

PROPOSITION G, 16 AND 17 YEAR OLD VOTING IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

San Francisco Ballot Measure

November 2020

Proposition "G" is a San Francisco November 2020 ballot measure which asks the question, "Should 16-17 year-olds be given the ability to vote in city elections?" . *Voters should reject this proposition overwhelmingly* as being a non-serious question on this coming Election Day. There are three very real factors to consider: Legality, Maturity, and the effects of indoctrination of children in schools and social media.

Legality, of course, refers to the fact that 16-year olds and 17-year olds are still children in the eyes of the law, and are incapable of experiencing and performing many tasks which teach us responsibility as adults. Children cannot sign a contract, apply for a credit card, purchase a car, rent a car, buy a house, own a business, and many examples more. How can we let teens vote on approving such serious issues as property taxes, business regulations, control and taxation of marijuana, and changes to city government operations? The concept of *children voting is absurd*.

Maturity, and the lack of it as children, is often researched and reported on by psychologists. Most argue that cognitive functions, rational decision-making and serious consideration given to issues, doesn't happen until the brain is fully developed, often not until a person reaches and age in the mid-20's . Before this, irrational, knee-jerk responses are the norm. Teens don't know the concept of compromise, nor of reaching common ground, and display rash, impulsive decision-making tendencies.

Growing evidence shows children are negatively affected by **social justice activism** in schools, propagated by teachers and their course curriculum, through homework assignments and tests. Teachers have influenced children by bringing their students to political protests, and teaching of altered historical time lines and of backgrounds of national figures current and past. The teens aren't being given facts nor the complete stories presented with both (or several sides) to an argument. **Social media** is similarly pushing a very controlled message to youth. Opposing viewpoints are being censored, whereby children do not even realize there may be other sides to a story.

How can this influence the outcome of the elections?

The apparent motivation behind allowing 16 and 17-year olds to vote is purely political, in that it is assumed these teens, being indoctrinated in school, by social justice

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influencers online and through peer pressure, are going to vote for left-wing candidates. The same goes for ballot measures promoted by social justice-oriented leaders in city hall and supporting groups. The argument that these teens want to get involved with the democratic process and participate can easily be refuted: The teens can, and have always had the ability to, become involved in their school elections, as well as volunteer with local candidates for office. They should research who's running, find the candidate who's message they believe in, promote that candidate, attend rallies, hand out window signage, and celebrate with the team on election day, should their candidate win.

San Francisco introduced a similar proposal in 2016 but it failed to gain enough votes to pass. How high are the chances that this time the proposal will succeed?

This will depend on how many left-wing/progressive voters come out to vote this time. It appears there is an intense effort to get every vote counted, as we obviously have a crucial presidential election this November. It's tied to state elections and ballot propositions, and local city elections and propositions. The marketing and promotion of candidates and propositions is starting to intensify now, so we will see. We should hope San Francisco voters are sufficiently informed to reject this proposal this second time, and finally put this issue to rest.

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