

**YOUR CHOICE:
CHOOSE WISELY**

MY VOTE COUNTS



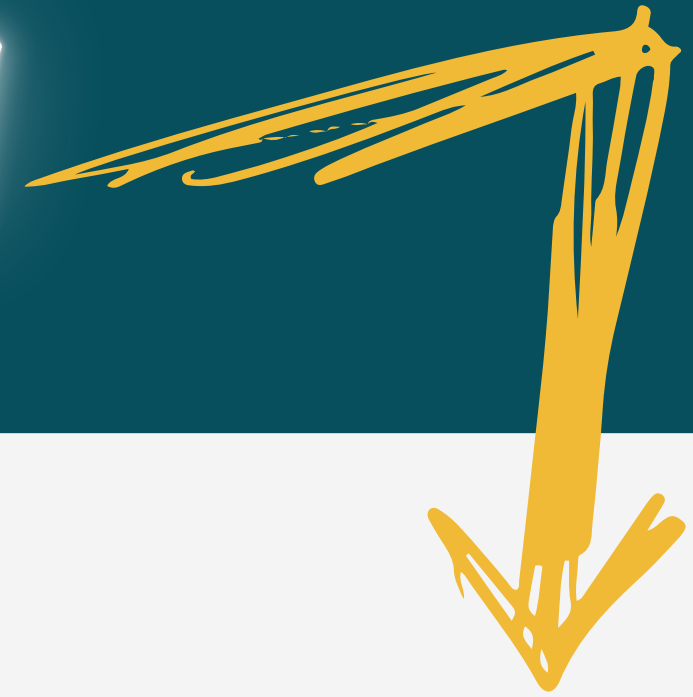
INTRODUCTION

Today, we will:

- * Understand how emotions can influence civic responsibility and the decision to engage in political actions like voting.
- * Explore different perspectives on whether voting makes a difference in everyday life.
- * Reflect on personal emotions connected to community issues and consider how responsible decision-making can impact positive change.



SEL CONNECTION



Emotions like frustration, hope, or anger can influence how people engage politically in their communities and these emotions impact **responsible decision-making**.

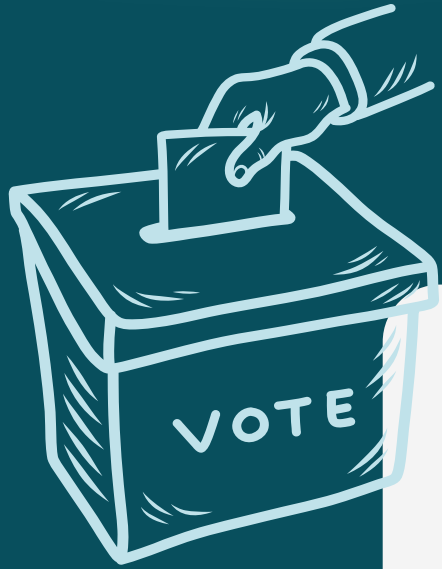




ICEBREAKER

POLITICS AND POWER





POLITICS AND POWER

INDEPENDENT REFLECTION

- Define **Politics** and **Power** in your own words.
- Think of one emotion you feel about an issue in your community or school. How could this emotion motivate you to make a responsible decision to help improve the situation?



ICEBREAKER

➤➤➤ GET MOVING!

POLITICS AND POWER

- 1) Stand up and find a partner to share with.
- 2) Switch partners after 1.5 minutes to hear from a second peer.





POLITICS AND POWER

GROUP SHARE

- Share key points from your block party discussions.
- What's one issue you'd like to improve in your community, and what emotion do you feel that motivates you to take responsible action to create change?





POLITICS AND POWER

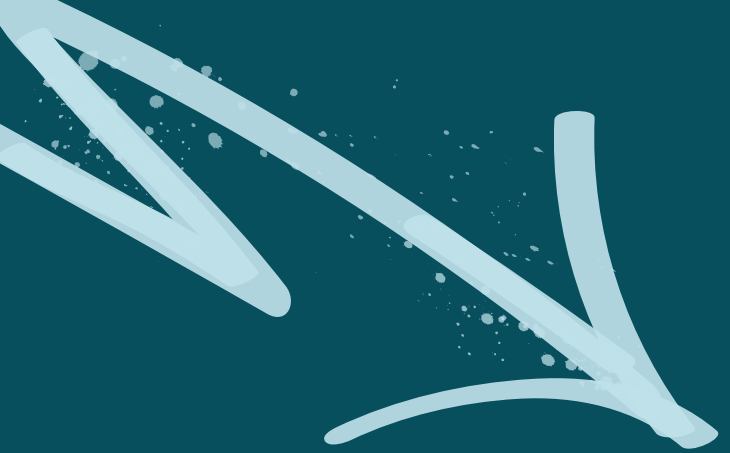
POLITICS

How decisions are made in a group, community, or country about rules, laws, and resources.

POWER

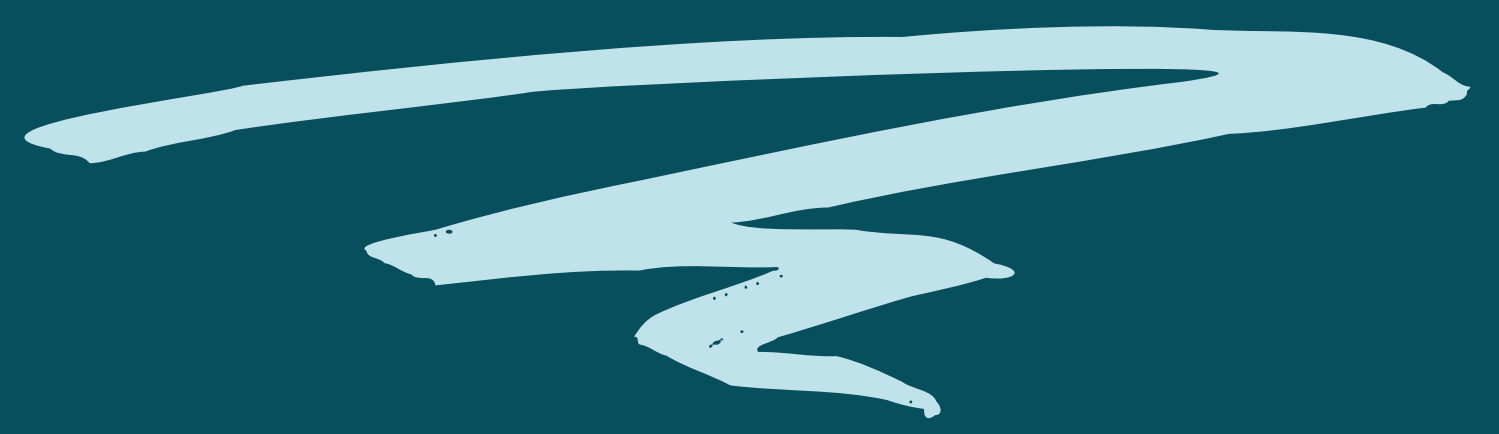
The ability to influence or control what happens and make decisions that affect others.





LESSON PART ONE

EMOTIONS AND VOTING



LESSON: PART ONE



WATCH A VIDEO

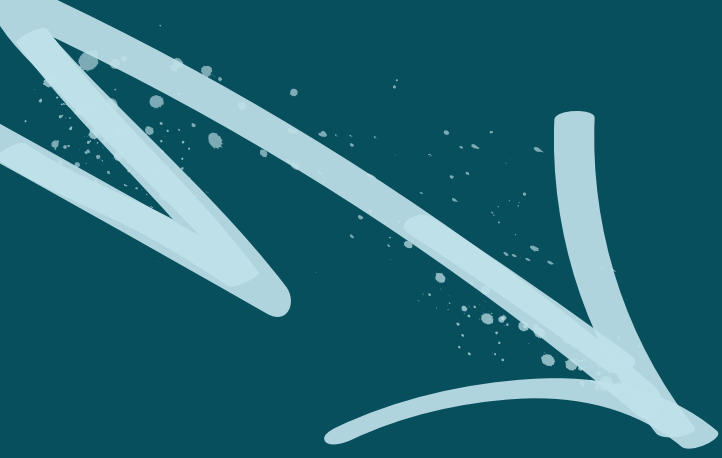
EMOTIONS AND VOTING

1) Watch YelloPain's "My Vote Dont Count" video.

2) Think about these questions:

- How does YelloPain use emotion to emphasize the importance of voting and its impact on individuals and communities?
- What part of his message stood out to you? Why?

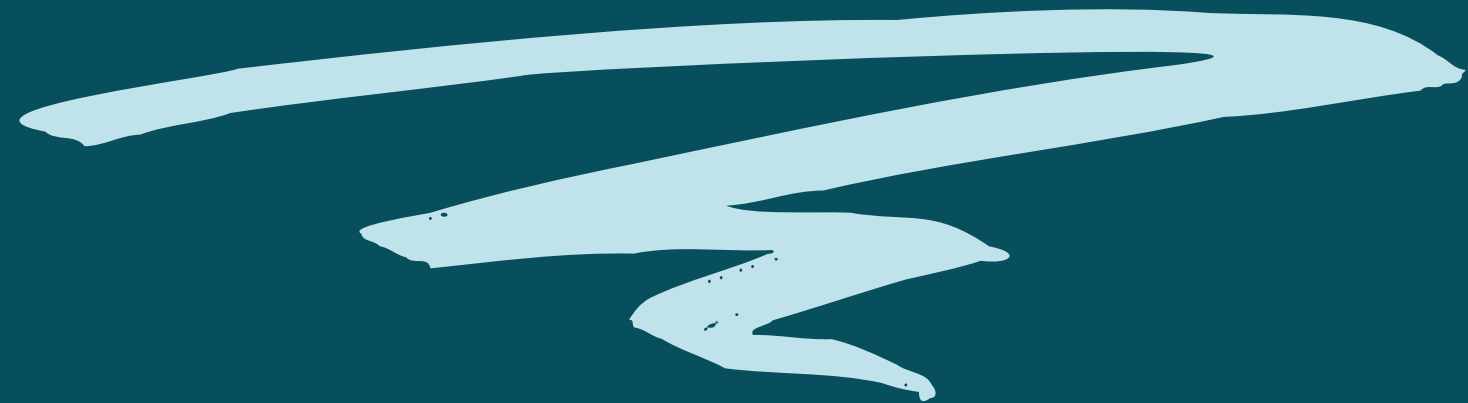




LESSON

PART TWO

WHY VOTE?



LESSON: PART TWO



WHY VOTE?



QUOTE 1

"Elected officials make decisions about things we care about—like whether our school gets more funding or if social media is regulated. Voting can help ensure that those decisions benefit us."



QUOTE 2

"No matter who's in office, it feels like nothing changes for people like us. Politicians don't really know what we need."



QUOTE 3

"Voting can make a difference on some issues, like local policies, but it's only part of the picture when it comes to what impacts our lives."

Choose a quote to respond to using the graphic organizer



LESSON: PART TWO



TALK ABOUT IT

WHY VOTE?

SMALL GROUP CYPHER

Gather in small groups aligned to your chosen perspective/quote and discuss using the prompts on the graphic organizer.



LESSON: PART TWO



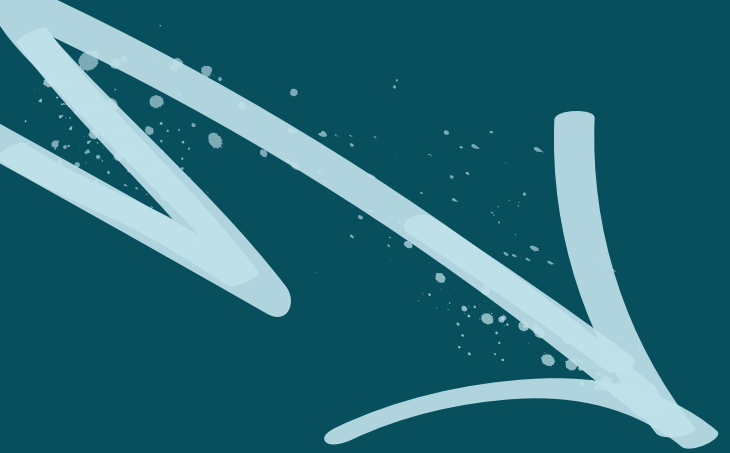
TALK ABOUT IT

WHY VOTE?

WHOLE CLASS CYPHER

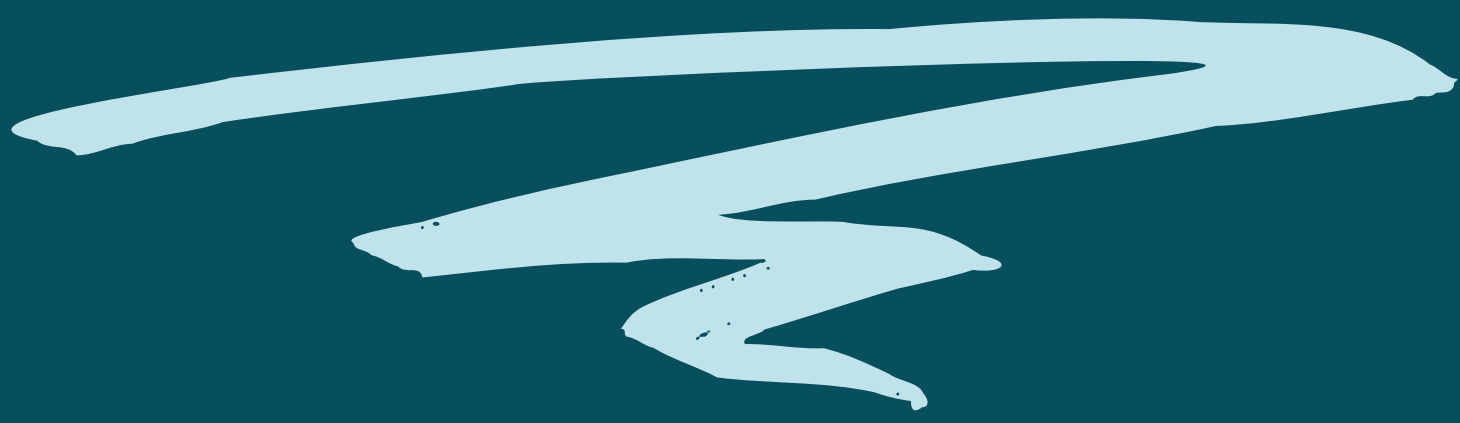
- Share key points made in your small group cypher.
- Ask questions and challenge opposing perspectives when each group is finished sharing.





LESSON
PART THREE

SEL JOURNALING



LESSON: PART THREE



WRITING

SEL JOURNALING

- 1) Choose a law, social, or political issue you feel strongly about and describe how it affects you or people close to you.
- 2) Think about one meaningful action you could take—even without voting rights—that would help your community move toward positive change.
- 3) Reflect on how channeling your emotions around this issue into action can be powerful and impactful.

