



Community Circle

CONNECTION
LEARNING
ACTION

Prepare for elections!

GATHER A
GROUP

START A
DISCUSSION

COMMIT TO A
NEXT STEP

THE DEETS



Who should I invite?

Up to 6 guests who are liberty aligned or are liberty curious and friendly. Ideally, invite those who are looking to have fun, open to learning, and want to engage in respectful, relevant conversations.



How long should the Circle be?

From start to finish, the Community Circle content should be around 60 minutes. However, how much time you want to spend is entirely up to you! The size of your Circle will also impact how long it takes to go through the content. This doesn't include hanging out and/or eating together. (Whether or not you have food is entirely up to you.)



What is the Topic Purpose?

Elections are important and everyone should vote! While many are discouraged due to the state of federal elections, it's often overlooked that we are also voting on local issues and positions. This Community Circle template explores our options for local office and the issues that we will vote on. Circle members will not only be motivated to vote, but will become more knowledgeable on the ballot and more confident in sharing with their families, coworkers, and friends.

MATERIALS

- ▶ Notebooks and pens/pencils (Circle members can bring their own)
- ▶ Smart phones for looking up information (Circle members can use their own)
- ▶ List of local candidates and issues that will be on the ballot in your town/city. Bring enough copies for each Circle member to have one, or you can send each Circle member an online link with the list

AGENDA

1

Frame the topic using the language found in "Topic Purpose."

2

Distribute the sample ballots or list of local candidates/issues (or have Circle members pull it up on their smartphones).

3

Dive into the discussion and activity.

Recommended Discussion Questions:

1. Why is it important to vote?
2. Why are local elections so important?
3. What promises are the local candidates making?
4. What are the local candidates against?
5. How will the issues we're voting on affect us (both the pro and the con) if they're passed? If they're not passed (both the pro and con)?
6. What is our voting plan, how are we going to vote? (day and time, are we voting early, are we going to use a mail-in ballot vs. going to the poll in-person, etc.)

Activity:

Have each Circle Member choose a local candidate or issue that is on the ballot to research, or (depending on size of group) have people pair up and work together. Set the timer to 15 minutes and have everyone use their smartphones to research their chosen topic or candidate. Ask them to make note of what positions the candidate has or, if they chose a topic, to be ready to explain what the issue is and how it will affect the city/town. It's important to omit as much bias as possible.

When the 15 minutes is up, each Circle member has 3 minutes to share and someone will be chosen to keep time. Encourage members to take notes on the feedback and ask questions.

Repeat this activity again from the beginning as many times as you wish to get through as many local candidates and issues as possible. Feel free to alter the time for research and feedback based on the number of Circle members and how much time is available.

4

Closing Circle Ritual

It's great to learn something new, but it's no good if it isn't used! It's important to reflect on what was learned, as well as create action steps for how to apply what was learned. While most Community Circle templates will have a recommended action step, you can choose to create your own. You can also choose to create one with the Circle members.

With action steps, make sure the instructions are clear and there is a deadline. Whenever possible, do the action steps together.

The Ritual:

1. What was your biggest takeaway?
2. What next steps are we going to take to put what we learned into practice?
3. Thank everyone for being present and sharing their thoughts.

Action Step: Share what you've learned with your friends, family, and coworkers (as applicable) and make a plan on how you're going to vote this election! Share your plan on social media and encourage people to vote, and/or share your plan with a fellow Circle member. (Set a deadline for this.)