

EXTEND THE RESOURCES

Below is a list of ideas and ways you might use the resources provided on this Classroom Law Project resource page to extend learning and civic engagement for your students:

Start with Choice & Inquiry:

The sections on this Current Event Resource Page connect to the history and debate around lowering the voting age in the United States below 18 years of age. There should be a subtopic within this Current Event that students may find interesting. For example, the history of voting rights, the impact various wars and military drafts have had on the voting age, the arguments both for and against the voting age, and the different approaches individual states have taken to expand the voting age. Give students the opportunity to choose a topic or connection of interest and start with that.

Extensions with the Articles/Editorials:

- News Analysis worksheets (handout on current event page)
- Further News Research (Research Tips handout on current event page)
- Annotated summaries of articles
- Socratic discussions with shared article texts

Extensions:

- Dig more deeply into the topic by having students participate in a research project in which they interview individuals who were directly affected by the 26th amendment and its expansion of voting rights. Students can then use that research to compare and contrast the stories shared to their own lives and find the similarities and differences in today's current political environment, as it relates to the legal voting age.
- Students can prepare letters, petitions, and other lobbying efforts to present to their local elected officials to advocate their position on the legal age to vote. This can be done after students research the specific state and local laws applicable to voting age.
- Create a debate or presentation in which students present their own stance on the question, "What should be the national age to vote in the United States?"