

CITIZENSHIP #2 - PARTICIPATION

WAYS CITIZENS CAN PARTICIPATE

1. Looking for information in newspapers, magazines, and reference materials and judging its accuracy.
2. Voting in local, state, and national elections.
3. Participating in a political discussion.
4. Trying to persuade someone to vote a certain way.
5. Signing a petition.
6. Wearing a button or putting a sticker on the car.
7. Writing letters to elected representatives.
8. Contributing money to a party or candidate.
9. Attending meetings to gain information, discuss issues, or lend support.
10. Campaigning for a candidate.
11. Lobbying for laws that are of special interest.
12. Demonstrating through marches, boycotts, sit-ins, or other forms of protest.
13. Serving as a juror, on civic review boards, or on private organization boards.
14. Running for office.
15. Holding public office.
16. Serving the country through military or other service.
17. Disobeying laws and taking the consequences to demonstrate that a law or policy is unjust.

DECIDING HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- a. What are the advantages and disadvantages of each form of participation that is listed?
- b. Are all these forms of participation equally important? Why or why not? Which seem the most important to you as a citizen?

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adapted from: <http://www.civiced.org/resources/curriculum/lesson-plans/456-how-can-citizens-participate>