

Prisoners and the Right to Vote

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MADISON - On Tuesday, I went to UW-Milwaukee to give a lecture about an under-appreciated aspect of our undemocratic system: the disenfranchisement of prisoners and former prisoners. In researching this talk, I discovered just how blatantly racist the policy has always been:

[Felon disenfranchisement, then and now](#)

In our never-ending sorrow at the demise of the Government Accountability Board, our worst fears have been confirmed: Partisans from both sides are being appointed to the new state ethics and elections commissions. This week, it was Peter Barca's turn:

[Barca's appointees contributed \\$107K to Democrats](#)

And as we look back at the legislative session, one hypocrisy jumped out at us. Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce talks all the time about the need for a highly educated workforce, but it didn't put any of its money where its mouth is:

[WMC, business groups AWOL on higher ed bills](#)

Two announcements:

--If you're in Madison at the [Dane County Farmers' Market](#) on Saturday, please stop by our booth at the southwest corner of the Square (W Main and S Hamilton Sts. across from Inn on the Park). I'll be there with Madison activist Bert Zipperer from 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
{Reminder: there is road construction on the northside of the Square}

--And if you're in the Sun Prairie area Saturday afternoon, the Sun Prairie Action Resource Coalition (SPARC) will host a public [meeting](#) from 12-3 pm at the Westside Community Service Building at 2598 W. Main St. I'll be speaking around 2 p.m. Topic: "The Assault on Democracy in Wisconsin" (or, "Where Do I Start?").

Hope to see you soon.