

## **“My Vote Don’t Count,” by YelloPain**

Uh, I've been broke all my life  
But I kept hope all them nights  
You see business in my city?  
Yeah, they closed all them twice

I was just riding down Salem, all them pot holes  
I can't drive  
I know y'all can fix it faster  
But I know y'all won't try

Nobody care about us  
And that's why I won't vote  
Voted for Obama back in 2012  
I remember that's when I had hope

He was saying, Yes, we can  
And everybody got less food stamps  
And when I turn 21 I was still broke  
I'd never vote again

I don't think I ever had a president made my life better  
Did it all on my own, ain't no politician ever do a nice gesture  
I don't even know the mayor name  
I ain't never seen her one time ever

Tell me how she gonna help the city  
What I suppose to do, write letters?  
What I suppose to do, blame Trump?  
He ain't never really give a uh

Ain't nobody raise minimum wage  
None of these jobs pay enough  
I think they just wanna keep us broke  
Cause they ain't put nothin' in place for us

This how all my people feel  
But we gotta learn, we complained enough  
Let me change it up

Everything I just said, everybody I know think the same way  
See, they don't wanna see us vote  
And we never do so we see the same thing

But all our votes really do count  
And they never really let it show  
Now I'm finna break it down  
'Cause if I don't you would probably never know

First things first,  
You know back in middle school when they taught us  
It was three branches of government?  
We forgot it when we got older

It's the Judicial, the Legislative, and the Executive  
But all we know is the Executive  
That's the mayor, or the governor, and the president

Now none of them three people make no laws, they just be checking 'em  
The laws come to they desk and all they do is say No or Yes to it  
So when the news station tell us that Barrack Obama couldn't put us on  
We was all salty at Obama when it was the Congress members all along

We gotta focus on the Legislative branch  
Yeah, they the ones that make the Laws  
Yeah, they the ones that write how  
Much food stamps money you get on the card

But when people that wanted to help us wanted the job  
I know they probably lost  
Cause we ain't even know they name  
We ain't know they face, we ain't know at all

So the Congress or the State House  
That's the Legislative branch, they make Laws  
So what we want from the President is what they do, okay y'all?  
See they election every two years but we don't ever even go to those

The Congress they could raise minimum wage  
But we ain't even really know it though  
So you know how back in '08, when we all voted for Obama  
We was all supposed to go back in 2010 and voted for the Congress

Cause they the ones that make child support laws  
They the ones choose if your kids  
At school get to eat steak or corn dog  
The state house makes the courthouse

So if the country fail you can't say it's them, it's your fault  
Cause ya ain't know to vote for Congress members that was for y'all  
And they don't gotta leave after four years, we just let 'em sit  
They don't want to tell you this, they want you to focus on the President

Now the third branch is the Judicial, that's judges  
They the reason why John Crawford and Trayvon ain't had justice  
So when Meek Mill got locked up just for popping wheelies  
We blame the judge and not the city, when they let her get voted in  
Cause they didn't know who to vote against

Imagine life on the other side: roads better, schools better  
Everybody get they license back, grocery store food better  
Custody of your kids back, homeless people get new shelters  
If we gonna fix the U.S., we gotta start with them two letters  
Me and you

Somebody told us that the government want to keep us broke  
But the only reason why those people in the government is 'cause we ain't vote  
And I ain't talking about the President, I'm talking about the ones we ain't know  
See they was gonna try keep it low, but it's gonna hurt 'em when they see them polls

(Desiree Tims speaking)

Every time you stay home, someone is making a decision about you. Making decisions about the air you breathe, the water you drink, the food your kids eat and how much money you bring home very twice weeks. So every time you sit out an election, every time you don't show up because you think it doesn't matter, someone else is happy that you didn't show up so they can make that decision for you. Vote.