

The most disturbing aspect to the present political situation in the U.S. is the way the Republicans have succeeded in undermining the electoral process. Electoral malfeasance in Florida in 2000 brought about the Presidency of George W. Bush. Previous Republican presidents had paved the way for this debacle by packing the Supreme Court with conservatives.

In this coming election at least two swing states, Florida and Ohio, are actively undermining the electoral process by policies deliberately designed to discourage voters likely to vote democratic from voting. It's a real shame for interest groups and political parties to be stopping people from voting. We should want as many people to be able to vote as possible win or lose regardless of party affiliation. Yet some want to shrink electorate so fewer people get to decide what happens to all of us.

The electoral process is further distorted by recent decisions by the Supreme Court allowing unlimited corporate contributions to political campaigns. Naturally the corporations will donate to candidates whom they perceive to favor their interests and their contributions overwhelm the contributions of private citizens. The U.S. has become an extreme example of a plutocracy.