 **TODAY'S SHORT TOPIC**
NON CITIZEN
VOTING RIGHTS:
THE SUFFRAGE ISSUE
OF OUR TIME!
(You must be kidding!)



By Stephen L. Bakke  January 31, 2015

Here's what provoked me:

There was an article in the newspaper by Ron Hayduk, political science professor at Queens College, City University of New York. He describes non-citizen voting rights as "the suffrage issue of our time." I hadn't given this controversy much thought before, but I found it very intriguing. My first reaction was to ask: Is this what the "anti-amnesty" argument is all about?

Here's my response:

Non Citizen Voting Rights: The Suffrage Issue of our Time!

Professor Ron Hayduk's article (12-27-14) dealt with "The right of non-citizen residents to vote is the suffrage issue of our time." This really "got me thinking" and I've done further reading about the issue. Many proponents want this effort to include extending voting rights even to illegal immigrants. My first reaction was to ask: Is this what the "anti-amnesty" argument is all about?

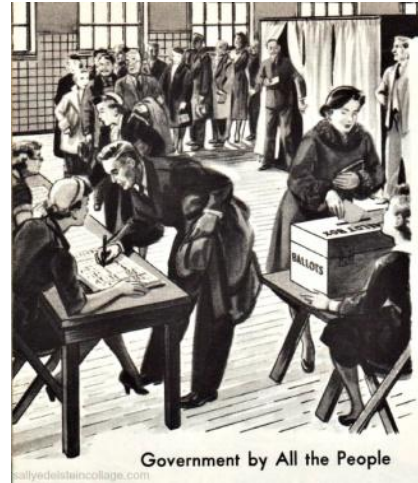
Here are a few observations:

- Proponents believe voting rights should follow residence, employment, etc. – not citizenship.
- Proponents of non-citizen voting rights view the naturalization process as an artificial barrier to citizenship, rather than a sensible process.
- They feel illegal immigrant status is just a handicap to be accommodated, rather than any sort of transgression with consequences.
- Borders are seen as artificial, and bothersome, impediments to multiculturalism.
- Sadly, this issue has become a political football. Whichever political extreme benefits by gaining votes, you can be sure the leaders of the movement would be from that political affiliation.



We must resist this because:

- Our form of government is exceptional and worthy of preservation.
- Unless viewed as something special and something to be earned, voting will never be taken seriously.
- National allegiance and regulated borders are essential for national defense.
- People can't vote objectively if they lack exclusive national allegiance.
- The naturalization process is an essential part of an orderly and effective immigration system.



The belief in American Exceptionalism demands that any movement to give non-citizens, and even illegal immigrants, voting rights must be blocked!