We Are 1844 No More: Let Us Vote

• New Jersey denies the fundamental right to vote to nearly 100,000 people in prison, on parole, or on probation for a felony conviction—more people than live in New Jersey’s capital city of Trenton.

• New Jersey first broadly denied the right to vote to people with criminal convictions in 1844, the same year it adopted a constitution that restricted voting to white men.

• New Jersey has the highest racial incarceration disparities in the nation and its law imports the racial discrimination from the criminal justice system into the political process. As a result, half of those who cannot vote because of a conviction are Black, even though Black people make up just 15% of the state’s total population.

• Today, the number of Black residents who cannot vote because of a criminal conviction surpasses the number of Black people prohibited from voting in New Jersey prior to the adoption of the Fifteenth Amendment in 1870.

• Our “1844 No More” campaign seeks to turn the page on this dark history by severing the link between voting rights and the criminal justice system.

• Restoring voting rights for people with criminal convictions helps increase public safety, reduces recidivism, facilitates re-entry, and empowers the communities from which people with convictions come.

#1844NoMore #LetUsVote
New Jersey must sever the link between voting rights and the criminal justice system.

Join us as we raise our voices to put an end to this anti-democratic practice.

We Are 1844 No More.

• Join our campaign to turn the page on 1844 by contacting us at justice@njisj.org.

• Call your state legislators — found at www.njleg.state.nj.us/members — and express your support for S-2100/A-3456, a historic bill that will restore the fundamental right to vote to nearly 100,000 people in prison, on parole, or on probation.

• Add your organization to the list of over 80 organizations that have signed on in support of the #1844NoMore campaign to restore voting rights to people with criminal convictions.

• If you have been or currently are denied the right to vote because of a conviction, contact us to share your story.

• Organize a phone bank or postcard writing effort to urge your friends to contact their state legislators.

Together we can position New Jersey as a national leader in building an inclusive, robust democracy.

#1844NoMore  #LetUsVote

www.njisj.org | @NJ_ISJ | @dosalocialjustice