

One Vote: Film Discussion Guide



Filmed in five locations in one day, *One Vote* captures the compelling stories of diverse American voters on Election Day 2016. The film eschews partisan politics in favor of an honest portrayal of voters' Election Day experiences. *One Vote* bears hopeful witness to the humanity and rich diversity of American voters, and to the unsung stories that comprise our exercise of democracy. The film provides jumping off points for discussions, writing, and research assignments in the classroom involving the following topics, applicable to the fields of political science, sociology, history, ethics and more. They are categorized by the five stories pursued throughout the film.

Classroom Discussion & Writing Topics:

Brenda Williams and Empowering Disenfranchised Citizens:

- Barriers to voting, and voter ID laws
- Disenfranchisement and race, contemporary and historical perspectives
- Literacy, homelessness, and access to voting
- Voting as a right vs. responsibility
- Participation and connection to community

Michael Hiser and Voter Restoration:

- Restoration of voting rights for former felons
- Variation of voting rights across states
- Civic education in our schools

Warren Buffet and Voter Participation:

- Effectiveness of drive to vote programs

- Pros and cons of the electoral college, and its significance
- Voter participation across demographics

Jim Higgins and Voting Throughout History:

- Evolution of voting customs and traditions throughout history
- Voting as a communal act
- Voting in urban settings

The Bondy Family and Voting Accessibility:

- Availability of polling places and ease of voting access across populations
- Voting in rural settings
- Voter education and the family unit
- Diversity of the American Experience