

The Roberts Court Takes Aim at the Voting Rights Act

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The Voting Rights Act of 1965—the crown jewel of the civil rights movement—has two strikes against it at John Roberts's Supreme Court. Strike three is likely in a new case the Court will hear on October 4.

The first strike came in 2013 when the Court curtailed the act in *Shelby County v. Holder*. That case invalidated the portion of the act that determined which jurisdictions must seek preapproval for voting changes because they have a history of discrimination. Because of the *Shelby County* ruling, states and local governments with a record of racism are free to enact restrictive voting rules and unfair redistricting maps without meaningful oversight.

September 29, 2022 https://scholars.org