
POLLING
STATION
VOTING
PROGRESS
POLLING


VOTE YES ON AMENDMENT 3
VOTE

MATURITA CARD | Political Engagement

A COMPARE AND CONTRAST

- Look at the pictures on the other side of this card. What does each picture show? What trends, themes or ideas do they represent? What is happening in each picture?
- Compare and contrast them. In what ways are they similar? In what ways are they different?
- How do these pictures make you feel? Do they remind you of anything from your own life and experience?

B ALL ABOUT YOU

- How do you feel about politicians and politics in your country and your region? Which politicians and parties represent you, and why?
- Are you looking forward to being old enough to vote? Why or why not? If you are old enough already, do you vote? Why or why not?
- How do you keep informed about what is going on? What sources of news do you trust and why? Do these sources encourage you to be politically engaged? In what ways?
- Are you or is anyone you know involved in any political activity or activism, such as campaigning or protesting? What's your experience? / What do you know about it?
- What opportunities are there for people like you to have a political impact, other than by voting?
- In what ways would you like to be more involved in politics and policy-making?
- What issues do you care about and how are they affected by politics?

C SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

- In what ways do people feel more empowered and less empowered in your democracy today than in the past? What changes have led to this?
- If more policy decisions were taken via referendums and other forms of direct democracy, how would your country change? Would that be a good thing?
- What trends do you see in politics in your country, and what do you think about them?
- Explain how voting works in your country.
- In some countries, such as Australia, it is mandatory to vote. Do you think this should be introduced in your country? Why or why not?
- What are the biggest threats to democracy, in your opinion? What makes you feel hopeful?
- From voting to protests, what are the best ways that people like you can engage in shaping politics and policy? Why do you think so?

D WHAT IS....?

Give a definition of each of these terms.

- policy
- public services
- local government
- taxation
- proportional representation
- ballot paper
- privatisation
- opinion polls
- direct democracy
- checks and balances

E QUOTE, UNQUOTE

"Civic engagement is very important. We all live here together and we need to look out for one another."
Elizabeth Goreham

"The way to change the world is through individual responsibility and taking local action in your own community."
Jeff Bridges

"Whenever the people are well-informed, they can be trusted with their own government."
Thomas Jefferson

"Elections aren't just about who votes, but who doesn't vote. And that is especially true for young people like all of you."
Michelle Obama

"The best argument against democracy is a five-minute conversation with the average voter."
Winston Churchill

"I think voting is the lowest form of political action that you can do. A lot of times, it keeps people from doing stronger things."
Boots Riley