



MEDIA RELEASE

Our Evolving Democracy: Election Laws, Political Attitudes and Public Opinion

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The run up to the 2016 election is like no other we've seen in recent history. And, the pollsters are having a field day ... one candidate is ahead in one poll and other polls report different results. Why do polls matter so much? How do they impact campaigns? Which ones are right? A large percentage of the voting public report they are frustrated, disgusted and generally negative about this election. What factors influence our views and voting behaviors? And, what about the right to vote? A Voting Rights Act was passed in 1965, but the right to vote is being threatened across the country and courts are making decisions that directly affect how difficult it is to vote.

The public is invited to join the League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson (LWVGT), **Saturday, October 15th**, when three speakers from the University of Arizona and a LWVGT member will discuss the questions and concerns above in an enlightening and informative voter education presentation, *"Our Evolving Democracy: Election Laws, Political Attitudes and Public Opinion"*.

Samara Klar studies how individuals' identities (the groups, roles and associations with which they identify play a role in their political attitudes and behaviors) at the U of A. **Dr. Barbara Norrander**, a U of A Professor since 1990 has a teaching and research focus in American politics, specializing in elections, public opinion and political parties. **Christine Filer**, a U of A graduate student in Communications, studies political campaigns, candidate traits, advertising and social media. And, League member, **Vivian Harte**, will examine which states have made it more difficult for voters, what the courts have ruled, and how these laws have affected voting patterns.

The program is Free and Open to the Public. It will take place at the **Joel D. Valdez Main Library**, 101 N. Stone Avenue, Tucson in the Lower Level 1 Meeting Room, October 15th, 10: 00 a.m. to Noon. Free parking is available in the library's underground garage with an entrance on Alameda.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.