

TALKING TO WOMEN ABOUT VOTING

This document provides messages that can be used to discuss voting restrictions with women, and help encourage them to vote.

DISCUSSING VOTING RESTRICTIONS

When talking to women about voting restrictions, the following messages may be useful:

- Voting brings us together as Americans, and I want to join my family and friends to help strengthen my community.
- It's the one time whether you're young or old, rich or poor, that we all have the same say. In order to participate in our great democracy and have your voice heard, every voter needs to understand the rules in their state, register on time, and show up at the correct polling place.
- Citizens have the responsibility to do their part and vote. It's our right to vote. It's our democracy. It's important that our election laws are fair and equal.
- As Americans, we believe that all men and women are "created equal." If America wants to live up to its promise to provide all citizens with the same freedoms, then we can't pass laws that block some Americans from voting, and deny them the opportunity to participate equally in our democracy.
- It's important to stop voter fraud. But I don't support some politicians trying to manipulate voting laws because they don't like what the voters have to say.

WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS

When surveyed, women say the top reasons to vote include:

- Civic duty
- To improve the future for my children and country
- Have a voice

Women Support Voting as a Civic Responsibility: 94 percent agree with the statement that "As an American citizen, it is my responsibility to do my civic duty and vote."

- They are deliberately trying to limit the voting rights of people who may not support them. It's wrong to pass laws for political gain that take away the right to vote from millions of eligible citizens.
- Even though every American has a responsibility to follow the rules for voting, it's wrong to pass laws that make voting unfair and unequal. We fought hard to ensure that every American — regardless of age, sex, race, or income — have an equal opportunity to participate in politics. The new laws are taking away this opportunity and are un-American.

MOBILIZING VOTERS

Some messages that can be used to help mobilize women voters to get out to the polls include:

- As an American citizen, it is your responsibility to do your civic duty and vote on Election Day.
- Voting brings us together as Americans and is something you can do to help strengthen your community. All eligible Americans should cast a ballot on Election Day for their future, their children's futures, and the future of our great nation.
- Voting is your chance to take control over what happens to your family and your community. Many Americans are struggling these days in the economy — to find jobs, pay their mortgages, and put food on the table — and all Americans deserve a say in how to solve these problems.
- It's important to stand up for our rights and elect leaders who will lift up our country and our communities. America's future is our future, and we need to vote and make sure the politicians hear our voices and know we count and we matter. We can't complain about the way things are going if we don't take responsibility and stand up for what we believe in.
- Your vote — along with everyone's vote — matters. It lets politicians know that the American people have an opinion, and that they need to listen to what we have to say.
- In order to participate in our democracy and have your voice heard, you need to understand the voting rules in your state, register on time, and show up at the correct polling place.