



Thomas Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson is quoted as saying, “We in America do not have government by the majority - we have government by the majority who participate. All tyranny needs to gain a foothold is for people of good conscience to remain silent.”

Churches and Voting

Churches can make a significant difference in an election by:

1. Encouraging their attendees to be registered to vote. That can be done on campus or at some public venue that has voter registration forms.
2. Encouraging their attendees to vote.
3. Providing voter information for their voters. Many voters don't vote because they don't know who the candidates are. A trusted voter information packet can fill that gap.

What does this look like in actual practice?

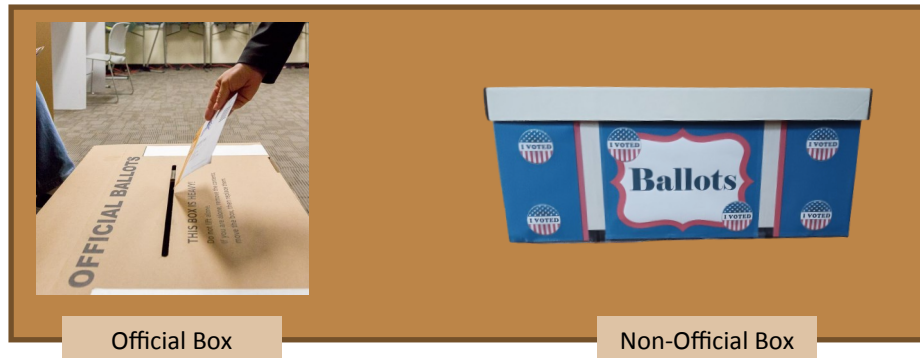
First, what not to do. NEVER TALK PARTY. ONLY TALK ISSUES. This cannot be over-emphasized. Talking party rather than issues, for example, Democrat vs. Republican, is a surefire way to cause a huge argument within any group, including a church. On the other hand, talking issues is not as controversial and actually can be uniting. Pro-life, traditional marriage and parental rights are all issues that Christians agree on regardless of party.

What to do.

1. A successful voter drive effort takes at least one committed person assigned to be in charge. That person, and preferably persons, needs a table, pens and in case of inclement weather, a place protected from the elements.
2. Most folks are registered to vote but not all are. During COVID and since, ballots are mailed out about one month before the actual election day. Getting folks registered to vote 2 to 3 weeks before the ballots are mailed out is important. Forms are available at the county Registrar of Voters.
3. Getting folks to vote is great but they also need to be informed. Most folks are busy making a living and raising a family. They don't know which candidates share their worldview. A voter information packet is vital.
4. Because of revised voter laws in California, ballot harvesting during the election is legal. Churches can do that although there are a couple of simple rules that must be followed. See page two for those guidelines.

Ballot Harvesting Guidelines

- The ballot collection container must **not** be represented as an official county drop-off box.



- It is **not** required to be locked but it is good practice for the collection container to be supervised at all times. This is easier to do if at least two persons are present. Questions come up which can be answered while the second person keeps an eye on the ballot container.
- As ballots are returned, it should be verified that the ballot envelope has been properly filled out. That usually only takes a glance. Signature and address filled in.
- The one receiving the ballot is required to sign the ballot envelope in the designated box located in the top left corner of the ballot envelope. That doesn't need to be done immediately but the ballots are required to be turned in within 72 hours (three days).
- That same person who received the ballot is then required to drop off the ballots at a county-sanctioned ballot drop-off location. Again, ballots cannot be held more than 72 hours (three days).

Taking the ballots directly to the County Registrar of Voters may not be convenient but it is the safest way.

AUTHORIZED AGENT / REPRESENTANTE AUTORIZADO

I am unable to return my ballot and hereby authorize:
 No puedo devolver mi boleta electoral y por la presente autorizo a:

Michael Goodneighbor
 Name of person returning ballot / Nombre de la persona que devuelve la boleta electoral
Michael Goodneighbor
 Signature of person returning ballot / Firma de la persona que devuelve la boleta electoral

Person collecting ballot

1. print name line 1
 2. Signature line 2

Spilled your ballot?
 Place a check mark (✓) in this box if you have damaged, mismarked, or spoiled your ballot and need a replacement sent to you. Return the spoiled ballot in this envelope and a replacement ballot will be issued (time permitting).

¿Echó a perder su boleta?
 Ponga una marca de verificación (✓) en esta casilla si usted dañó, marcó incorrectamente o echó a perder su boleta y necesita un reemplazo. Devuelva su boleta dañada en este sobre y se le enviará un reemplazo (si el tiempo lo permite).

Did you...
 Sign the voter's declaration in your own handwriting?
 Place your ballot in the envelope?

Usted...
 ¿Firmó la declaración del votante con su propia letra?
 ¿Colocó su boleta en el sobre?

**Haven't signed up for it
 It's not too late - Sign up!**
**¿No se ha registrado por
 No es demasiado tarde**

Where's My Ballot?

If you are unable to sign, make your mark and have a witness sign below:
 Si usted no puede firmar, haga una marca y pida que un testigo firme abajo:

Witness, sign here
 Testigo, firme aquí

WARNING: Your ballot will not be counted unless you sign below in your own handwriting and your signature compares to the signature(s) in your voter registration record. Voting twice in an election is a crime.
ADVERTENCIA: Su boleta no se contará a menos que usted la firme abajo con su puño y letra y que su firma sea similar con las firmas que figuran en su registro de votante. Votar más de una vez en la misma elección es un delito.

YOU MUST SIGN BELOW OR YOUR BALLOT CANNOT BE COUNTED
DEBE FIRMAR A CONTINUACIÓN O SU BOLETA ELECTORAL NO PODRÁ SER CONTABILIZADA

Residence address as registered in Riverside County - NOT Mailing Address
 Dirección de residencia como está registrado en el Condado de Riverside,
 NO la dirección postal

2089 Goodwin Ave
Hemet, CA 92333 **2/23/2024**

YOUR SIGNATURE
Jerry Jellyway
 Your signature as registered to vote (Power of Attorney NOT ACCEPTABLE)
 Su firma como está registrado para votar (NO SE ACEPTA Poder Notarial)

Print your name / Escriba su nombre **Date of signing / Fecha en que firma**

33-BRMB-0324(O)

CHECK FOR:

- Voter address
- Date turned in
- Voter signature