

You Mean You Didn't Vote? Naw, You ain't Cool!

Written by Jeffrey L. Boney, Associate Editor
Thursday, 08 November 2012 13:16



So, you mean to tell me that you had the opportunity to VOTE, but didn't VOTE in this past presidential election?

You ought to be ashamed of yourself. FOR REAL THOUGH!

I'm sick of folks using every excuse in the book as to why they don't vote.

I look at it like this. There are only a few excuses, outside of you being underage that I would deem "understandable" to explain your choice not to vote at all in any election, especially this last one.

You are dead and God won't let you leave Heaven to come back down here to vote.

You are dead and Satan won't let you leave Hell to come back up here to vote.

You are an illegal immigrant.

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You are in the hospital and are not in a capacity to vote.

You have been deemed mentally incompetent.

You have been stranded or detained in a foreign country.

Your religion mandates that you can't.

Did you miss any Jeff? Naw, I think I got them all.

So, there is my limited list. What else could it have been? What's the excuse? "I'm just one vote." "My vote won't matter." "Them white folks gone do what they gonna do anyway."

Some would say that my thought process concerning voting is judgmental and condescending.

But, I respectfully submit to you that I couldn't be more serious and more committed to this line of communication. When you know the importance of voting and all that people went through to obtain the right to vote, you would be rebuking people as well.

All politics is local! All the key decisions that have impacted you were made by people at the state, county and local level, not just President Barack Obama and not just from people at the federal level.

People must take voting and politics seriously.

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Check it out! The “dog ate my homework” view of disengaging yourself from the political process is a foolish position to take.

There is nothing “cool” about NOT voting, just like there is nothing “cool” about avoiding jury duty.

What’s “cool” about avoiding service and exercising one of the most critical constitutional rights given to Americans? Taxation without representation SUCKS!

How can any community thrive without having solid representation that impacts their living conditions, their child’s education, their taxes and their community-based services? If you have no representation, you threaten your potential to have a thriving community, which weakens you and zaps your strength.

Haven’t you ever played the board game Risk? If you have a speckle of soldiers here and a speckle of soldiers there, you have no strength to ensure your interests are protected and respected.

Hey, let’s just face it. Some people just really like being told what to do.

Either you are a decision-maker who tells other people how to represent you or you are one of the one’s who get told what to do by other decision-makers and engaged individuals.

Even voting without knowing who and what you are voting for is dangerous. Folks will make promises to you and get you to support the very thing that will lead to your demise. Remember Jim Jones?

Have you ever asked yourself why so many folks put so much money into these campaigns and why folks would seek to suppress the vote and deceive voters? Have you ever asked yourself why people would do anything to steal an election by seeking to disenfranchise voters?

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If you haven't, then you are one of the many hamsters on the hamster wheel.

If you care more about the vote you cast for your favorite American Idol singer or Dancing With the Stars contestant than you do about the vote you didn't cast in any election affecting you directly, YOU OFFICIALLY SUCK!

If you care more about standing in line for hours for the latest I Phone, electronic gadget, hottest sports or concert ticket or the latest Air Jordan's, than standing your behind in line to vote, no matter how long it takes, YOU OFFICIALLY SUCK MORE!

As the young folks say these days, "You ain't bout that life!"

Jeffrey L. Boney is Associate Editor for the Houston Forward Times newspaper, a Next Generation Project Fellow and a dynamic, international speaker. Jeffrey is the Founder and CEO of the Texas Business Alliance and is an experienced entrepreneur and business development strategist. If you would like to request Jeffrey as a speaker, you can reach him at jboney1@texasbusinessalliance.org.{jcomments on}