

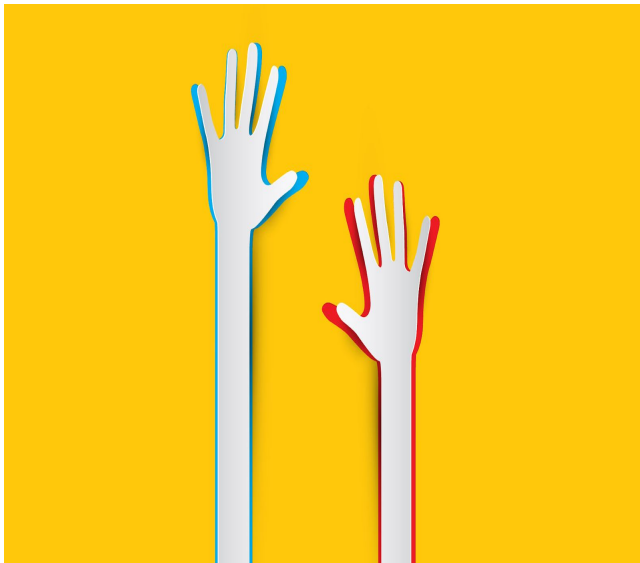
October Article



Patriarchy

By: Amruta Aradwad

Picture source: <https://www.statnews.com/2019/12/10/patriarchy-fading-science-then-i-saw-it-in-the-data/>



Patriarchy. It is the form of social organization, where the male is the supreme authority of his family. The origins of patriarchy are closely related to the concept of gender roles, or the set of social and behavioral norms that are considered to be socially appropriate for individuals of a specific sex. In patriarchy, men are entitled to certain powers women aren't. For instance, in the olden days, maybe horse riding or hunting was done majorly by men. It is a society in which power is carried down by the first male lineage. In today's times, if a woman is intelligent and independent she is considered a problem for the social order rather than an integral part of it. Young women today are taught that they can be susceptible to vulnerability, it's primary focus is not equality with men

but rather protection from them. But many things have changed today as women have been able to (if not mostly) overcome their challenges, we have encountered many great female leaders or personalities: like Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Michelle Obama, Mother Teresa, Shakuntala Devi, Jane Goodall, etc. These are just some of the millions among the ones who have their own stories of achievements but are yet to shine.

Presidential Debates

By: Avyukth Bhattu

(Name)Picture Source: <https://www.bbc.com/pidgin/tori-54352004>



If you are a voter who doesn't know who they're going to vote for or independent and didn't really like any of the candidates but still would like to vote had a really rough time. In the first presidential debate both the candidates were childish, and you didn't really get anything out of it and it seemed like a waste of time. Then there was the 2nd presidential debate which got canceled because Trump refused to do a virtual

meeting. So, the voters really only had the third debate to look forward to which would kind of solidify who they would vote for. The good news is that with this debate the candidates did respect each other at important times and acted like mature adults for most of it which allowed us to understand their viewpoints clearly. After watching this debate, I was surprised and if I'm being honest this was actually a tie in my books. I agreed with Biden's ideas on topics such as immigration, the HEROES/CARES act, and how we should be dealing with the virus. I disagreed heavily with his opinion of drunk driving and driving under the influence policy where there is no jail time only rehabilitation which is absurd in my opinion. I also didn't like his opinion on the minimum wage compared to Trump's view on it. Now moving on to Trump I liked his idea on the minimum wage and that should be left to the states and China should pay for the virus outbreak that it caused. I didn't like his only approach to the virus: a vaccine that we don't even know if it will happen and in fact, he said that we should open up the country because that can lead to a humongous spike. Everything else that was said in the debate was okay and seemed fair when comparing who said what and some topics where the best of both worlds would be to just compromise instead of pursuing 1 idea. It would really help if we did have another presidential debate because it would help tremendously but out of everything I've seen I am leaning more towards Trump for this year's election but a mess up is all it takes to ruin this. So my plan is to actually vote because everyone's voice should be heard but keep a lookout for anything else that happens to the candidates.

Topic:

By: Kaushya Bhattu

Picture Source: <https://time.com/5876599/election-2020-coronavirus/>

So we are all aware that there is a Pandemic going on right now, and right now is such an important time because of the 2020 election. So how does the pandemic pose a challenge in the elections? Obviously, there are so many changes due to safety concerns, and people's ability to vote during the current situation. A couple of things have changed, inevitably posing a challenge for the public and the candidates. How the campaigns are conducted have changed, because some campaigns may raise safety concerns or others may not be possible to do in this current situation. How we vote has changed, allowing more options such as mailing in our voting ballots ahead of time. It has canceled conventions, relegated fundraising and campaigning to the digital and virtual realm, and forced many states to rapidly change how people get and

submit their ballots, all these changes sometimes being not efficient and unpredictable. Although some advantages are the topics being talked about at the debate. There is more focus, along with new attention on topics such as health, the Covid-19 response, racial inequality, etc. Also, the pandemic affected the debates because the second debate was canceled due to the risk of getting covid from one candidate's view and the refusal to have this debate be virtual.

Concerns in voting by mail! - draft

By: Ayemhenre Isikhuemen

Picture Source: Tiffany Tertipes – “Election mail envelopes with face masks”



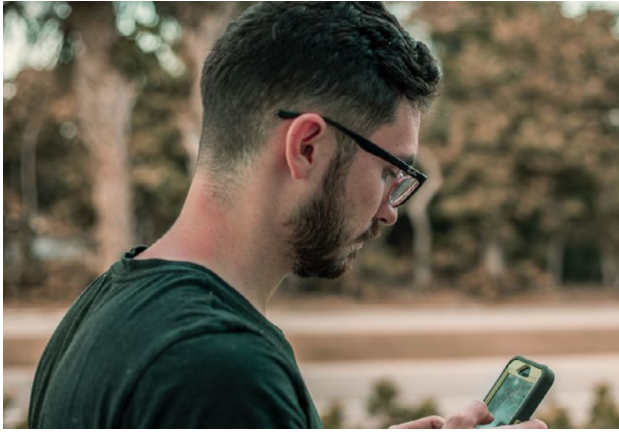
In the new Covid-19 era, everything has changed including how to vote, so you choose to vote by mail to stay safe while practicing your right, but then your graceful ballot is grabbed by some grubby hands who don't agree with you. Only for you to find out a while after the election has taken place it was meddled with by Russians.

Many people fear such an outcome in the new, and intense environment we find ourselves in. In order to prevent this nightmare scenario institutions such as the Virginia center for voting work to prevent voting fraud. These state voting centers adopted a policy to return any ballot that could have been tampered with so it can be resubmitted properly. People have reported that mailing services are untrustworthy. There have been claims of these services receiving ballots only to sort out the ones they want to be counted in favor of their “side”, or would simply have an error in the ballot. There was a case in New Jersey where a mail carrier had trash about 100 election ballots, and unfortunately, many more of these cases of this nature have been made. While this is happening others are claiming that after research; voting fraud is almost non-existent, with most of the allegations being baseless, and mistakes present are on part of voters and administrators. Unsurprisingly most of these issues have been turned into a partisan tug of wars, many of the cases mentioned before has shown that these frauds were connected to the current president Trump in ways that would hinder him, while sources who pointed out the voter fraud is a “myth” formulated by the white house to discredit the opposition. If you haven't noticed this discussion resembles the 2016 election where there were claims of voting fraud in support of the Trump candidate, while he and his side claim there was none and the election was “fair and square”. It is ironically vivid how foggy these elections are going to be as many are probably unsure of the circumstance of voting and the nightmare scenario seems only inevitable. It is hard to guarantee if our votes actually do matter, which is all the more reason to keep a close eye on the circumstance by looking into what multiple sources say and on your own ballot.

How does the media affect the common people?

By: Ayemhenre Isikhuemhen

Picture source: Jacob Townsend – “untitled image”



We live in an age where knowledge and information can easily be spread around the world, even when you are relaxing in your bed and scrolling through your phone you are being fed ideas. Thanks to the Media which is the source of information and ideas, which we are presented with good ideas, true information about what's going on in the world, or apparently false information. You should probably mind that these media outlets aren't

only big news channels like CNN, Fox News, or CCTV. Sources could be tiktoks, memes, social media forums, videos, or anything that allows for the transfer of information. So when we receive this information we can be persuaded with it, like an advertisement trying to sell a product or a group trying to prove a point. Everyone is trying to prove a point and it's very common for groups to spread out the information in order to support their idea. Remember the trendy videos where people are known as Social Justice Warriors and painted them out to be “immature”, “crazed”, and “irrational” liberals. Showing off such a foul side of an opposite side of the political spectrum is actually going to convince people away from that side which supports the other side. It's also common that people on the conservative side of the spectrum are stereotyped to be unsympathetic to other's emotions or as a “Fascist Racist”. Overall two parties are creating narratives that base the foul aspect of the other side. Such content can and has created a divide between the people of the factions. Usually, such a scenario is negated, because there are other ideas with different narratives that prevent such a tug of war. An important question is what would happen when we lose those other narratives, and it on a one versus one tug war? We simply can look to modern America, after all, we see this in practice, and it so happens that in 1983, 90% of media companies were owned by 50 companies now in 2011 by 6 companies, it is clear that two parties can easily have enough room to grow into what we see today. This situation we see right is seriously dangerous. With people slowly becoming divided by party as we lose respect for each side while almost anything can become a political issue like climate change or wearing a mask, it spells doom for America. I insist that we respect each other no matter what, because we are all human, and we get a habit to look at things as they fundamentally are.

