Twitter Thread by Steven Greenhouse



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Here's the best argument for expanding & thereby repairing the Supreme Court. Over the past 2 decades, starting with Bush v. Gore, the court's conservative majority has pursued an aggressive agenda to keep Republicans in power & Republicans in turn appointed conservative justices

This has skewed our political system & improperly increased the number of conservative justices. Those justices have skewed the system to preserve GOP control in Tuesday's Census decision, Citizens United & Shelby County v. Holder (overturning Sec. 5 of the Voting Rights Act) AND

in Gill v. Whitford (upholds outrageous GOP gerrymandering in Wisconsin) and in cases upholding strict voter ID laws & other partisan GOP maneuvers.

There's a strong argument that the GOP has improperly gotten three SCOTUS seats that should have gone to Democratic appointees.

Bush v. Gore was essentially a 5-4 judicial coup that awarded the presidency to George W. Bush. Bush appointed two justices (Roberts & Alito) & if Gore had been president for Bush's two terms, those vacancies would have been filled by Democratic appointees https://t.co/0UCABvGKZV

Republicans stole a seat by not considering Merrick Garland. So there's a strong case that GOP presidents filled 3 vacancies that Democrats should have filled. This created today's 5-4 conservative majority when there'd be a 7-2 liberal majority if Democrats filled those seats.

In numerous decisions, the conservative justices have sought to assure continued GOP power—Citizens United has allowed an obscene amount of conservative dark money that proved crucial to Republicans winning many Senate seats & control of state legislatures https://t.co/0ih6r3hKsf

With Election Day approaching, Mitch McConnell & Lindsey Graham are rushing to increase the conservative SCOTUS majority by sprinting to confirm Amy Coney Barrett, taking a course of action they had said was improper—confirming a SCOTUS appointee in a presidential election year.

Confirming Barrett would increase the likelihood of rulings that overturn the ACA, roll back voting rights, women's rights, civil rights & workers' rights & further entrench GOP & corporate power. Expanding the court should be seen as good for democracy AND AS

a much-needed fix to a system that is badly broken, in which Trump & GOP lawmakers have repeatedly violated democratic norms & in which conservative justices have repeatedly issued narrow partisan rulings — with the aim of entrenching the GOP in power & further skewing our system

So if as a result of shenanigans by conservative justices & Mitch McConnell, GOP presidents have appointed 3 more justices than they should have & Democrats have appointed 3 fewer justices than they should have, we as a nation need to figure out how to repair that gross injustice