

From: **Wendy T. Padgett** [REDACTED]
Date: Thu, Mar 17, 2011 at 1:03 PM
Subject: Not Getting Word Out
To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov
Cc: Walters Dan <dwalters@sacbee.com>, Morales Hilbert and Betty <ejr_morales@yahoo.com>

Dear Commissioners,

After listening to the web feed of one of your committee hearings this morning, I have to object to your glib statement that you are getting the word out in many ways.

I have been trying to follow your actions, and I have found it very hard. Moreover, none of my friends have the foggiest notion of what is happening on your vaunted Commission, except for what I tell them. That includes one highly knowledgeable friend who applied to be on the Commission, got past the first round, and was then pre-emptorally told in an e-mail he was "not well qualified," which he certainly was.

I do not read Facebook. I have looked at YouTube once in the past six months, to hear "Veni Creator Spiritu" sung in Latin. I have never opened the Twitter web site. In short, I am not a giggly teeny-bopper more interested in some long-haired moppet or half-dressed sexlet than in Redistricting. I am, instead, one of the prime targets for your news announcements, and I am not getting them.

The web has become one of my prime news sources. I read the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times, the LA Times, the Chronicle of Higher Education (one of my favorites, because they have twice written articles about me), the Atlantic, and sometimes the Economist. These media could not care less about reporting what you are doing. Merciful heavens, even the Sacramento Bee and Dan Walters have very little to say about your Commission's activities.

I put "Redistricting" on my news topics list for Google News before the first application was submitted. Every day I check to see if there are any reports. Once every week or so there is some inane public service announcement from the hinterlands of California noting that you exist. In terms of communicating what is happening, you are hitting zero. Zip. Zero. Null. Nothing. Even Goggle News can not find anything you have to say. You are not getting the word out to anyone who cares, only to those who do not. Your news is not getting through to those of us who are most capable of understanding the import of what you are doing. I have learned to go to the "Rose Institute" site to find anything, and that is only whether there was adequate disability access for some hearing.

There is concern about how totally non-representative the Redistricting Commission is. You do not represent the majority of us California voters, only some of the minorities. I am a member of the unrepresented intelligent, well-educated, responsible majority. I resent being told I have to learn how to use the Silly Social Sites to find out what my Redistricting Commission is doing.

Please, make an effort to be more civil to, and respectful of, those of us who have a serious, informed concern about good government in this glorious State. Please. Please note, learn, and inwardly digest the fact that some of us out here understand statistics, computers, and the theory of mapping a whole lot better than any of you on the Commission. Stop talking down to us; it interferes with the process of voting, and only makes you look ridiculous. Nothing shows how non-representative the Commission is more than this, that you minority Commissioners are NOT getting the word out to those of us in the majority who care.

Sincerely yours,

Wendy Torrance Padgett PhD
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