



SAW
PRESENTS



A
FREE
VIRTUAL
WORKSHOP



SOCIAL
JUSTICE
COMICS



FRIDAY
MAY
8TH



7PM
EST



WITH MÉDAR DELACRUZ

Thanks for coming to a SAW Friday Night Comics Workshop!

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMICS

This workshop was led by
MÉDAR DE LA CRUZ

<https://www.mdlcomics.com/>

On May 8, 2026

Contributors in order of appearance:

Erica Heinz
It's a Cyn
Stephy Mindykowski
Hsla Bates
Rory
Joanne Tolkoff
Jeannie Mecorney
Tom Hart
Linda Watson
Maxine Morris
Jackie Wolk
Mary Owen
Alun Clewe
Chris Seidel
Edgar Russell
Miška
Michael Woo

Next workshop → [https://
sequentialartistsworkshop.org/freefnc](https://sequentialartistsworkshop.org/freefnc)

You can also join hundreds of people sharing their work at our free members site:

🗨️ [https://members.sawcomics.org/share/
F6BBQeyGUGE0g-Qk?utm_source=manual](https://members.sawcomics.org/share/F6BBQeyGUGE0g-Qk?utm_source=manual)

We hope you'll share your work on social media with the hashtag #fridaynightcomics . Please tag us @comicsworkshop

Thanks so much for being here!

You can support us on:

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DRAWING INJUSTICE WITH MEDAR DE LA CRUZ

- EXAMPLES OF INJUSTICE
- current gerrymandering results
 - Voting Rights Act rollback
 - redlining

RESEARCH VISUALS

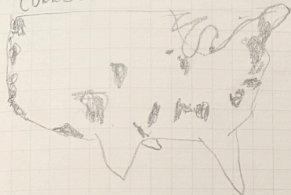
VCBC - "the boat"

LARGEST FLOATING JAIL

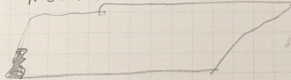
RESEARCH:

• AMERICAN VOTERS ARE BEING ERASED

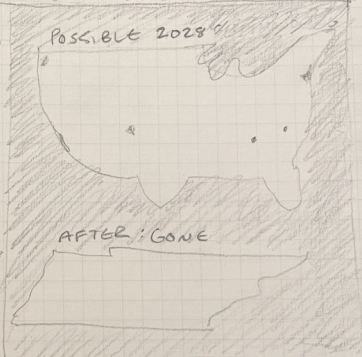
CURRENT



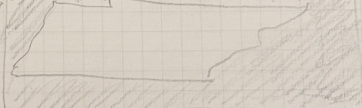
MEMPHIS



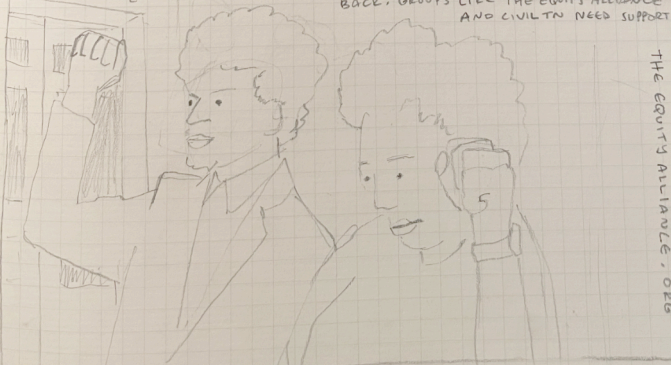
POSSIBLE 2023



AFTER: GONE



THE HOUSE



TENNESSEE LEGISLATORS ARE FIGHTING BACK. GROUPS LIKE THE EQUITY ALLIANCE AND CIVILTN NEED SUPPORT

THE EQUITY ALLIANCE, ORG

POCKETS

1789

REMOVE
POCKETS



SLIMMER LOOK

TODAY



.. SIGH

FUNCTIONALITY neglected



WE CAN DO IT

POCKET = FREEDOM & EQUALITY

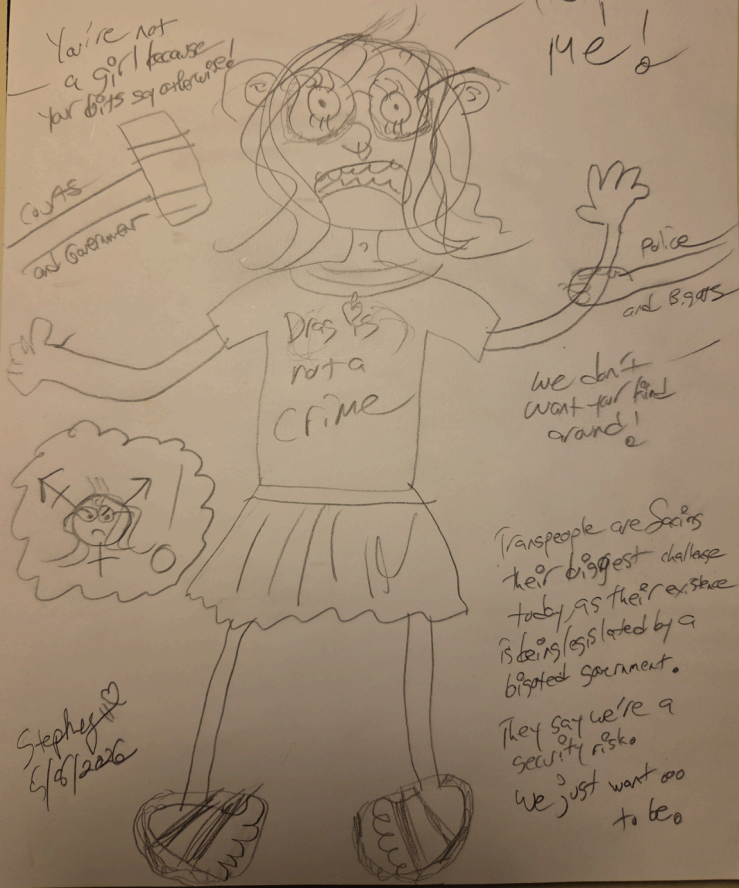
Transpeople today!!!

You're not a girl because your bits are wrong!

Help Me!

QAFS and GABSMAR

Police and B.G.A.S



Dress not a crime

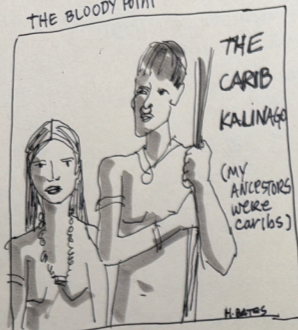
We don't want your kind around!

Transpeople are seen as their biggest challenge today as their existence is being less tolerated by a bigoted government.

They say we're a security risk
we just want to be

Steph
1/10/2016

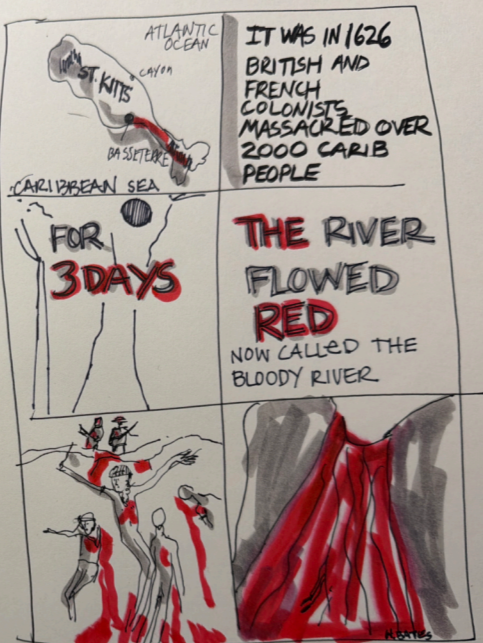
THE BLOODY POINT



"indigenous people"
"warlike" were they really "warlike"
or was it self defense?
They were fierce people, some
said they were "canibalistic" was
that true?

Evidence of these indigenous people
going back thousands of years.

H. BATES



IT WAS IN 1626
BRITISH AND
FRENCH
COLONISTS
MASSACRED OVER
2000 CARIB
PEOPLE

**THE RIVER
FLOWED
RED**

NOW CALLED THE
BLOODY RIVER

NOW IT IS A TOURIST ATTRACTION,
"BLOODY POINT RIVER HIKE"
THE STORY DESCRIBE BY SOME AS "FOLKLORE"

H. BATES

"NANNY"

By RORY JOY

5/26

J. MARION SIMS TORTURED
ENSLAVED BLACK WOMEN TO GET
A LEG UP IN THE "NEW" FIELD OF
GYNECOLOGY. NANNY WAS
ONE OF HIS VICTIMS.



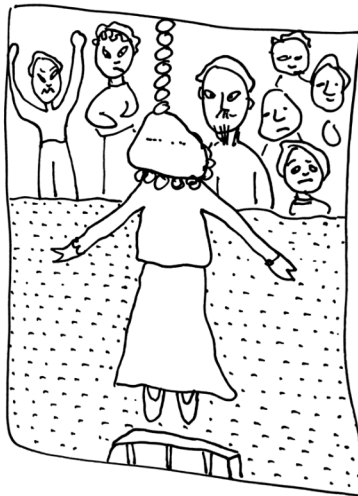
THE DOCTOR LABELED HER AS
SIMPLY

FRAIL.



NANNY IS FRAGILE BECAUSE SHE IS MADE TO BREED
too MUCH.

NANNY'S COMMUNITY WENT TO THE DOCTOR
AND SPOKE UP FOR HER.



historical Injustice

1. Slavery
2. Removing Roe v Wade
3. Sexual Harassment in Agriculture
4. Lowering of the Hawaiian Flag April 1960
Flag over Lolani Palace lowered → August 12, 1898
Queen Liliuokalani 1838-1917

#fridaynightcomics

@comicsworkshop

Friday Night Comics

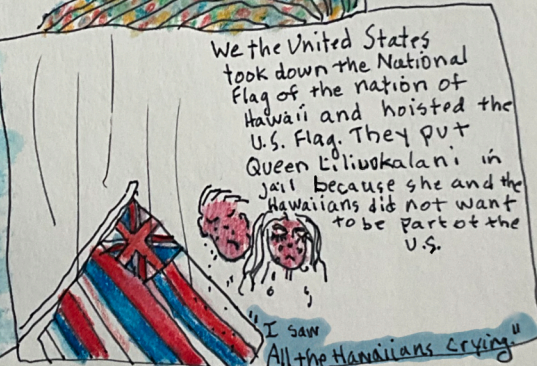
May 8, 2026

Medar de la Cruz

Social Justice Comics

Newlands Resolution Passed in
July 7, 1898

All The Hawaiians Were Crying - My Grandma's Story mecorney mmaxvi



1928 THE PSYCHIC AND
MOTHER OF SIX, HELEN
DUNCAN IS HOLDING A
SEANCE AND ECTOPLASM
EMERGES FROM HER
MOUTH...



LATER IT WAS
DISCOVERED

THIS IS
JUST
CHEESE,
CLOTH
AND
EGG
WHITE!!



THANK GOD IN 1933
SHE WAS CONVICTED
OF BEING A FRAUD-
AND THEN AGAIN
IN 1944 UNDER THE
"WITCHCRAFT ACT"

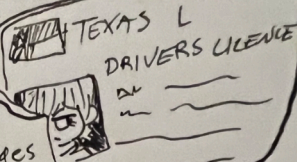


I OFTEN WONDERED
- MAYBE SHE JUST
DIDNT WANT TO
LIVE A TYPICAL
EARLY 20TH CENTURY
WOMAN'S LIFE...

The Save Our Bacon Act passed by the US House in the Farm Bill

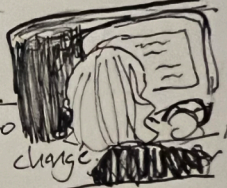


In 2024 the Texas AG Ken Paxton directed the state department of public safety to stop processing gender marker & name changes for trans Texans.



I was one of them.

I HAD BEEN WORKING TO get all my legal documents in order. Researching how to submit a name change, how to submit a request for gender change.



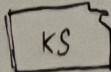
Instantly, all of that work felt like it was for naught...



And this was before the election...

THINGS HAVE ONLY GOTTEN WORSE.

We need people in our corner, to help us fight back against policies like this in other states.



AND COUNTING.

Approximately one in five young
jurisitic adults will interact
with a police officer before
age 21.



Fortunately, she was not
threatening. When the police
arrived, they didn't have
lights or sirens which helped
significantly.



My daughter had hers at
about age ten. Thank the gods we
lived in a 'rough' neighborhood.
There was reliably someone awake
at all hours.



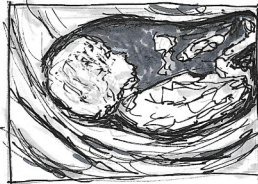
Not every child is so lucky.

My 11 - Some responders will
try to stop the artistic
person from stimulating
the very self-calm
strategy used to center themselves

- officers expect an immediate response and when they don't get it they see it as non-compliance.
- Sometimes the artistic kid just gets sent to the hospital creating a protected and difficult situation around getting them home

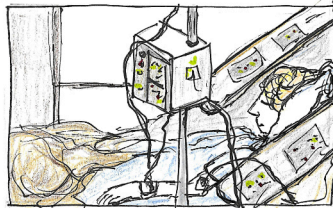
Dangerous TIMES for PREGNANT WOMEN in Idaho

J's fetus was found to have a severe, fatal condition. Unless she had an abortion, she was at great risk of infection.



K's fetus had fatal heart abnormalities. K was at great risk of preeclampsia if she didn't end her pregnancy.

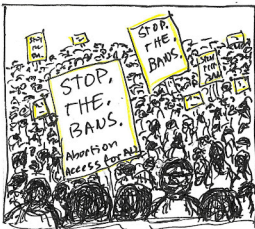
Due to Idaho's strict abortion laws, both J and K and their families, were advised to travel out of state, (at great expense) to obtain safe abortion care to save their lives.



THE IDAHO LEGISLATURE

Although Idaho's ban includes an exception when the mother's life is in danger, it does not include abortion of fetuses that have severe, fatal abnormalities that put the women carrying them at great risk.

Idaho healthcare providers face 2 to 5 years in prison if they break the abortion law. By 2024, Idaho lost over 1/3 of the OB-GYN providers due to this law.



In April 2026, a measure to decriminalize abortion in Idaho had gathered enough signatures to be on the November 2026 election ballots. "The Reproductive Freedom and Privacy Act" would allow doctors to do abortions in Idaho without the threat of prison. If the measure passes, it would return Idaho law to its previous state before Roe v. Wade was overturned.

If you care about the health and lives of Idaho women, vote YES to pass "The Reproductive Freedom & Privacy Act" in the November 2026 election.



THE ROMANI PEOPLE* ORIGINATED IN THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT BUT MIGRATED TO EUROPE...



...WHERE THEY'VE LONG FACED CONSIDERABLE PREJUDICE.

*YOU MAY KNOW THEM AS "GIPSIES", A WORD COMMONLY USED TO REFER TO ROMANI BUT NOW CONSIDERED A SLUR, DERIVING FROM A FALSE BELIEF THAT THEY CAME FROM EGYPT.

THEY WERE ROUTINELY SLAUGHTERED IN THE DUTCH REPUBLIC IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

AND OF COURSE THEY WERE AMONG THE VICTIMS OF HITLER'S GENOCIDAL POLICIES IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.

IN THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY THEY WERE EXPELLED FROM FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT DECLARED THEM A NATIONAL SECURITY RISK IN THE 2000S.

THEY WERE ARRESTED AND IMPRISONED BY THE SPANISH MONARCHY IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

UNFORTUNATELY, EVEN TODAY, THE ROMANI PEOPLE FACE CONSIDERABLE PREJUDICE IN EUROPE, WITH SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS OFTEN MAKING THEM OUT TO ALL BE CHEATS AND SCOUNDRELS.



MEANWHILE, IN THE U.S. WHERE PEOPLE DON'T HAVE MUCH DIRECT EXPERIENCE WITH THEM, THE ROMANI ARE OTHERED AND PORTRAYED IN FICTION AS EXOTIC AND MAGICAL, AND MAYBE NOT ENTIRELY HUMAN...



ALC

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMICS w/ Medar DeLa Cruz

Forced Sterilization & American Eugenics c.seidel 5.9.26

My Mom and I hanging out at the State Colony for Epileptics and the FeebleMinded



This is my beautiful Baby; Vivian Alice Elaine Buck. She was taken away from me and I was committed to the colony for Promiscuity.



But her father is a family member who raped me.



Oliver Wendell Holmes

"Three generations of Imbeciles is enough. We don't need the Nation swamped with Incompetence"

Let them be Sterilized



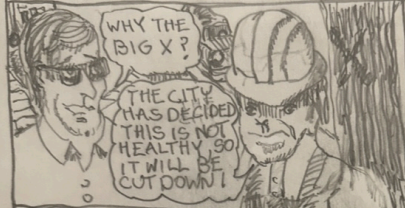
I was sterilized at 20. My case set a legal precedent allowing the forced sterilization of thousands of people.

This comic was motivated by the experience of my late colleague Scott Hawley, sidelined by epilepsy as a boy but went on to become a world class geneticist helping to understand disease and call out past abuses.

66 THE RUSSELLS STAND UP FOR WHAT IS RIGHT 99

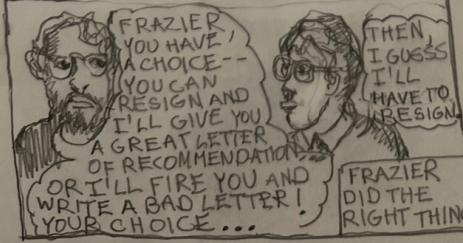
WRITTEN, DRAWN, AND © 2026 BY EDGAR FARR RUSSELL III. SAW FRIDAY COMICS WORKSHOP "SOCIAL JUSTICE COMICS" MAY 8, 2026 WITH GUEST ARTIST, MEDAR DE LA CRUZ, AND HOST, TOM HART.

I REMEMBER MANY DECADES AGO WHEN MY GRANDFATHER SAW A CITY TRUCK PULL UP TO HIS STREET AND PAINT A BIG RED X ON A LARGE TREE WHICH LINED THE ROAD.



MY GRANDFATHER THOUGHT THE TREE WAS STILL GOOD SO HE GAVE THE WORKER \$20.00 TO LEAVE IT ALONE. THE TREE LIVED ANOTHER 20 YEARS. A VICTORY FOR THE NEIGHBORS!

MY YOUNGER BROTHER, FRAZIER, WORKED FOR A WELL-KNOWN NON-PROFIT DEVOTED TO WRITING. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DECIDED TO SAVE MONEY BY CUTTING OUT HEALTH INSURANCE FOR THE EMPLOYEES. FRAZIER THOUGHT THAT WAS WRONG SO HE WENT OVER THE DIRECTOR'S HEAD TO PLEAD THE CASE TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES. HE WON AND THE EMPLOYEES KEPT THEIR BENEFITS— BUT AT A COST FOR CROSSING HIM.

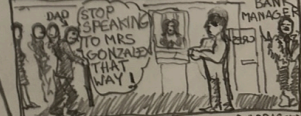


OUR FAMILY VISITED NEW ORLEANS IN 1977. WE TOOK A RIDE IN A RIVERBOAT DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI. WE WERE SITTING NEXT TO A BIG MAN SMOKING A LARGE, SMELLY CIGAR. SHE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE SMOKE IN ALL OUR FACES SO...



MY MOM RECOGNIZED THE MAN WAS DANGEROUS AND WOULD LIKELY KILL MY FATHER, SO SHE APOLOGIZED. BUT SHE WAS RIGHT TO PROTECT US.

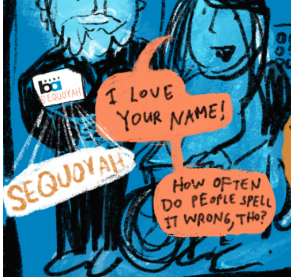
AT 75, MY FATHER WHO HAD OSTEOPOROSIS AND WALKED WITH A CANE, WAS STANDING IN LINE IN A BANK, WHEN A BIG GUY WALKED IN AND BEGAN SCREAMING AT THE TELLER. THE BANK MANAGER STOOD TREMBLING. MY FATHER WALKED OVER TO THE MAN.



THE MAN SLUNK AWAY EMBARRASSED. THEY SPOKE ABOUT MY FATHER FOR YEARS. MY STORY NEXT TIME.

MEN MAKING MARKS ON MAPS

THURSDAY NIGHT IN AN ELEVATOR IN SAN FRANCISCO



I LOVE YOUR NAME!

How OFTEN DO PEOPLE SPELL IT WRONG, THO?

WAY TOO OFTEN! PEOPLE DON'T KNOW...

DUMB EUROPEANS JUST CHANGING HIS NAME HOW THEY WANT TO.

Do You KNOW SEQUOYAH'S STORY?

I THINK SO BUT I'LL GO LEARN MORE ABOUT HIM.

SEQUOYAH INVENTED A SYLLABARY THAT PRESERVED HIS OWN CHEROKEE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE. HE ALSO INSPIRED MANY OTHER INDIGENOUS PEOPLE TO DO THE SAME FOR DOZENS OF OTHER ENDANGERED TONGUES.

SEQUOYAH'S HONORED WITH MANY THINGS NAMED FOR HIM, or for THE TREE THAT BORE HIS MANGLED NAME. UNLIKE MANY OTHER EPONYMS, THOUGH, SEQUOYAH WASN'T INVOLVED WITH THE CHOICES MADE BY SCIENTISTS and GEOGRAPHERS. THE EARTH IS CLUTTERED BY THE NAMES OF PEOPLE WHO LAY CLAIM TO THINGS THAT JUST ARE NOT THEIRS TO own!

I'M REMINDED of the DEBACLE WHEN THE BRITISH NAMED THE TALLEST MOUNTAIN ON EARTH. IT HAD TWO BEAUTIFUL NAMES HONORING IT AS A GEOLOGICAL MOTHER of ALL MOTHERS...

SAGARMATHA
Goddess of the Sky
सगर-माथा

ཧོ་མོ་གླང་མ
Holy Mother
QOMOLANGMA



NEVERTHELESS THIS HAPPENED...

Peak XV has NO LOCAL NAME Let's use GEORGE'S NAME!

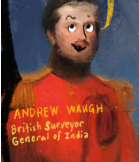
YOU IDIOT! PLEASE DO NOT DO THAT!

WHYEVER NOT, dear GEORGE? THOSE SILLY PEOPLE COULDN'T NAME IT. WHY SHOULDN'T WE DO IT FOR THEM?

OH MY LORD WHO HIRED THIS NINCOMP?? THE LOCAL PEOPLE CAN'T EVEN SAY IT! AND IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO WRITE IN HINDI!

WELL, I DON'T GIVE A HOOT WHAT YOU WANT, EVEREST. THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY LOVES MY IDEA!

WE CHOOSE! WEI DO! WHY DO YOU THINK I QUIT??



ALAS, MR. EVEREST! YOU TRIED TO BEG OFF THIS DUMB IDEA AND THEY PAID YOU NO MIND!

STOP marking your TERRITORY, YOU SLOBBERY, MISBEHAVING PUPPIES! Leave your mama be!



OFFICIAL STATE
CULTIVATED FLOWER

IRIS



OFFICIAL STATE
BIRD

MOCKINGBIRD



OFFICIAL STATE
FOSSIL

PTEROTRIGONIA
THORACICA



OFFICIAL STATE
ORIGINAL SIN

SLAVERY

THE U.S. SUPREME COURT PREVIOUSLY INTERPRETED THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT TO PROHIBIT DRAWING ELECTION MAPS TO WEAKEN RACIAL MINORITIES. IN TENNESSEE, WHERE BLACKS COMPRISE 16.8% OF THE POPULATION, ONE OF THE STATE'S 9 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS WAS CENTERED IN THE MEMPHIS METRO AREA, TENNESSEE'S LARGEST CONCENTRATION OF BLACKS:



MEMPHIS

BUT NOW THE U.S. SUPREME COURT HAS RULED THAT ELECTION MAPS THAT WEAKEN MINORITY POWER ARE PERMISSIBLE AS LONG AS THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF OVERT INTENT TO WEAKEN MINORITIES. TENNESSEE RESPONDED WITH A NEW MAP DIVIDING MEMPHIS BETWEEN 3 DISTRICTS.



MEMPHIS

Is this fair?



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