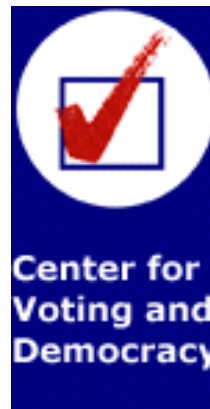


Who is CVD?

The Center for Voting and Democracy studies how voting systems affect participation, representation and governance and disseminates its findings to civic organizations, elected officials, journalists and the general public.

We are particularly knowledgeable about: 1) redistricting alternatives; 2) the range of proportional representation and semi-proportional voting systems for use in legislative elections; and 3) the option of instant runoff voting for elections with a single winner (like a mayor, governor or district representative).

We believe it is essential to consider voting system reforms that could reinvigorate American politics and provide fairer representation of political minorities, women and racial minorities. We work nationally and in many communities with a range of groups and individuals that share our goals.



The Center for Voting and Democracy

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The Center for Voting and

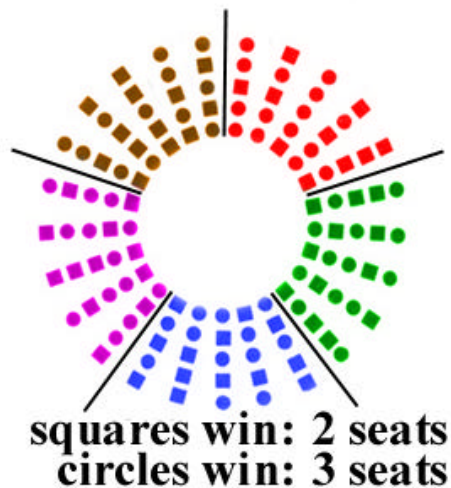
www.fairvote.org

Lessons From REDISTRICTING ROULETTE

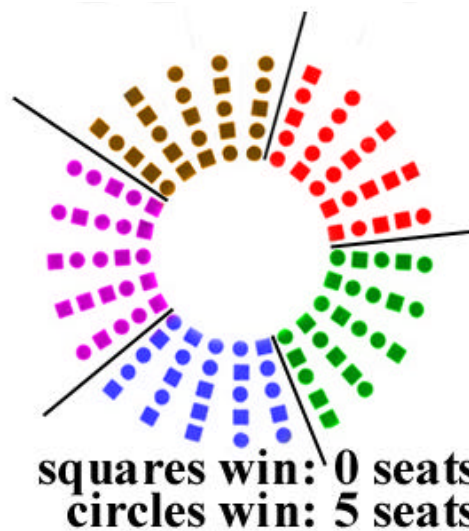


Lessons From Redistricting Roulette

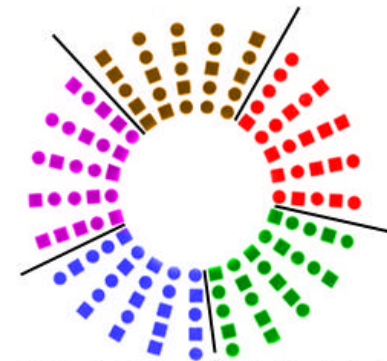
Welcome to the Center for Voting and Democracy's "game" of Redistricting Roulette. Single member districts may provide fairer representation than the old at-large systems. However, they often can leave it to chance — and who draws the district lines — as to whether YOUR political viewpoint will be represented. In the three examples reprinted on this page, you can see very different results.



Depending upon where the lines are drawn, the same number of "circle" voters and "square" voters can be represented by a disproportionate number of either group. For more information about how changing the boundaries of districts can give vastly different electoral results, visit the computerized version of our redistricting wheel, at www.fairvote.org/wheel.



"Redistricting Roulette" shows that even single-member districts cannot ensure one person/one vote. But real redistricting is hardly a game. Each redistricting cycle may drastically change WHO gets their voices heard in local, state and federal elections. The hand that spins the wheel has a LOT of impact on who wins and who loses.



Redistricting will take place in political jurisdictions across the United States in 2001-2002. Civic activists should make sure redistricting is not left up to chance — or just political insiders. And while redistricting may be the most dramatic example of how our electoral rules structure our political choices and representation, it is hardly the only one.

Check out our website for more information about redistricting and alternative voting systems that can provide strong guarantees of fair representation.

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