

## Conclusions

The best voting rules are fast, easy and fair.

They **strengthen** the votes supporting:  
a **Chairperson**, a **Council**, a **Budget**, or a **Policy**.  
They also increase turnout, transparency and more.

These **colorful** pages show fast and fair voting  
for any group from schoolroom to nation.



## Actions

Learn more at [AccurateDemocracy.com](http://AccurateDemocracy.com).

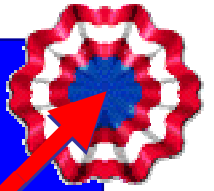
Then build support in your school, club or town with  
**FairVote**, The Center for Voting and Democracy.

Steps toward accurate democracy include:

- Organize voters**, with Movable Votes.
- Represent everyone**, with Full Representation.
- Empower everyone**, with Fair-share Spending.
- Center policies**, with Pairwise winners.

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# Accurate Democracy



## Primer & Workshop

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## Democracy's Tragedies

The Northwest has been ripped apart for 25 years by repeated reversals of environmental laws. Hasty logging in times of weak regulation lays waste to resources. Periodic bans on logging bankrupt the workers and small businesses. A **political pendulum** swings; it cuts down forests and species, families and communities.

**Old ways of adding up votes** fail to represent large groups in many places. In North Carolina, there were enough black voters to fill two election districts. But they were a 25% minority spread over eight districts. So they won no federal representation; for over 100 years they were invisible as voters.

More stories inside . . .

### What's Wrong?

**Our defective voting rules** come from the failure to realize there are different types of election; and these require different methods of voting.

We all know how to decide the simplest sort of issue: A question with only two answers is voted 'yes' or 'no'. For such an issue, the yes and no votes are enough.

But as soon as three candidates run for one office, the situation becomes more complicated. Then a yes-no vote is no longer suitable.

## Ethical Benefits of Better Rules

### Elections

- Give voters **real choices** of candidates who can win, by electing **fair shares** of reps from all major groups. That encourages a wide variety of candidates, discussion of issues, and **voter turnout**. Ensure **minority rights** to voting and representation.
- Reduce wasted votes** and **safe seats**. Reduce campaign hysteria, and regional **polarization**.
- Reduce the effects of **spoilers**, gerrymanders, and unequal **campaign funding**.

### Legislation

- Give fair representation to all major groups, so the council may enact laws with **real majorities**.
- Select a **moderator** with wide appeal to serve as the central swing voter among interest-group advocates.
- Minimize** chances and effects of **manipulation**. Detach poison-pill and free-rider amendments. Reduce policy deadlocks and upheavals.
- Give all reps equal **funds** for projects and agencies. And make each rep's spending visible to her voters.

Online pages list more benefits of each rule.  
The workshop shows how they meet those goals.