

done my part.

Stay involved! Get Involved. Run for office! Work on a local non-profit board of directors, serve on your school's parent/teacher board, learn about the issues, lend your basement, kitchen, garage, living room to volunteers and keep your voice out there. I for one am not going to take the next four years sitting down. Rather, I'm pounding the pavement and making sure that the Democratic party elects *my* president in 2008.

Jennifer Fogerty-Gibson
Eugene

BEATS FREEZING

In response to Sonny Tailor's guest commentary "Raising the Bar" (10/21): I think he is over-dramatizing. Enforceable housing standards are a good way for renters to get severe problems taken care of without involv-

ing the over-burdened court system.

I spent two winters in a rental without proper heating and no insulation. We had a small natural gas heater that I would sit in front of and wrap a blanket around the heater and myself to get what little warmth was coming out of it. Believe me when I say that having a quicker way to resolve problems than waiting forever for your day in court beats freezing any time.

Mr. Tailor claims that many rentals will be sold at auction for non-payment of the fines that could be imposed upon them under this new ordinance. My guess is that he is supposing that landlords will leave the leaky roof unfixed once they know this ordinance will cost them more than fixing the problem. I don't think so!

Sherryl Brewer
Dexter

DIVA DIVERSITY?

It is hoped with the first anniversary of DIVA that it doesn't become just another lily white art organization. DIVA should be in the forefront of diversity by making sure that all branches of DIVA have representation of "minorities." I don't particularly like the word minority, maybe "multi-cultural" is a better word because America is a multi-cultural society.

So far I don't see any diversity at DIVA in its administration, exhibition committee, or structure as a whole. Eugene will never be on the cultural map until these discrepancies are put to rest.

Jerry Harris
Eugene sculptor

FLAWED ARGUMENT

Sonny Tailor (10/21) kindly noted that the supporters of the Housing Standards

Ordinance that is before the Eugene City Council are the ASUO, Eugene Citizens for Housing Standards, Associated Students of LCC, and OSPIRG. Many of these supporters are young students, like myself. We are people in the position of renting, because it's not likely as students that we could afford to own a house.

Mr. Tailor is against the code, saying it won't protect renters and their rights. However, looking at the supporters mentioned above, many of whom are renters, the question then arises: Why would renters support a code that does not help them or protect them? In truth, it is not likely that renters would support a code, let alone try to push it through to be on the books, if it was harmful to them.

So unless all the renters who support the proposed code are deluded or brainwashed

viewpoint BY MARK ROBINOWITZ

Another Stolen Election

Diebold determinator: the rise of the (voting) machines

On Election Day, I asked to see Lane County's new ballot scanning machines, made by Sequoia corporation of England. While watching the ballots being fed into the machines, a Democratic Party poll watcher told me the exit polls did not match the election results in the "swing states" using paperless ballot machines.

There is now ample evidence to confirm this discrepancy – and that Sen. Kerry won the 2004 presidential election in both the popular vote and Electoral College. Exit polls in Ohio, Florida, Iowa, New Mexico and Nevada predicted a Kerry win, yet Bush was declared the winner. In several other states, the point spread was significantly different between the polls and the results, helping ensure that Bush was given the popular vote. (The 2000 election fraud was embarrassing for Bush, and claiming that millions more voted for him than for Kerry, despite a stronger Democratic voter registration drive, provides a veneer of legitimacy for what was about to happen.)

The Democratic Party let this theft happen. There was ample warning from computer experts, investigative journalists and leaked documents that showed how paperless voting is an invitation to vote fraud. The head of the Diebold corporation, the most famous "touch screen" manufacturer, had pledged to ensure that the state of Ohio would go for Bush – and paperless machines were used in some of their counties.

In 2002, the Georgia governor and Senate races were predicted to favor the incumbent Democrats, yet the touch screen ballot machines determined that they lost (the first election in that state with this technology). Bev Harris, author of *Black Box Voting*, found numerous problems that strongly suggest these outcomes were rigged. Despite this evidence, on Oct. 25, NPR ran a story on touch screen machines quoting a Georgia elections official who claimed there were no problems in their initial use.

In the last congressional session, a few brave leaders introduced a bill to require paper trails for all voting systems, but it was ignored by the Democratic leadership. Why did the Democratic Party allow the Republicans to install insecure computer ballots in key states – the Republicans wouldn't allow the Democrats to do this.

There have been numerous stories of voters using touch screen machines who pushed Kerry but the machine tallied Bush. Some of these voters were able to get the machine to acknowledge their choice, others were not. There is no way to verify that the final totals reflect the voters' choices (no recounts are possible). Diebold makes automated teller machines (ATMs) for banks – if their ATMs confused withdrawals for deposits, no bank would dare purchase their products. How can Diebold accurately count our financial transactions, yet is unable to accurately count votes for Democrats?

Your vote may have been ignored, but your dollars are counted. If everyone votes with their money to support media institutions that investigate scandals, not those that parrot propaganda, democracy could have a chance.

Many states had voter intimidation problems, some subtle, others blatant. Some of these tactics are intentional incompetence, such as absentee ballots mailed out too late to be received. In some Democratic strongholds in Ohio, potential voters had to wait all

day in the rain to be able to vote, yet nearby Republican districts had short lines since they had enough voting machines. Republicans tried to disenfranchise African-American voters in Kansas City through fake change of address cards sent to the Elections Department. A precinct in Ohio was caught having more votes for Bush than voters. Similar "more votes than voters" problems were also found in other states. A gambling referendum "passed" in a Florida county when a bunch of votes magically appeared at the last minute. A friend in Boulder, Colo., told me about a church in a Democratic area that pretended to be a polling station the day before the Election – voters who believed the claims of "early voting" were not counted.

These manipulations, coupled with the fact that Kerry ran such a lousy campaign that many Bush-haters agonized about voting for him, ensured that the results could be fixed in advance. If Kerry's campaign had been better, it would have been harder to change the results.

The Democratic Party has thousands of lawyers and \$45 million in funds to challenge vote fraud and Senator Edwards wanted to contest the outcome. Kerry rushed to concede before all the votes were counted and the flood of complaints of vote fraud and disenfranchisement were noticed. Perhaps a future historian will uncover why Kerry surrendered. Was he threatened with a "Wellstone plane crash"? Bribe? Or was the election a farce to create an illusion of democracy, since Kerry and Bush are both members of the occult Order of Skull and Bones, and Kerry, Bush and Cheney are distant cousins?

Most industrial democracies use paper ballots, counted by hand. This might not appeal to those with a naive fetish for technology, but it is the most accurate vote counting method, and the hardest to tamper with. (Optical scanning of paper ballots can also be tampered with, since the software is a proprietary trade secret not subject to public scrutiny.)

A deeper problem was the Democrats' "Bush Light" strategy – trying to replace Bush without discussing the deeper scandals. Many Democrats proclaimed that "Bush Lied" about Iraq, but few said why the U.S. seized Iraq, even though the whole world knows it was about oil. Two thirds of the Earth's remaining oil supply is in the Persian Gulf area and it would be nice to have public discussion of whether we will use it for renewable energy systems and relocating production, or to have World War IV to control what is left.

The vote fraud story risks becoming like the evidence of U.S. government complicity in 9/11 – explained in detail on the Internet, yet totally ignored by the media. However, the evidence is being assembled even faster than documentation of the 9/11 scandal, and is becoming the greatest constitutional crisis in our country's history. The congressional Government Accounting Office has been asked to investigate. Some media voices are daring to question the outcome – such as actress Susan Sarandon on Bill Maher's HBO show last Friday. Protests are happening all over the country, and the documentation of fraud is piling up all over the web.

Cheating in the Electoral College should be grounds for expulsion. Under the Constitution, questions of legitimacy of a state's electors can be debated by Congress when they ratify the outcome. The film *Fahrenheit 9/11* shows the effort by the Congressional Black Caucus to have a debate on Jan. 6, 2001, when Bush was confirmed as president despite the fraud in Florida. It takes a senator and a representative to allow this debate, but no senator dared to support the right of all citizens to vote.

Shortly after this coup, Sen. Ron Wyden was asked at a town hall meeting in Cottage Grove why he ignored the election fraud – he refused to answer. Please urge him to support his colleagues' efforts to investigate the systemic manipulation of our "election."

Mark Robinowitz of Eugene is publisher of www.oilempire.us — stolen elections, 9/11, fascism, World War IV, media and Peak Oil.