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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 07, 2004

Florida Voting Scandal

by Michael in New York on 9/07/2004 06:33:00 PM

We're not talking about 2000, we're talking about 2004.

First the New York Times wrote an editorial today stating that hundreds if not thousands of Florida voters were denied the right to vote during the recent primaries because they didn't have photo IDs -- even though Florida law states voters needn't have such identification (not unusual for elderly voters, the poor and especially poor minorities who don't have cars). It wasn't just a mistake by a few bad poll workers. Osceola County printed up sample ballots wrongly claiming photo IDs were required.

Then, the St. Pete Times had a story about groups trying to register voters and/or change people's party affiliations. Some people told "volunteers" they were already registered but were informed they had to do so again. Their party affiliation was changed from Democrat to independent and they were unable to vote in the primary. Other incompetent nonprofit groups like ACORN held onto people's forms until after the deadline for the primaries and then apologized. These actions affected THOUSANDS more.

And of course there's been little or no followup by the national media about Bob Herbert's NYT editorial about the state police being used to intimidate elderly black voters in Orlando. Nor any serious fallout from the state official overseeing the election compiling faulty voter rolls that just happened to disenfranchise thousands of eligible voters but keep ineligible Hispanic felons (who tend to vote Republican) on the rolls.

Why isn't widespread funny business in the state where our last Presidential election was embroiled in controversy front page news until this mess gets cleared up? The liberal news media certainly isn't living up to its name.



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