

Voting Technology

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Voting Background

- *Why we vote*: obvious
- *How we vote*
 - anonymous choice of candidates
 - no connection between voter and vote
 - acceptable accuracy
 - what kinds of errors?
 - how many are tolerable?
 - accountability
 - confidence in the results

**WILL YOUR VOTE
BE COUNTED?**

**VOTING PROBLEMS
OR CONCERNS?**

(814) 769-9566

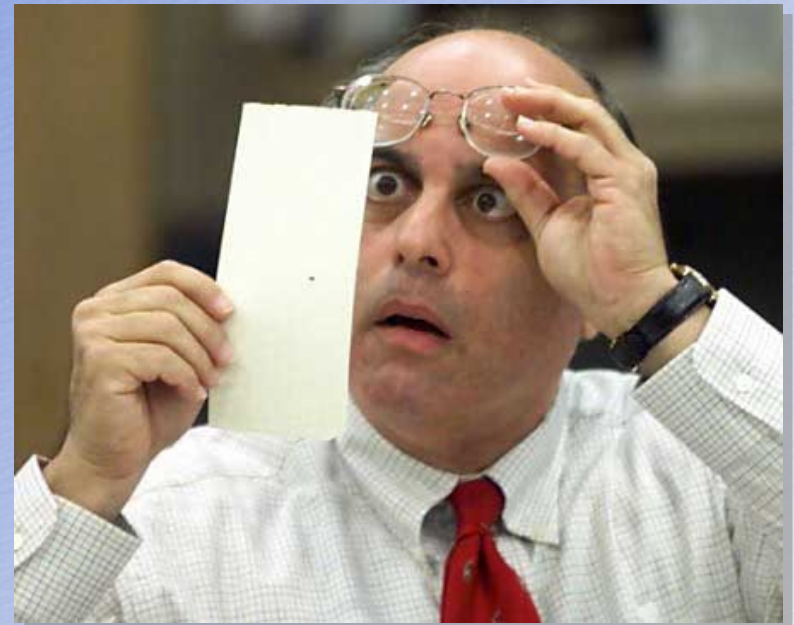
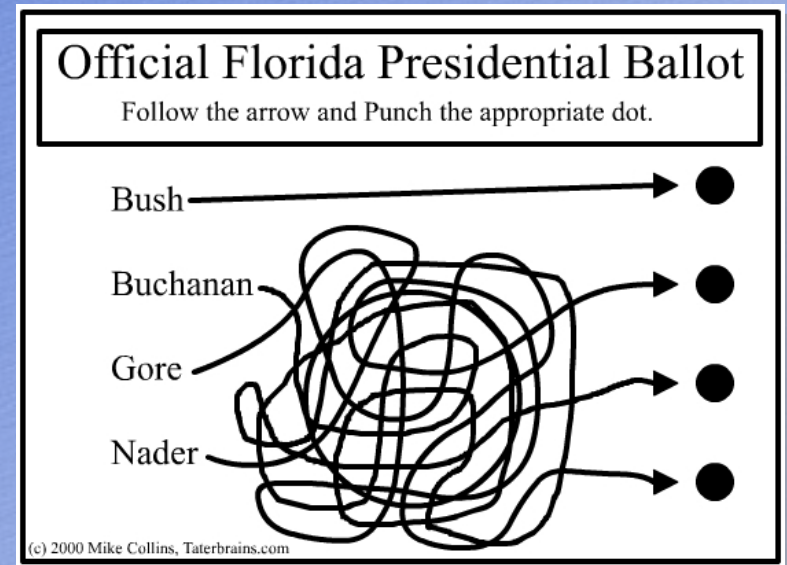
concernedvoters@gmail.com

National Hotline: 1-888-SAV-VOTE

Concerned Voters of Centre County
www.concernedvoters.org

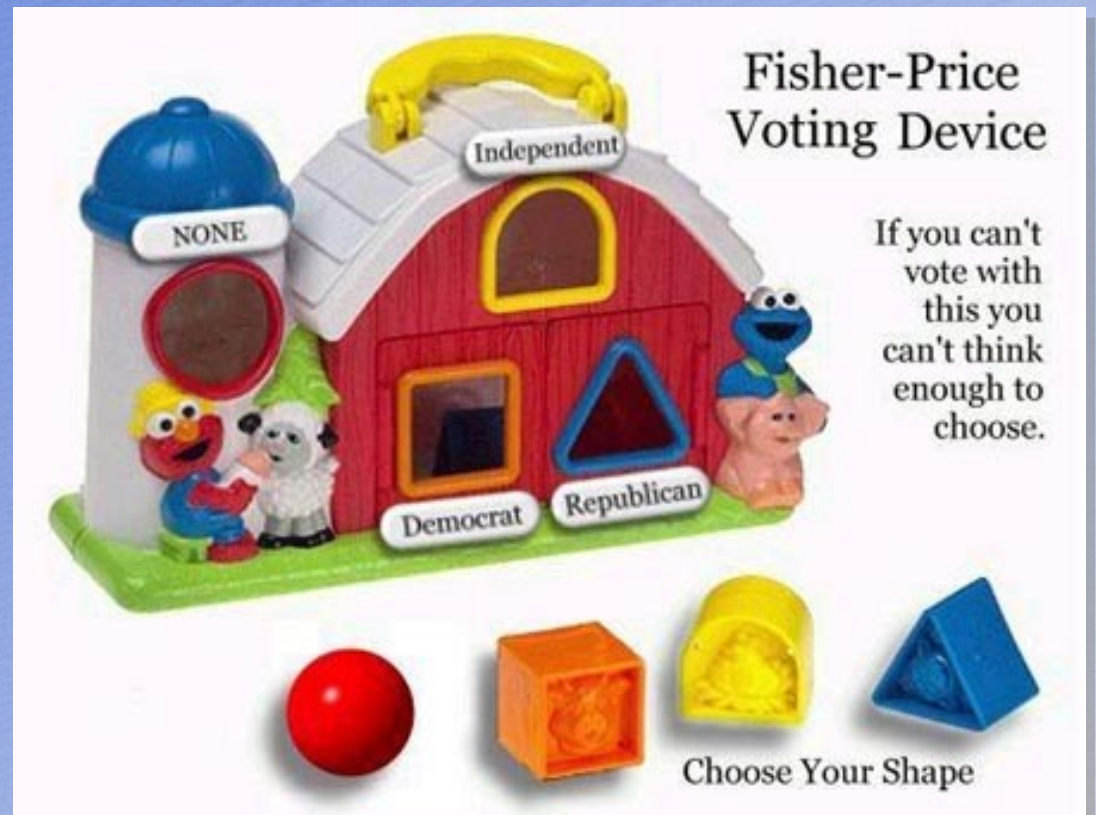
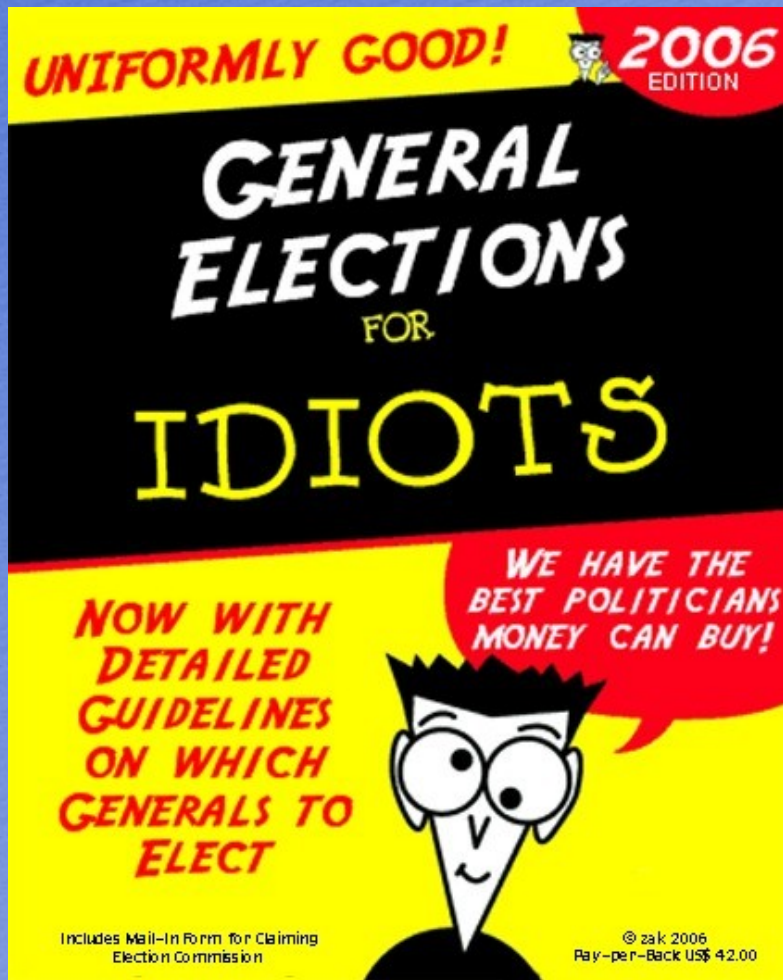
Motivation for Changes

- 2000 Florida debacle
 - undermined confidence in system
- Help America Vote Act (HAVA)
 - \$3.8 billion program
 - nationwide goals
 - overhaul voting infrastructure
 - establish standards
 - provide oversight



Motivation for Changes

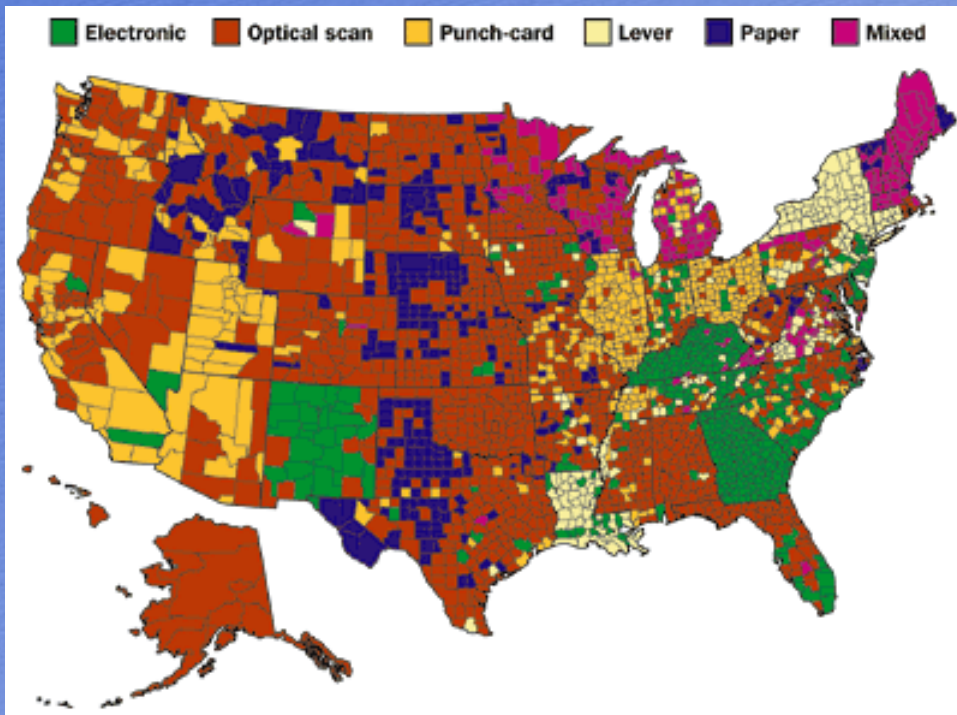
- The best jokes come closest to reality
 - but they reflect lack of confidence in the system



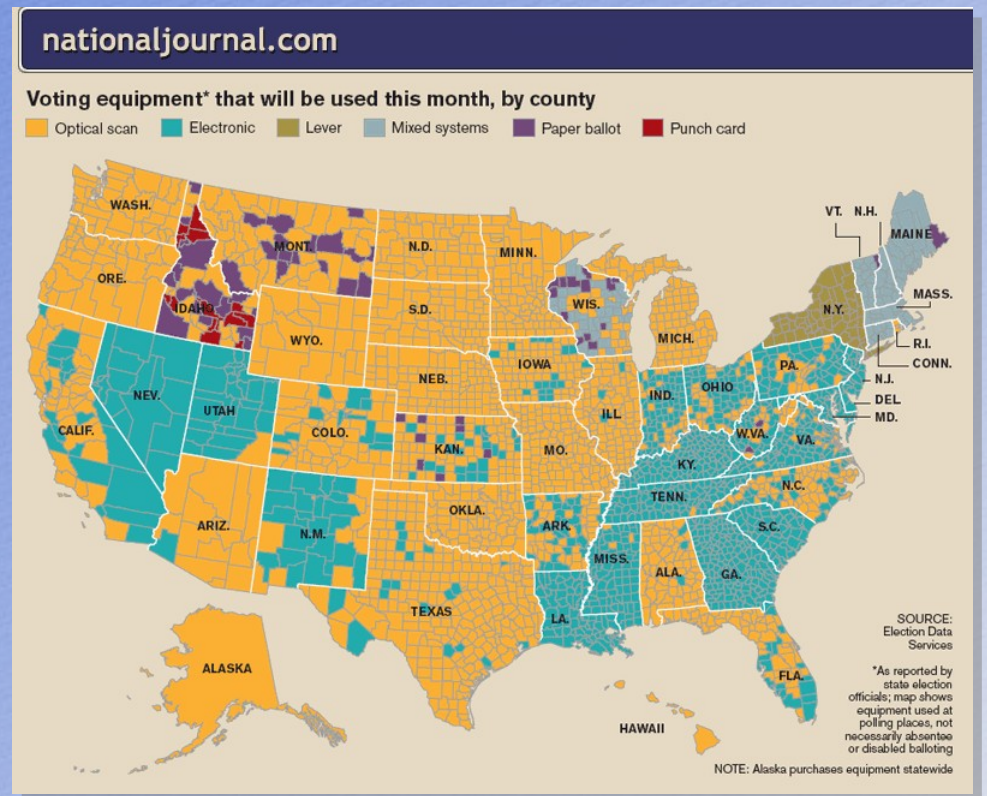
Motivation for Changes

- Still, it was a great idea:

2002



2007



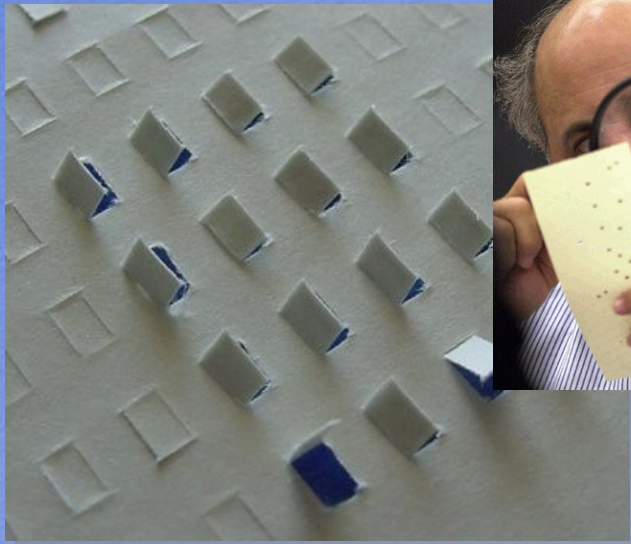
- optical
- electronic

Motivation for Changes

- Great idea, but . . .
 - everyone wants a piece of the \$3.8 billion pie
 - the best product may not win
 - therefore, we're back to the confidence issue again

Voting Technologies : Mechanical

- Big, clunky, expensive, difficult to maintain, etc.
- Very old-school
 - let's get with the 21st century
 - never mind that they work well
- Accountable



Voting Technologies : Electrical / Optical

- Non-mechanical
- Quite reliable and accurate
- Also accountable



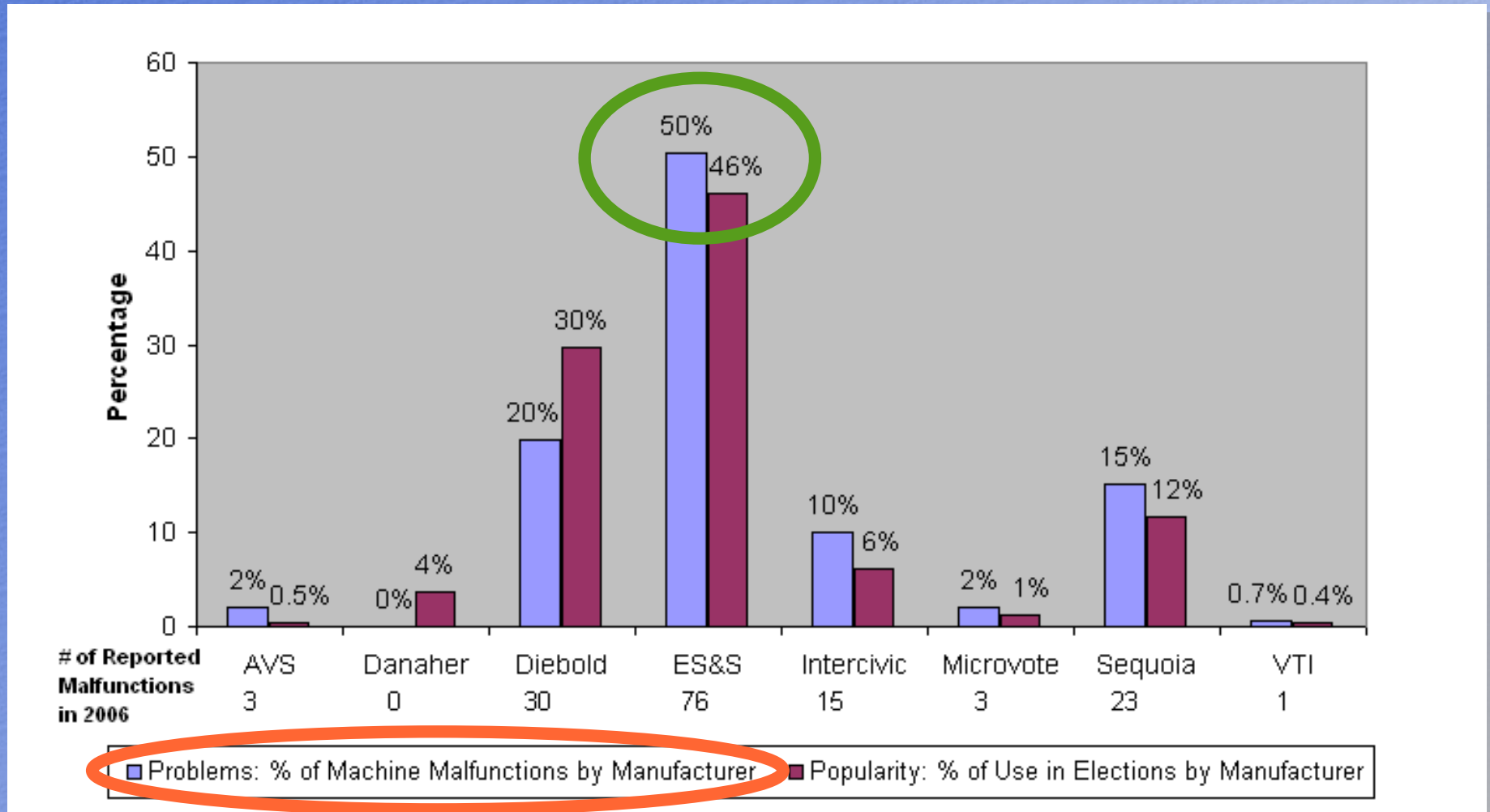
Voting Technologies : Computerized

- Great technology
 - better
 - faster
 - cheaper
 - easier to use
 - etc.



Voting Technologies : Computerized

- Great technology
 - but perhaps too much confidence by manufacturers?

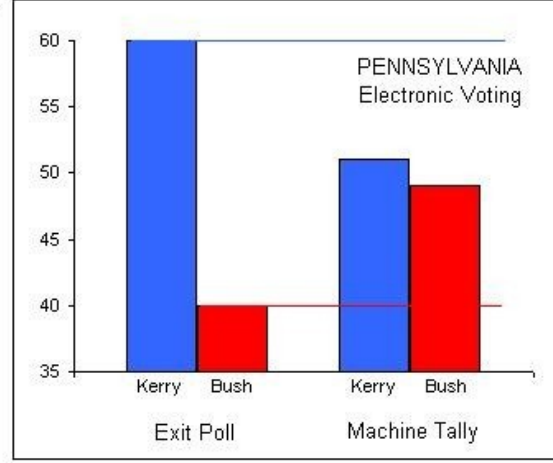
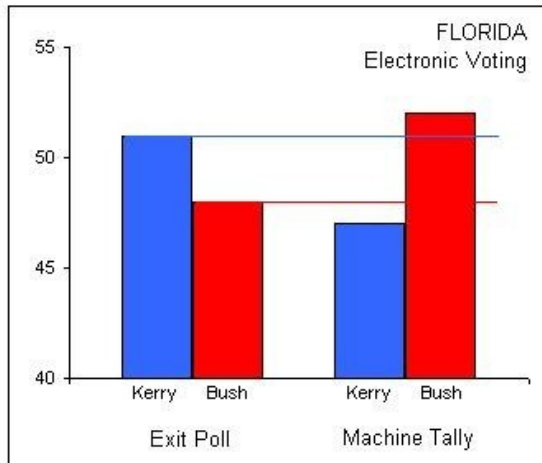
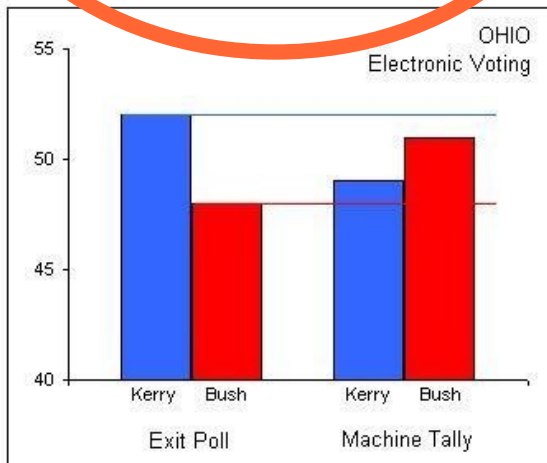
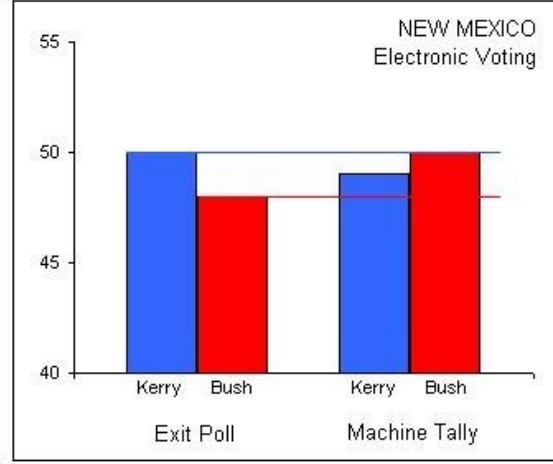
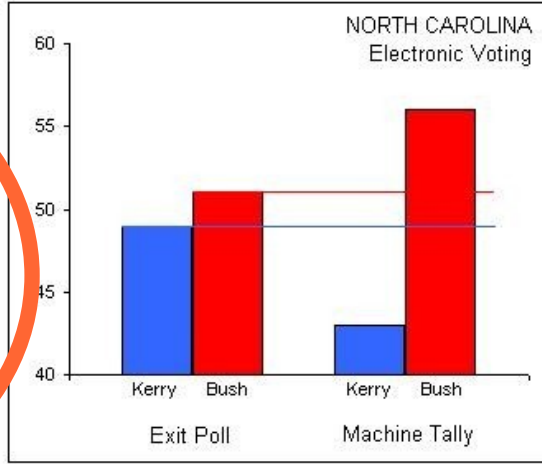
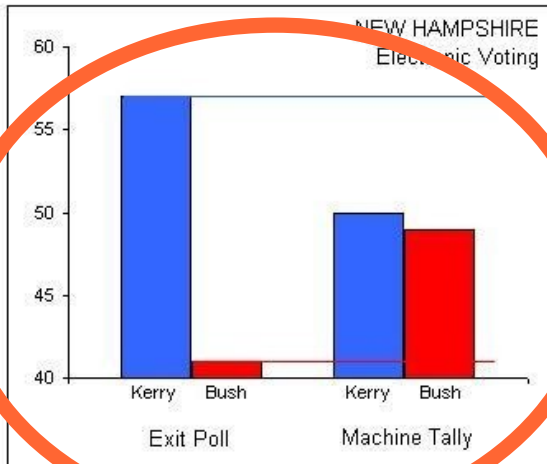
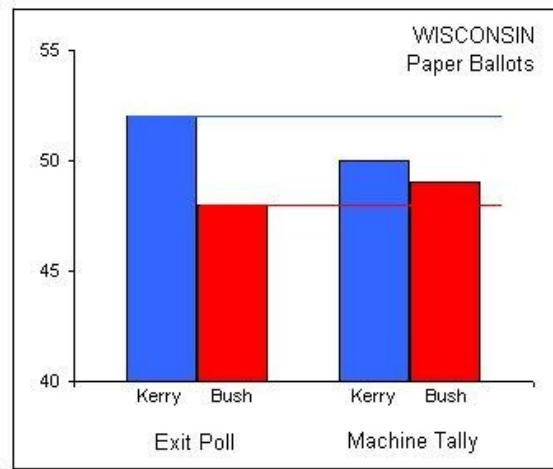
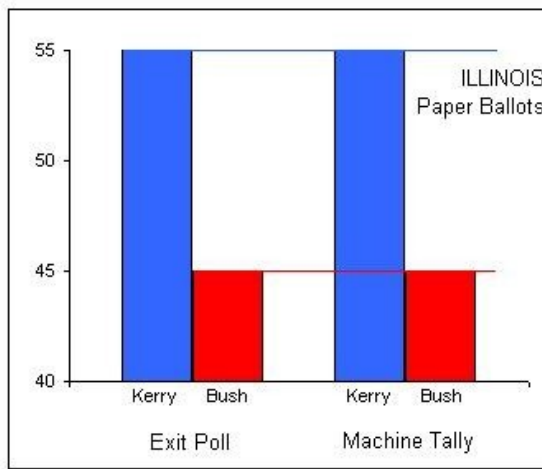
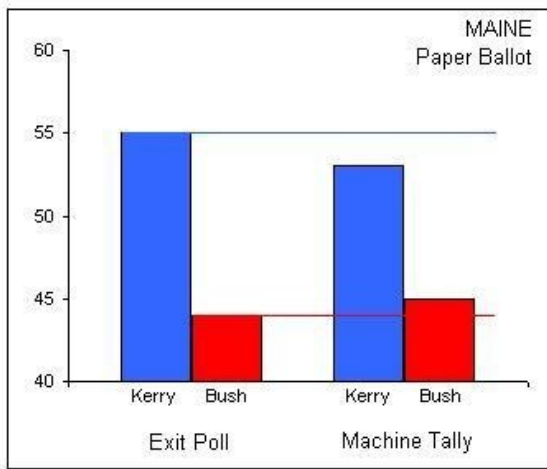


Windows

A fatal exception 0E has occurred at 0028:C0011E36 in UXD UMM(01) + 00010E36. The current application will be terminated.

- * Press any key to terminate the current application.
- * Press CTRL+ALT+DEL again to restart your computer. You will lose any unsaved information in all applications.

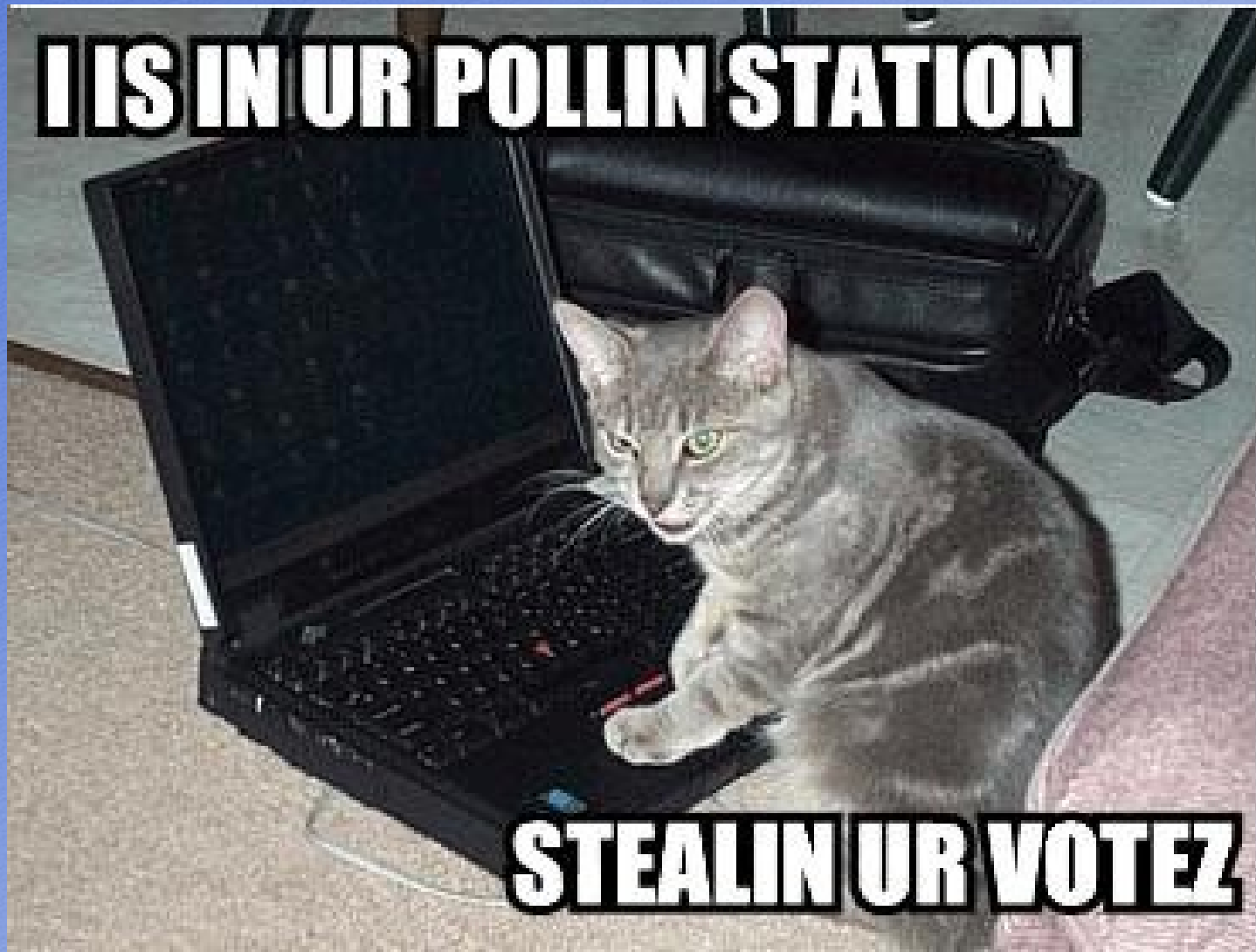
Press any key to continue _



Also not uncommon: more votes than voters

Voting Technologies : Computerized

- Perception drives confidence



Conclusion

- Voting isn't perfect
 - never was
 - never will be
- Electronic voting has great potential
 - but some serious issues need to be addressed first
 - and people need to be confident about the process

Questions?

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See <http://votingmachines.procon.org>

GET OUT AND VOTE!



NOVEMBER 4