



LWV Demands Immediate Action to Resolve the Inhumane Treatment for Asylum Seekers

by Sarah Courtney LWVUS
6/24/2019



WASHINGTON – Today the League of Women Voters of the United States CEO Virginia Kase issued the following statement on the situation at the U.S. southern border:

“For nearly a year now, Americans have watched in horror as children have been ripped from their parents’ arms and detained in inhumane conditions along our southern border. The trauma of family separations and children in cages will have a lasting impact for generations to come.

“This administration is responsible for creating these conditions and has the duty to rectify this crisis. The U.S. government must expedite asylum processing, improve housing conditions, provide humane care, and reunite families at the border.

“Seeking asylum is not a crime. Refugees from Central America are fleeing dangerous conditions in their home countries, risking everything to survive. They must be greeted with dignity and respect.

“The administration’s ‘no tolerance’ policy for asylum seekers has created constant fear and chaos for immigrant families while doing nothing to strengthen our national security. We call on Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform that includes a long-term plan for asylum seekers and a commitment to all refugees seeking freedom in our great nation.

“America must do better than this.”

Inside This Issue

Census Report	2
More Census News	3
Vote Centers	4
Convention News	5
Voters Under Siege	6
Calendar of Events	7
ILO Annual Meeting	7
Officers and Directors	8
Membership Application	8

First Quarterly 2020 Census Expo Report by Wanda Shaffer, ILO

Over 180 were in attendance at the Delhi Center. They represented OC organizations committed to assuring that **all** OC people are counted in the 2020 Census.

Welcoming remarks came from Mary Anne Foo, Exec. Director of OC Asian Pacific Islander Community Alliance, Sara Pol-Lim, Regional Manager of CA COMPLETE COUNT – CENSUS 2020, and Saul Viramontes, Special Projects Manager for the County CEO Office. Mr. Viramontes urged attendees to speak their minds, telling them, “I can’t hear what you’re not saying.” So a very lively discussion ensued.

A good deal of time was spent on the controversial citizenship question that the Trump administration has proposed be included in the census. The administration has claimed that determining residents’ citizenship status is necessary for enforcing the Voting Rights Act. Critics have warned that questioning people’s citizenship will result in serious undercounts of undocumented residents who, wishing to avoid trouble, simply decline to fill in the questionnaire.

One speaker declared, “Inaccurate talk has caused damage, but the public must be urged to participate and hold the government accountable for their promised privacy.”

A speaker from the OC Congregation Community Organization stated, “Everybody belongs. [However] Seventy percent of the Latinos interviewed replied they were afraid.” Other voices joined the debate.

“The U.S. Confidentiality Code is 72 years old and safe....and there is a \$2,500 fine.”

“Trust is needed....We get it!”

“How will you count those with no ID or families living in cars?”

“Government may try another path to get citizenship information, such as health information, Medi-Cal, etc. How can that be protected?”

“Will prisoners be counted?”

Some of the answers to these questions were: “An ID is not needed.” “We are using DATA TOOL to know where Census Kiosk Centers should be located.” “Keep the disabled in mind, please!”

“When you hear misinformation on the news sources, please contact our Rapid Response Team.”

“Census workers must take a lifetime oath to protect information.”

“One sworn-in collector will be sworn in for prisons.” “The benefits far outweigh the danger.”

“DON’T LIE ON THE CENSUS FORM! CENSUS STAFF WILL VISIT ONCE OR TWICE. THE PROTOCOL FOR REFUSING TO ANSWER A QUESTIONIT WILL TRIGGER A FOLLOW-UP!”

The State allocation for Region 9, Orange County, is approximately **\$1.4 million**, the County of Orange has supported the Count effort with **\$1.5 million**, and another **\$1 million** is being sought from private donors and foundations.

The estimated number of Hard to Count individuals in the region is about **750,000**. This means the outreach plan must carefully target collaborative efforts for the greatest regional impact. Data research helped to identify the OC areas with the highest numbers of Hard to Count individuals. The State’s \$1.4 million will prioritize contacting low-income residents (those earning under 200% of the poverty line), and the foreign born, especially all those with limited English proficiency. The other monies will be concentrating on smaller, historically undercounted populations and the hard to count spread out through the region.

More Census News

LWVUS will be holding a webinar briefing on the Census on Tuesday, July 23, at noon PST. You can find more info and register [HERE](#) or by going to www.lwv.org/league-management/lwvus-offer-policy-briefings.

Help Wanted

If you would like to join the team, 2020 Census jobs will offer \$15 and \$20 per hour. We are hiring now. Training for the census count will be offered August through January. Available jobs will include assistants at the Assistance Centers, online help at the drop-in centers, Latino messaging, recording materials, language assistance, etc. If you are interested, contact **2020 Census.gov/jobs** for employment information. You can also visit: www.occensus.org

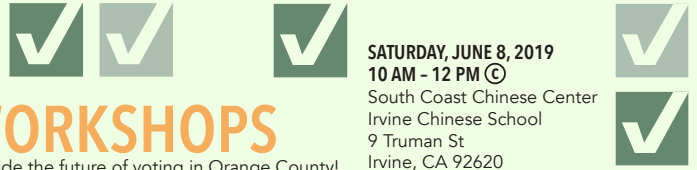
The next meeting is Sept. 19, Thursday, 9 a.m.- 12 noon, Delhi Center. YOU ARE INVITED.





VOTE CENTER COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

Join your neighbors in this opportunity to decide the future of voting in Orange County!



TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2019
6 PM - 8 PM (K)
Buena Park Community Center
6688 Beach Blvd
Buena Park, CA 90621

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2019
5 PM - 7 PM (S)
La Habra City School
District Office
500 N Walnut Ave
La Habra, CA 90631

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2019
10 AM - 12 PM
Norman P Murray Community
and Senior Center
24932 Veterans Way
Mission Viejo, CA 92692

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2019
12 PM - 2 PM
Rush Park
3021 Blume Dr
Rossmore, CA 90720

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2019
10 AM - 12 PM (C)
South Coast Chinese Center
Irvine Chinese School
9 Truman St
Irvine, CA 92620

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2019
12 PM - 2 PM
East Anaheim
Community Center
8201 E Santa Ana Canyon Rd
Anaheim, CA 92808

MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2019
6 PM - 8 PM
Irvine Civic Center
1 Civic Center Plaza
Irvine, CA 92606

TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2019
11:30 AM - 1:30PM
Fountain Valley
Recreation Center
16400 Brookhurst St
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2019
6 PM - 8 PM (S)
Delhi Community Center
505 E Central Ave
Santa Ana, CA 92707

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2019
10 AM - 12 PM
Leisure World Seal Beach
13533 Seal Beach Blvd
Seal Beach, CA 90740

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2019
6 PM - 8 PM
Quail Hill Community Center
39 Shady Canyon Dr
Irvine, CA 92603

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2019
9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Costa Mesa Community
Senior Center
695 W 19th St
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2019
6 PM - 8 PM
Walter Knott
Elementary School
7300 La Palma Ave
Buena Park, CA 90620

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2019
10 AM - 12 PM
Laguna Woods Village
24262 Punta Alta
Laguna Woods, CA 92637

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2019
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM (V)
Garden Grove Community
Meeting Center
11300 Stanford Ave
Garden Grove, CA 92840

TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2019
6 PM - 8 PM (S)
Anaheim Independencia
Family Resource Center
10841 Garza Ave
Anaheim, CA 92804

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2019
6 PM - 8 PM
Mission Viejo City Hall
200 Civic Center
Mission Viejo, CA 92691

THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2019
6 PM - 8 PM
Edison High School
21400 Magnolia St
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2019
10 AM - 12 PM
Newport Beach
Public Library
1000 Avocado Ave
Newport Beach, CA 92660

SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2019
1 PM - 3 PM
City of Orange
Main Public Library
407 E Chapman Ave
Orange, CA 92866

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019
2 PM - 4 PM
Anaheim Accessibility Center
100 S Atchison St
Anaheim, CA 92805

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM (K)
Lakeview Senior Center
20 Lake Road
Irvine, CA 92604

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2019
5 PM - 7 PM
Midway City
Community Center
14900 Park Ln
Midway City, CA 92655

THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019
6 PM - 8 PM
Fullerton Public Library
353 W Commonwealth Ave
Fullerton, CA 92832

FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2019
6 PM - 8 PM (S)
San Juan Capistrano
Community Center
25925 Camino Del Avion
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 2019
10 AM - 12 PM (V)
Westminster Civic Center
8200 Westminster Blvd
Westminster, CA 92683



Workshops with language assistance available: (C) Chinese (K) Korean (S) Spanish (V) Vietnamese

If you require accommodations, please call Jackie Wu at (714) 567 - 5106 or email Jackie.Wu@rov.ocgov.com at least 4 business days in advance.



ORANGE COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

For more information visit ocvote.com/votecenter

LWVC Convention News

by Carol Moon Goldberg, Pres, LWVC

What an excellent, exhausting and exhilarating LWVC Convention! Thank you to everyone who participated, sponsored, and offered workshops and caucuses.

Almost 25% of those who attended were first time convention participants. Thank you to all Leagues who gave their members the opportunity to see the full depth and breadth of League work and aspirations.

To those who could not be present... we missed you.

Please read on. There are many ways in which you can get the information that those in convention received.

This convention featured much sharing of information and projects among our local Leagues. The *Great Ideas!* workshops featured local League voter service and education/advocacy projects that were successful for them and that could be replicated by any League in the state. *Growing the League of the Future* featured League leaders from around the state talking about what engages them and new League members.

Look at the convention [Documents page](#) for the the power point presentations materials, not just for *Great Ideas* and *Growing the League*, but for the other workshops and caucuses too. The caucuses covered a large variety of timely and interesting topics. Contact the relevant Leagues if you have questions about their projects and techniques. Maybe your League can do something similar.

To get the full information on the Convention's contents please:

1. See the [Post-Convention Summary](#) in this Update for a summary of the action, details on the adopted program and read more details in other articles.

2. Visit our [Flickr Convention album](#) to see great photos of delegates, speakers, and more that you're welcome to use! Please send your photos to our [Communications Manager](#) and help identify people in the existing photos.

3. Stay involved post-convention: [join email newsletters and discussion groups](#) (scroll down on the link to see discussion group lists), [connect on Facebook](#), and [comment on the blog](#).

4. Find information on speakers, workshops, special events, caucuses, and more on the [Documents page](#).

5. Local League leaders, please fill out the [Local League Information Form](#) as soon as your new boards are elected.

As we move forward remember this: A representative democracy only works when all are represented. As a League we are most effective and impactful in our voter service and advocacy work when the League looks like California. We will continue our excellent voter service work; we will continue to deepen our advocacy impact; and we will continue to expand our equity work.



Voters Under Siege

by Jim Hill

The U.S. Supreme Court just handed down two decisions of great importance to voters, one regarding partisan gerrymandering and the other regarding the U.S. Census.

First, gerrymandering. In the 2013 case of *Shelby Co. v. Holder*, the U.S. Supreme Court gutted key provisions of the Voting Rights Act that prevented drawing political district maps that disenfranchise minority voters. Literally within hours of that decision, politicians across the country set to work on redistricting schemes that would tilt the table in their own favor and harm their opponents.

In 2016, the **LWV of North Carolina** went to court to challenge Republican partisan gerrymandering of North Carolina's congressional map. This case was ultimately decided in the League's favor by a three-judge panel that ruled that the NC congressional map was in violation of the 1st and 14th Amendments. That decision was appealed to the Supreme Court, where it was combined with *Common Cause v. Rucho* and two other similar cases.

On June 27, 2019, the Court released its 5-4 decision that the Constitution does not prohibit partisan gerrymandering. Chief Justice Roberts argued in the majority opinion that the question of how to draw the boundaries of political districts cannot be answered by the Court, writing that "partisan gerrymandering claims present political questions beyond the reach of the federal courts." Roberts allowed that extreme gerrymandering can be unconstitutional, but states and Congress need to pass laws to prevent it. In her dissenting opinion, Justice Elena Kagan wrote, "The practices challenged in these cases imperil our system of government. Part of the Court's role in that system is to defend its foundations. None is more important than free and fair elections. With respect but deep sadness, I dissent." The NC three-judge panel's decision was vacated, and the case was remanded back for reconsideration.

Next, the Census. Every ten years the federal government is constitutionally obligated to conduct a census of everyone residing in the country. This information about the populace is vital in determining government spending and in providing for fair representation in government.

In preparation for the 2020 Census, Wilbur Ross, the U.S. Commerce Secretary, announced in March 2018 that he planned to add a citizenship question. He argued that citizenship information was needed for proper enforcement of the Voting Rights Act. This proposal was met with immediate resistance from critics who argued that inquiring about citizenship would discourage millions of residents from participating in the survey. Suppression of participation would result in serious undercounts that would deprive some states of adequate funding and governmental representation. Moreover, evidence was uncovered that protecting the VRA was a ruse, and undercounting was the real goal of adding the citizenship question. Chief Justice Roberts called the Trump administration's justification "contrived."

The Court ruled against including the citizenship question in the survey unless a sound reason for doing so could be provided. Given the necessity of conducting the census on schedule, it seems unlikely there is enough time for the administration to present the Court with any compelling rationale to reinstate the question.

The gutting of the Voting Rights Act, partisan gerrymandering, and suppressing responses to the census are all threats against free and fair elections and equitable representation in government. In times like these, the work of organizations like the League of Women Voters is more vital than ever. Stay vigilant. Stay informed.

[Help oppose every attempt to gerrymander districts AND ensure the 2020 elections are free, fair, and accessible with your gift today. Your gift today will bolster our efforts to implement fair congressional maps and ramp up our proactive voter engagement strategies in 2019 and 2020!](#)

[MAKE A GIFT](#)

Date and Time	Place	Description
Tuesday, July 9, 2019 12:30pm	Hosted by Barbara Dunsheath.	Unbirthday Party. Bring your favorite potluck dish and a wrapped book for exchange.
Tuesday, August 13, 2019 1:00pm	Hosted by Frann Shermet	Read with League. "Reporter: A Memoir" by Seymour M. Hersh.
Thursday, August 29, 2019 10:00-2:00	North Orange County ROP 385 N. Muller St. Anaheim, CA 92801	Strategic Planning Retreat.

ILO Annual Meeting: Diversity and Inclusion

by Laura Villa

Diversity and inclusion continue to be hot topics. There are several aspects of these words that are introduced as a formula for attainment, yet we fall short of capturing the real essence of these concepts. First diversity is often defined as the difference of something or someone. Inclusion is the act of including something or someone.

When we take these two terms and apply them to our organizations or spaces, we often feel satisfied. These acts are what I call step one. I ask everyone to take an additional action and work on a diversity of mind.

When we take time to work on ourselves, we can identify those areas that require us to modify or adopt new perspectives. When we have a diversity of mind, we have indeed taken a step to include others in a way that extends carving out spaces. The extension is how relationships are formed. It is up to each one of us to work on ourselves and take the opportunities to become diverse and inclusive individuals. We have more similarities, and we must focus our humanness. Fearing others only serves to divide our communities. Taking step two is the beginning of restoring our communities, creating strong bonds, and reducing the hate we see in our world today.

Take the second step.



Betty Valencia, candidate for Orange City Council and speaker at the 2019 ILO Annual Meeting

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 Treasurer Sharon Sorensen
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 Marge Imbler
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**LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS of NORTH ORANGE COUNTY
 Membership Form 2018 - 2019**

Name(s) of Member(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Cell _____ E-mail _____

Individual member \$65.00 Renewal ___ New member ___ \$ _____

Additional household member \$32.50 Renewal ___ New member ___ \$ _____

Student member Free Renewal ___ New member ___ \$ _____

Additional donation to League (To cover our operating expenses, etc.):
 \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 other \$ _____

Donation to Educational Fund (Separate tax-deductible donation):
 \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 other \$ _____

Total enclosed (Make checks payable to LWVNOC.) Thank you. \$ _____

How can you serve the League? How can the League serve you?

Please complete this member survey. Circle your choices or fill in the blanks.

Our areas of emphasis this year are: **Voting Issues, Civic Engagement, Education, and Housing and Homelessness.**

I am interested in working on: _____

I would also be willing to work on special events and other League projects. Yes No

I have special skills (for example: graphic art, computers): _____

I am currently: Working ___ Retired ___ My job/profession: _____

I prefer to attend League events: During the day In the evening Weekdays Weekends

Suggestion for an activity or speaker: _____

I am not able to participate in League events but wish to support the work of the League by renewing my membership or by making a donation. Comments: _____

Please send this completed form with your check to LWVNOC, P.O. Box 3073, Fullerton, CA 92834

For Treasurer's Use Only: Check # _____ Amount \$ _____ Date: _____



League of Women Voters

P. O. Box 3073

Fullerton, CA 92834