**Alien**-Foreign-born residents who have not become citizens and are generally denied the right to vote in America.

**Disenfranchised**-A citizen or group of citizens within a population who are denied the right to vote.

**Gender Gap**-First appearing in the 1980 this is the phenomenon that produces a measurable gap between the partisan voting choices of men and women.

**Gerrymandering**-The process of drawing electoral district lines in order to limit the voting strength of a particular group or party.

**Independent**-Voters who have no party affiliation.

**Off-Year Elections**-Congressional elections held in even numbered years between presidential elections.

**Poll Tax**-A tax imposed as a voting qualification by several states historically designed to limit minority votes.

**Split-Ticket Voting**-The practice of voting for candidates of more than one party during an election.

**Straight-Ticket Voting-**The practice of voting for candidates of only one party during an election.

**Suffrage**-The official term for a person’s right to vote.