meetings; data collection; surveying voters; auditing the counting of the votes*.

*Confirmed speakers include:*

***Join the MOVEMENT and the fight of your life!***

*Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones; Bev Harris, Founder, Black Box Voting; Kathleen Wynne, Black Box Voting; Dr. Bob Fittrakis, Editor, The Free Press; Jonathan Simon, Verified Voting; Greg Coleridge, AFSC of Northeast Ohio; Bob Koehler, Editor, Tribune Media Services; Dr. Victoria Lovegren, Founder, Ohio Vigilance; Richard Reinoehl, Founder, Ohio Voters Reform; Butch Wing, Rainbow Push; Judy Hanna, Recount Supervisor, Summit County; Lea Tolls, Recount Supervisor, Portage County; Bruce O'Dell, US Counts Votes; Evan Davis, J30 Coalition; Dorothy Fadiman, independent film maker; Thaddeus Jackson, NAACP; Professor Candice Hoke, Center for Election Integrity, Ron Olson, Ohio Vigilance; Jo Anne Karasec, CASE-Ohio, Dr. Richard Gunther, Reform Ohio Now; Lynn Landes, freelance journalist and others...*

**Also Invited:** *Greg Moore, NAACP; Lara Shaffer, Open Voting Consortium; Jeff Johnson, PFAW; Victoria Collier, Vote Scam, and others.*

We are asking **\$25** donation at the door or **\$20** if paid in advance (\$10 for students/seniors/low income). No-one will be turned away for inability to pay. Extra donations to help cover costs of facility rental and guest-speaker transportation are most appreciated! This is an all-volunteer effort. Please fill out the form below and send (with donation, if possible) to: **Ohio Vigilance**

Name _____	Phone _____	Email _____
Address _____	City _____	State _____ Zip _____
(optional) Why are you interested in this event? _____		
_____		
Would you like to testify (3 minutes) about election irregularities at the public hearing? _____ Be interviewed by reporter/videographer? _____		

Mail to: **Ohio Vigilance, P.O. Box 18336, Cleveland Hts, OH 44118**

For most up-to-date information, go to [www.ohiovigilance.org](http://www.ohiovigilance.org) or call 216-849-7470