

## Elections Research

 Tags: [elections](#), [political\\_science](#), [visions\\_voices](#), [voting](#)

This guide was originally created to support the Visions & Voices event: "Vote Film 2008." This guide contains information about the 2008 elections as well as resources for research in ANY election.

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### Useful Websites

- [FactCheck.org](#)
- [Project Vote Smart](#)
- [Commission on Presidential Debates](#)
- [US Government Website on Voting & Elections](#)

### Media Coverage of the 2008 Election

- [Election 2008: NPR](#)
- [New York Times Election Guide](#)

### Political Science Topics: Research Guides

[http://www.usc.edu/libraries/subjects/political\\_science/](http://www.usc.edu/libraries/subjects/political_science/)


- [California Politics \[pdf\]](#)
- [Human Rights Law \[pdf\]](#)
- [Political Psychology \[pdf\]](#)
- [Political Science \[pdf\]](#)

### Reports on the Issues

Use this box to search for reports on the issues (e.g. "Abortion"). Reports include: an overview of the issue, pro/con viewpoints, and background information, including a timeline.

The following sources are being searched:

- [CQ Researcher](#) 

### Recommended Databases

- [CQ Weekly](#)  
Full text access to CQ Weekly, known as the pre-eminent resource for Congress-watchers who need nonpartisan information on Capitol Hill
- [CQ Researcher](#)  
CQ Researcher is noted for its in-depth, unbiased coverage of current events and controversial issues. Each single-themed, 12,000-word report is researched and written by a seasoned journalist, each providing researchers with an introductory overview; background and chronology on the topic; an assessment of the current situation; tables and maps; pro/con statements and bibliographies of key sources. The CQ Researcher Archive adds more than 3,000 reports, published between 1923 and 1990.
- [LexisNexis Congressional](#)  
Indexes and abstracts a broad spectrum of Congressional publications, including hearings (testimony), committee prints, reports, documents, and full text of bills and public laws.
- [LexisNexis State Capital](#)  
Provides comprehensive access to state bills and laws, constitutions, proposed and enacted, regulations, newspapers of record articles about legislative issues affecting the states.
- [National Journal Group's Policy Central](#)  
Provides full text access to news and information about Congress, including bills status reports, an archive of campaign ads, daily analysis and commentary on Congress, campaigns, and the media, and a fully searchable database of the latest national opinion polls on campaigns, national figures, and key issues.
- [Public Affairs Information Services \(PAIS\) International](#)  
Indexes selective subjects and bibliographic access to periodicals, books, hearings, reports, gray literature, government publications, Internet resources, and other publications from 120 countries.

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### Related Guides

[Government Information \\*](#)  
by [Robert Labaree](#), [Sherry Mosley](#) - Last Updated Jan 21, 2014  
This site lists links to databases and scholarly web sites that support access to and analysis of government information.  
537 views this year

[Political Science \\*](#)  
by [Robert Labaree](#) - Last Updated Aug 5, 2014  
Below are links to databases and scholarly web sites that support the study of political science and its related sub-disciplines.  
3,383 views this year

[Public Administration & Policy \\*](#)  
by [Robert Labaree](#) - Last Updated Jun 16, 2014  
This guide provides information and links in the field of public administration and related sub-disciplines  
1,094 views this year

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### Vote Film Series (2008)

[Visions & Voices](#) and the USC Libraries have collaborated to create a series of resource guides that allow you to build on your experiences at Visions & Voices events.

About the Vote Film series [[Visions & Voices description](#)]: On November 4,

2008 Americans will have the opportunity to make a dramatic imprint on history by participating in what has been called the most important election of our time. Organized by Brenda Goodman of the USC School of Cinematic Arts, [the Vote Film 2008 series](#) explores the intersections of politics and media.

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### Films Screened in the 2008 Film Series at USC

DVDs can be checked out at [Leavey Library](#), Circulation Desk.

#### [Recount: The Story of the 2000 Presidential Election \(DVD\) - written by Danny Strong; directed by Jay Roach](#)

 Call Number: [Leavey Library LVDVD 2530](#)

Starring Kevin Spacey, Bob Balaban, Ed Begley, Jr., Laura Dern, John Hurt, Denis Leary, Bruce McGill, and Tom Wilkinson, Recount brings viewers behind the scenes at the controversial Florida recount. This illuminating, hugely entertaining film pulls back the veil on the headlines to explore the human drama surrounding the most controversial presidential election in U.S. history.

#### [Shampoo \(DVD\) - written by Robert Towne and Warren Beatty](#)

 Call Number: [Leavey Library LVDVD 2528](#)

Written by Warren Beatty and Robert Towne. Produced by Warren Beatty. Directed by Hal Ashby and edited by Robert Jones. The script slams all kinds of politics: presidential, sexual, business, show business...all with equal vengeance. SHAMPOO is something of a naughty cousin to Beatty's more straightforward political satire BULWORTH. The melancholy, sparsely used music score is by Paul Simon.

#### [Election day: One Day to Make It Count \(DVD\) - directed by Kathy Chevigny](#)

 Call Number: [Leavey Library \[On order\]](#)

Forget the pie charts, color-coded maps and hyperventilating pundits. What's the street-level experience of voters in today's America? In a triumph of documentary storytelling, Election Day combines eleven stories--all shot simultaneously on November 2, 2004, from dawn until long past midnight--into one. Factory workers, ex-felons, harried moms, Native American activists, and diligent poll watchers, from South Dakota to Florida, take the process of democracy into their own hands. The result: an entertaining, inspiring and sometimes unsettling tapestry of citizens determined on one fateful day to make their votes count.

#### [Election \(DVD\) - directed by Alexander Payne](#)

 Call Number: [Leavey Library LVDVD 1080](#)

A high school teacher's personal life becomes complicated as he works with students during the school elections. The film received an Academy Award nomination for Best Adapted Screenplay, a Golden Globe nomination for Witherspoon in the Best Actress category, and the Independent Spirit Award for Best Film in 1999. It stars Matthew Broderick, Reese Witherspoon, and Chris Klein.

### For Further Viewing

These and many other DVDs can be checked out at [Leavey Library](#), Circulation Desk.

#### [Free & Fair Elections in 2008? \(DVD\) - David Brancaccio, senior editor and writer](#)

 Call Number: [Leavey Library LVDVD 2539](#)

How safe is your right to vote? In a revealing interview, former Justice Department official and voting rights lawyer David Becker questions whether the 2008 election will be free and fair. He discusses voter suppression, voter purging, voter identification problems, and other issues.

#### [Hacking Democracy \(DVD\) - directed by Simon Aridzzone and Russell Michaels](#)

 Call Number: [Leavey Library LVDVD 2534](#)

This documentary exposes gaping holes in the security of America's electronic voting system. Takes a nonpartisan, clear-eyed look at the secrecy, cronyism, and incompetence of elections in present-day America as it captures a citizen's movement intent on taking back elections and democracy itself.

#### [New Media, Religion, and Their Impact on Elections \(DVD\) - Presenter: Bill Moyers](#)

 Call Number: [Leavey Library \[On order\]](#)

No one can dispute the importance of new media in the battle to win the White House in 2008. But what does it all mean for American democracy? Bill Moyers gets perspective on the impact of blogs, YouTube, and social networking on the election process from Kathleen Hall Jamieson, director of the Annenberg Public Policy Center. Then, with evangelical pastor Mike Huckabee surging in the polls and Mitt Romney giving a widely

anticipated speech on his Mormon faith, Moyers and Jamieson are joined by scholar Melissa Rogers for a discussion of religion in politics. Rogers is visiting professor of Religion and Public Policy at Wake Forest University Divinity School.

**So Goes the Nation: A True Story of How Elections Are Won -- And Lost (DVD) - directed by Adam Del Deo and James D. Stern**

Call Number: Leavey Library LVYDVD 1930

Examines America's electoral process through the eyes of diverse politicians, activists, and voters in Ohio during the 2004 election. Shows how the voting public is manipulated by the parties' leaders and their political marketing strategies.

**Uncounted: The New Math of American Elections (DVD) - David Earnhardt, producer, director, and writer**

Call Number: Leavey Library [On order]

This film shows how election fraud threatens the 2008 election. It examines how easy it is to change election outcomes by manipulating vote counts. Noted computer programmers, statisticians, journalists and election officials provide evidence.

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### Social Networking Sites

Just for fun! Compare your positions to others in your peer group.

- [MySpace My Debates](#)
- [Facebook Election '08](#)

### Find The Candidate's Record

If a candidate was (or is) a member of the Congress (House or Senate), you can use [Lexis-Nexis Congressional](#) to look at their record. See the file below for 2-step instructions!


[Two-Step Instructions for Congressional Record Search](#)

### Candidates' websites

Note: As links become inactive, (e.g. the Barr-Root campaign website), they will be removed. Some candidates' web sites will continue to be active but will reference later years' elections (e.g. 2010).

- [Baldwin-Castle](#)
- [McCain-Palin](#)
- [McKinney-Clemente](#)
- [Nader-Gonzalez](#)
- [Obama-Biden](#)
- [See All The Candidates \(State-by-State ballot searching\) at Project Vote Smart](#)

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### Online Catalog (Homer)

Find books and other materials in the library!

Search Keyword(s)

 in

 words or phrase

Limit by

Library:

 ALL

Language:

 ANY

Format:

 ANY

Year published:

Sort by

 Newest to Oldest

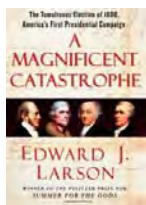
### Recommended Reading



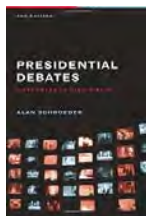
Election fraud: detecting and deterring electoral manipulation - Alvarez, R. Michael  
 Call Number: VKC Library JK1994.E43  
 ISBN: 0815701381



The First Campaign: globalization, the Web, and the race for the White House - Graff, Garrett M.  
 Call Number: VKC Library JK526 2008.G73  
 ISBN: 0374155038



A Magnificent Catastrophe: the tumultuous election of 1800, America's first presidential campaign - Larson, Edward J.  
 Call Number: Doheny Library E330.L37  
 ISBN: 0743293169



Presidential Debates: fifty years of high-risk TV - Schroeder, Alan  
 Call Number: VKC Library JF2112.D43S37  
 ISBN: 0231141041



Rethinking American Electoral Democracy - Streb, Matthew J.  
 Call Number: VKC Library JK1976.S77  
 ISBN: 0415961394



Screening Politics: The Politician in American Movies, 1931-2001 - Keyishian, Harry  
 Call Number: Leavey Library PN1995.9.P6K46  
 ISBN: 0810845814

War and the Media: Reportage and Propaganda, 1900-



2003 - Connelly, Mark  
Call Number: VKC Library P96.W35W37  
ISBN: 1860649599

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### Selected Journals

- Campaigns & Elections**  
 A professional and trade journal publishing news, advice and commentary for modern political campaigns. Provides broad coverage of contemporary American elections and political processes. Articles, written by academic and political insiders, offer advice
- Journal of Political Ideologies**  
 The Journal of Political Ideologies is dedicated to the analysis of political ideology both in its theoretical and conceptual aspects, and with reference to the nature and roles of concrete ideological manifestations and practices.
- Perspectives on Politics**  
 A journal of broad interest to scholars across many fields, in addition to professional political scientists, political analysts, policy makers, and the informed public.
- American Journal of Political Science**  
 One of the most widely-read political science journals in the United States. AJPS is a general journal of political science open to all members of the profession and to all areas of the discipline of political science.

### Recommended Databases

- Congressional Record Text Search**  
 Provides access to the Congressional Record, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the U.S. Congress which has been published by the Government Printing Office (GPO) since 1873. GPO publishes new issues of the record daily and transmits each new issue to the Library of Congress overnight. A new issue becomes available on THOMAS the following morning. Issues are available online from 1989 (the 101st Congress) to the present.
- CQ Researcher**  
 CQ Researcher is noted for its in-depth, unbiased coverage of current events and controversial issues. Each single-themed, 12,000-word report is researched and written by a seasoned journalist, each providing researchers with an introductory overview; background and chronology on the topic; an assessment of the current situation; tables and maps; pro/con statements and bibliographies of key sources. The CQ Researcher Archive adds more than 3,000 reports, published between 1923 and 1990.
- CQ Weekly**  
 Full text access to CQ Weekly, known as the pre-eminent resource for Congress-watchers who need nonpartisan information on Capitol Hill
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 Indexes and abstracts a broad spectrum of Congressional publications, including hearings (testimony), committee prints, reports, documents, and full text of bills and public laws.
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 Provides comprehensive access to state bills and laws, constitutions, proposed and enacted, regulations, newspapers of record articles about legislative issues affecting the states.
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### Special Collections

 Election Resources in USC Libraries' [Special Collections](#):

The **Los Angeles Examiner** newspaper collection includes clippings and photographs from the late 1920s through 1960 showing presidents, political conventions, and candidates. It includes photographs of the first televised presidential candidate debate between John F. Kennedy and Richard M. Nixon in September of 1960.

The Presidential Campaign Ephemera collection includes fliers, speeches, buttons, and more from the 1960 party conventions and the presidential campaigns of Kennedy and Nixon. It also contains George C. Wallace campaign materials from 1968.

The Del M. Reynolds collection provides an inside view of electoral politics with letters from former President Herbert Hoover about Reynolds's efforts to support then-governor of Ohio, John Bricker, as a Republican candidate for national office. Reynolds was vice-president of Security First Bank in Los Angeles at the time.

### Historic Election Photos from the Los Angeles Examiner Collection

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### Surveys and Studies

- [Roper Center I-Poll](#)  
Archive of public opinion survey data.
- [Annenberg Public Policy Center](#)  
Includes National Annenberg Election Surveys Data Sets.
- [American National Election Studies](#)  
Data on voting, public opinion, and political participation.
- [Ballot Measures Database](#)  
Provided by the National Conference of State Legislatures.
- [California Statewide Database](#)

### How to Get Help

- For assistance locating statistics or other numeric data sources, contact [Katharin Peter](#), Social Sciences Data Librarian in the VKC Library.
- For technical end-user support in the use of statistical software, including SAS, SPSS, and Stata, contact Senior Statistics Consultant [AnnMaria DeMars](#).
- All PCs in the [Leavey](#) Libraries have SAS, SPSS, and Stata installed.

### State-by-State Statistics

- [Clerk of the House \(Congressional site\)](#)

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