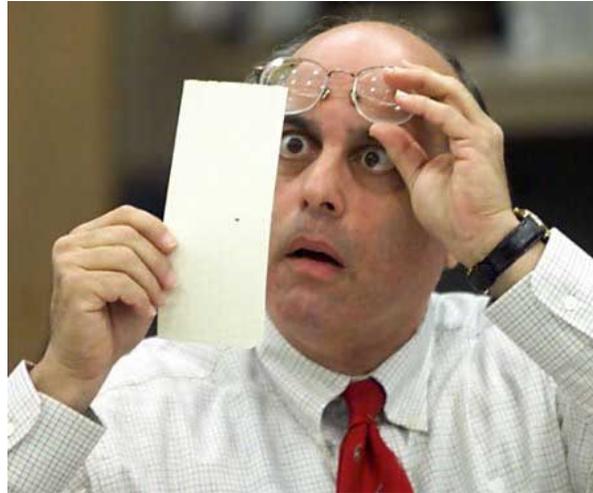


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# THE WRITE-IN VOTE IS CRUCIAL



by Miles Mathis

I wrote [a long paper in 2007](#) on the importance of write-in votes, and the current Ron Paul scandal is proving that paper with tall exclamation points. The Republican establishment has boldly stolen the primaries from Paul, pretty much in plain sight. By manipulating both the media and the vote, they have successfully prevented Paul from achieving the popular groundswell he might otherwise have achieved. Paul may have a few tricks left up his sleeve, and we may see him with far more delegates at the convention than we have been told he has. The delegate totals have been badly misreported, and supposing Paul continues on to the convention, the large discrepancy may come out. Clearly, the Republican establishment had hoped that their dirty tricks would cause Paul to bow out before the convention, as they caused him to do in 2008. It looks like that may not happen.

However that may turn out, we can now see once again the importance of the write-in. Both parties have gone to a lot of trouble to get rid of the write-in vote, first by using computers to nullify write-ins and now by actually [passing legislation against write-ins](#). And now we can see why. If we still had the full ability to write-in candidates, all the trickery against Ron Paul could be easily countered. If we had the write-in, it wouldn't matter if he were on the ballot or not. All the Ron Paul supporters could just write him in. Then in November, we would really know how much of the vote was stolen and misreported in the primaries.

As it is, that probably won't happen. Many states and counties will be suppressing or forbidding write-ins, so a large part of the Ron Paul vote will be seen as a no-vote. Even if people go to the polls and turn in a handmade ballot, most precincts will just throw them away (illegally), so those votes will be the same as no-votes.

This is of extreme importance, because it is the number one thing that is undermining our democracy. That's right. Number one. The suppression of write-ins is the most important voting crime being committed by the establishment. It is more important than the media reporting fake numbers, it is more

important than the media refusing to cover Ron Paul, it is even more important than primaries being fixed. It is even more important than the computer fraud, although computer fraud is a close second. The reason suppression of write-ins is the most important is that all these other crimes could be nullified if we simply had the ability to write in a vote. We could walk right around all these other crimes. They wouldn't matter. Because even after the primaries were stolen, we could still vote for the candidate we wanted. It wouldn't matter that the media had snowed us for months, it wouldn't matter that the computers were rigged. We would just ignore all that and write in whomever we wished. Our freedom would remain.

This is why I am encouraging all grassroots organizations to focus on the write-in. It should be the focus of the next California proposition. It should be the focus of ACLU lawsuits. It should be the focus of Common Cause. It should be the focus of Infowars pushback. It should be the focus of libertarian groups. It should be the focus of Opednews. It should be the focus of Blackboxvoting and of the Bradblog. It should be all these things because it is the logical solution to all the other problems. It can't be answered by the establishment. You can't steal a write-in vote with computers. You can't prevent a write-in vote by media trickery. It is the fundamental issue of real democracy in our times.

But you don't have to wait for these organizations to back you up or file lawsuits on your behalf. You can act yourself. Individuals acting is much more important than organizations acting, no matter what you are told to the contrary. Act alone or organize a small group of your neighbors. Then go to the polls in November and present a handmade ballot. Demand the precinct accept it and count it. Film this. Post it on youtube and take it to local media. Local media are less controlled (sometimes) than the bigger outlets. If the precinct will not accept your ballot, take thumbtacks and tack your votes outside on the door. Film this. If you get arrested for doing it, even better. It isn't a crime, so you won't be prosecuted. But you are more likely to make the papers if you get arrested. If you get beat up by the cops, even better. You will win a large settlement from the city and won't have to work for the next twenty years.

Some will say the establishment can marginalize such actions, just as they marginalize any minority. True, as long as those acting remain a minority. But this is not a factional issue. This is not a splinter group. This is basic democracy, and so I am assuming that a large majority supports it. I am assuming that most people want their votes to count and want their votes to be counted. As it is, we don't have that. So this grassroots action has a very real possibility of catching on. I don't mean the getting arrested part—that will probably remain marginal. But anybody can write-in a vote and present it. If they prefer to present it politely, fine. The important thing is that this action is both easy and (should be) popular. Some people will do it, then more people, then even more people. It is the sort of thing that can grow into something significant. If eventually a large majority of people present write-in ballots, then the revolution is immediately achieved, without violence, without litigation, and without any fear of being struck down. A lot of political solutions are unrealistic. They can't happen. This I could see happening. That is precisely why I am pushing it. Do you want to know what the establishment most fears? This is it. This is the wedge that splits the wood.