



One Person, No Vote: Examining the History of Voter Suppression Carol Anderson, Ph.D.

Charles Howard Candler Professor and Chair of African American Studies, Emory University.
Author, *One Person, No Vote* and *White Rage*

Monday, October 1, 2018, 7:00 PM
Evanston Township High School Auditorium
1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201

Presented by Family Action Network (FAN),
in partnership with North Shore Country Day School and the YWCA Evanston/North Shore.

This event is **free and open to the public** and will not be taped. Suitable for youth 12+.
INFO: familyactionnetwork.net

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: CAROL ANDERSON, Ph.D.

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Monday, October 1, 2018, One Person, No Vote: Examining the History of Voter Suppression, 7:00 PM, Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201.

In her 2016 *New York Times* bestseller *White Rage*, **Carol Anderson, Ph.D.** laid bare an insidious history of policies that have systematically impeded black progress in America, from 1965 to the present. With passion and scholarship, the book examined Reconstruction, Jim Crow, the Great Migration, and the Civil Rights Movement.

With her new book, *One Person, No Vote*, she chronicles a related history: the rollbacks to African American participation in the vote since the 2015 Supreme Court decision that eviscerated the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Known as the *Shelby* ruling, this decision effectively allowed districts with a demonstrated history of racial discrimination to change voting requirements without approval from the Department of Justice.

One Person, No Vote opens with a review of the history of disenfranchisement of minority voters in the U.S. While the Constitution's Fifteenth Amendment bars discrimination "on account of race," many states devised ways to meet the letter of the law while undercutting the spirit of the law. For one example, in 1890 the "Mississippi Plan" was passed, which mandated an array of poll taxes, literacy tests, understanding clauses, voter registration rules, and "good character" clauses. The Mississippi Plan also targeted "the ignorant and vicious white," and once the Plan was widely adopted throughout the South, voter turnout plummeted to less than half of age-eligible whites (after a peak at nearly 80%). The collapse of black voter turnout was even more shocking: by 1940, only 3 percent of age-eligible blacks were registered to vote in the South.

The book later focuses on the aftermath of the *Shelby* ruling, and Prof. Anderson follows the present-day sobering story of racial discrimination as more and more states adopt voter suppression laws. She explains how voter suppression works, from photo ID requirements to gerrymandering to poll closures.

Prof. Anderson is the **Charles Howard Candler Professor and Chair of African American Studies at Emory University**. She was named a **Guggenheim Fellow for Constitutional Studies**. Her previous book, *White Rage*, won the **2016 National Book Critics Circle Award** for criticism.

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