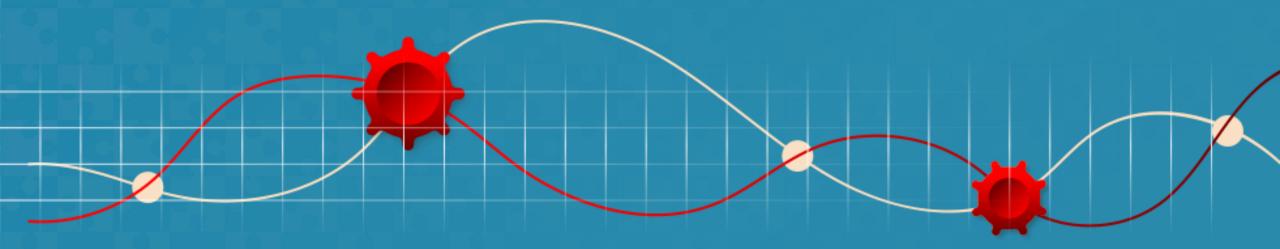
# Politics, Pandemic, Polls, and Predictions



Presented by Tory Van Voorhis

secand avenue

## **Second Avenue Learning**

- Founded by educators and gamers in 2006.
- To improve educational outcomes through innovative, creative use of digital technologies, paired with thoughtful learning design.
- By delivering visionary products, consistently noted for both smart design and proven efficacy.

























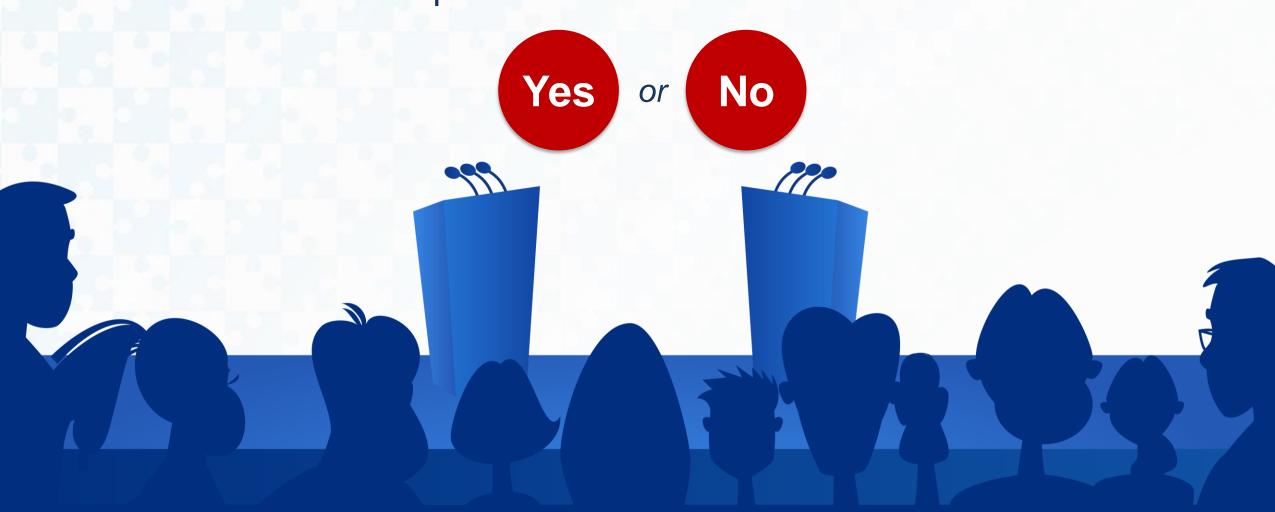






## Poll Question: Political Climate

Is the current political climate impacting your ability to teach essential civics concepts or current events?





# Time & Money

# 3 cents and the decline of social science instruction

... The percentage of classroom time devoted to social studies is about 7 %. That is at an historic low... Look at the history of decline in social studies in schools across the country you will start noticing the rise of partisanship and the decrease in civic participation. The two are directly correlated.

Justice Sonia Sotomayor (CNN interview, January 5, 2019)\*

\* Statistics confirmed via U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Schools and Staffing Survey (SASS)

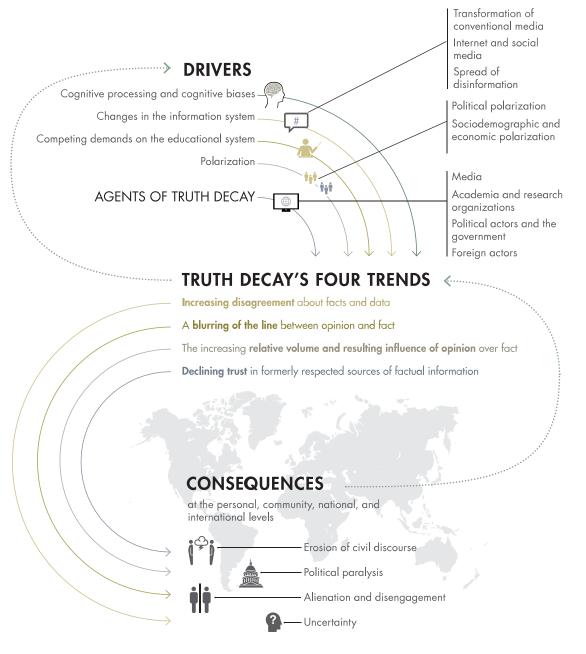


# What can help?

## **Combatting Truth Decay**

- Fact-based experiences
- Building critical thinking skills
- Building bridges to exploring and understanding different points of view

\*Kavanagh, Jennifer and Michael D. Rich, Truth Decay: An Initial Exploration of the Diminishing Role of Facts and Analysis in American Public Life. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2018.























## **Select Election Year**





2012



### **▼** Candidates

## Barack Obama (I)

**Democratic Party** 332 Electoral 65,446,032 Popular

## **Mitt Romney**

Republican Party

206 Electoral 60,589,084 Popular

#### 270 of 538 votes needed to win

### **→ Main Issues**

- Economy
- · Wealth and Taxes
- · Deficits and Debt
- Healthcare (Obamacare)
- Immigration
- Foreign Policy

### ▼ Key Facts

2012 had a rare occurrence of a sitting member of the House of Representatives, Paul Ryan, being a major party nominee for president or vice-president.

#### New States

## **▼** Exploratory Questions

· How did the events at the Democratic and Republican National Conventions positively and/or negatively impact each party?

How did Hurricane Sandy influence the



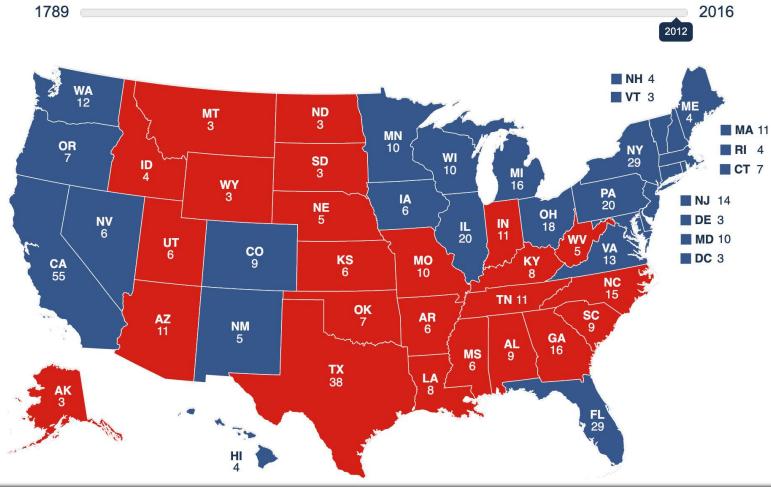
**1** User Guide

**Election Q&A** 



## Sources Cited







## Poll Question: Biden's VP Choice

Which candidate do you think Joe Biden will select as his Vice-Presidential running mate?

- a) Kamala Harris
- b) Amy Klobuchar
- c) Elizabeth Warren
- d) Gretchen Whitmer
- e) Tammy Duckworth
- f) Tammy Baldwin
- g) Stacey Abrams

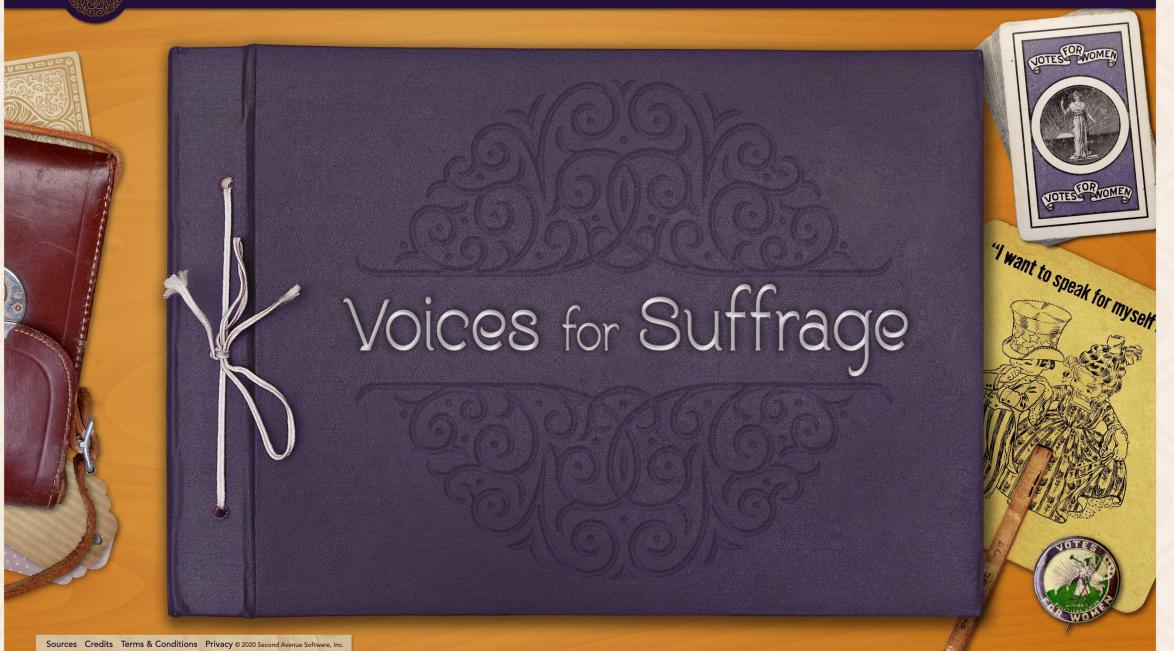












# Poll Question: The ERA

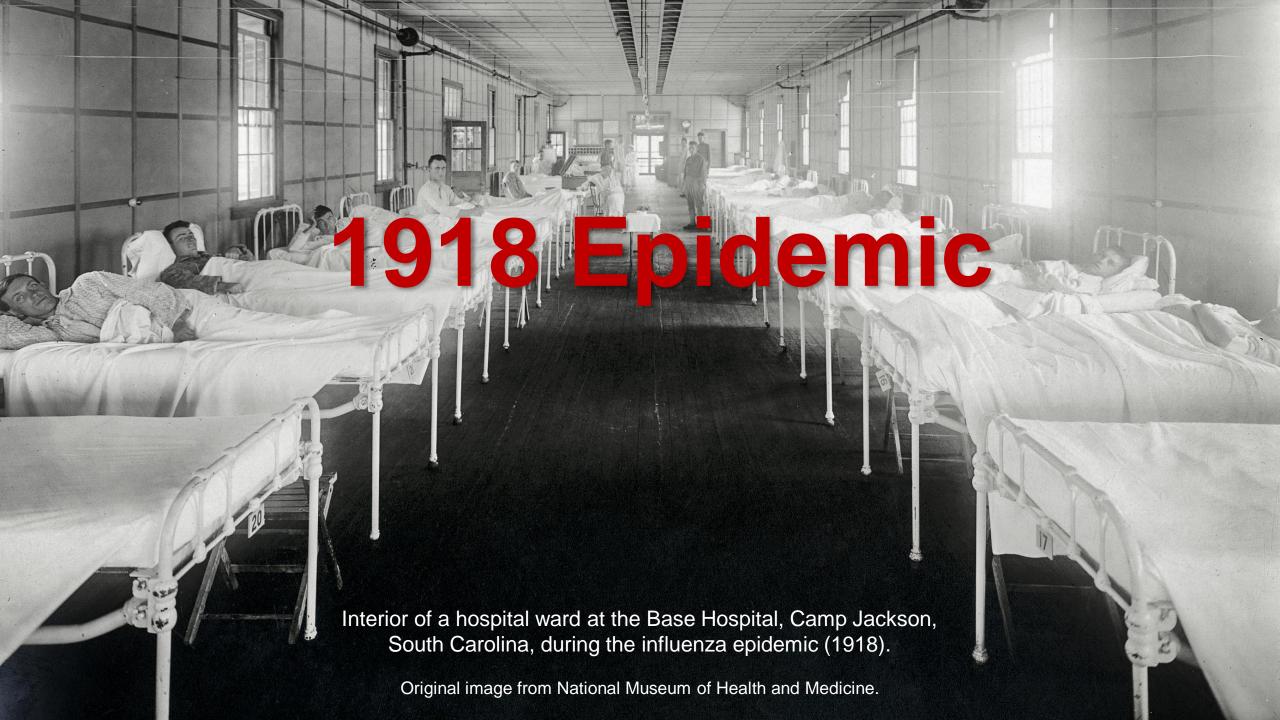
The demand for equal rights for women has a long history stretching from 1848 to present.

What action do you think should be taken with regard to the ERA (1972)?

- a) Submit it again for House and Senate Approval and state ratification
- b) Pursue the three-state strategy and challenge in court if necessary
- c) Nothing, women have equal rights







## Pandemic 2020



Coronavirus COVID-19 Global Cases by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University (...

**Total Confirmed** 127,749 Confirmed Cases by Country/Region/Sovereignty Iraq Thailand San Marino Egypt Lebanon Finland Portugal ' Slovenia Brazil **Philippines** Romania Taiwan\* **Poland** 

⟨ Country/Region/Sovereig...

Last Updated at (M/D/YYYY)

3/12/2020, 7:33:04 AM

Russia Confirmed: 28 Deaths: 0 Recovered: 3 Active: 25 AMERICA Ocean SOUTH AMERICA Pacific Esri, FAO, NOAA **Cumulative Confirmed Cases** Active Cases 116

Total Deaths Total Recovered 4,717 1 recovered 3.056 deaths Sri Lanka **Hubei** China 827 deaths Sweden 429 deaths Gibraltar United Kingdom Iran 66 deaths Arizona US Korea, South 55 deaths Massachusetts US Spain 48 deaths Washington US France France 30 deaths Wisconsin US Washington US

Other Locations

Daily Cases

Total Recovered

Mainland China

Logarithmic

Actual

AUSTRAL

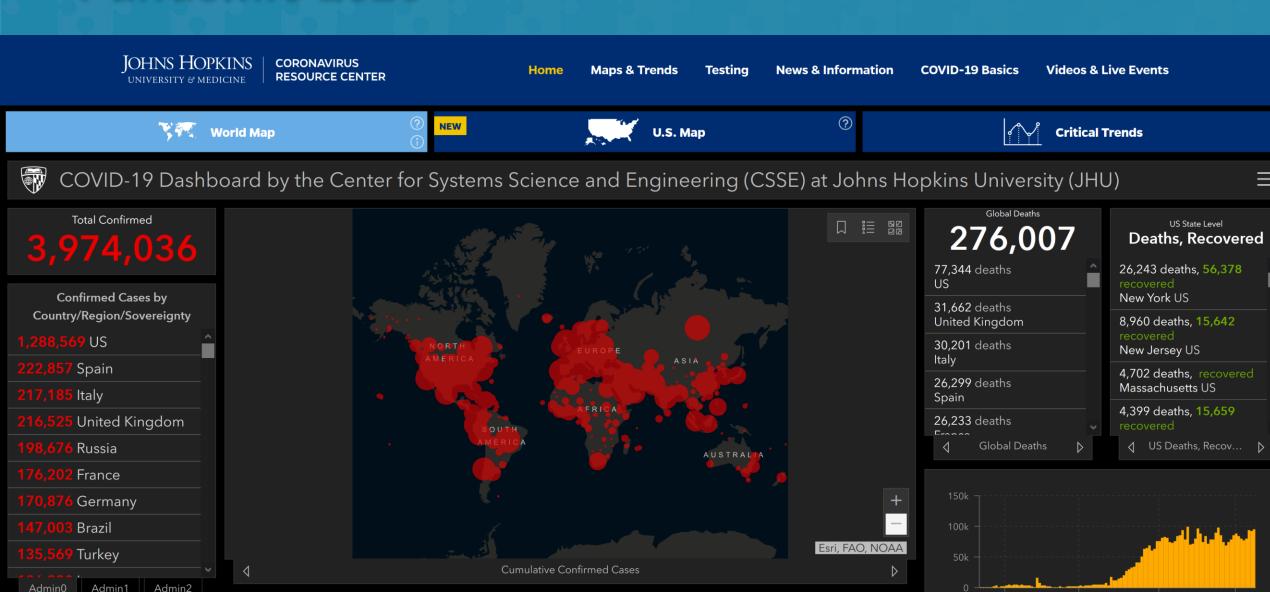
countries/regions

Note: All cases of COVID-19 in repatriated US citizens from the Diamond Princess are grouped together, and their location is currently designated at the ship's port location off the coast of Japan. These individuals have been assigned to various quarantine locations (in military bases and hospitals) around

## Pandemic 2020

187

5/9/2020, 11:32:29 AM



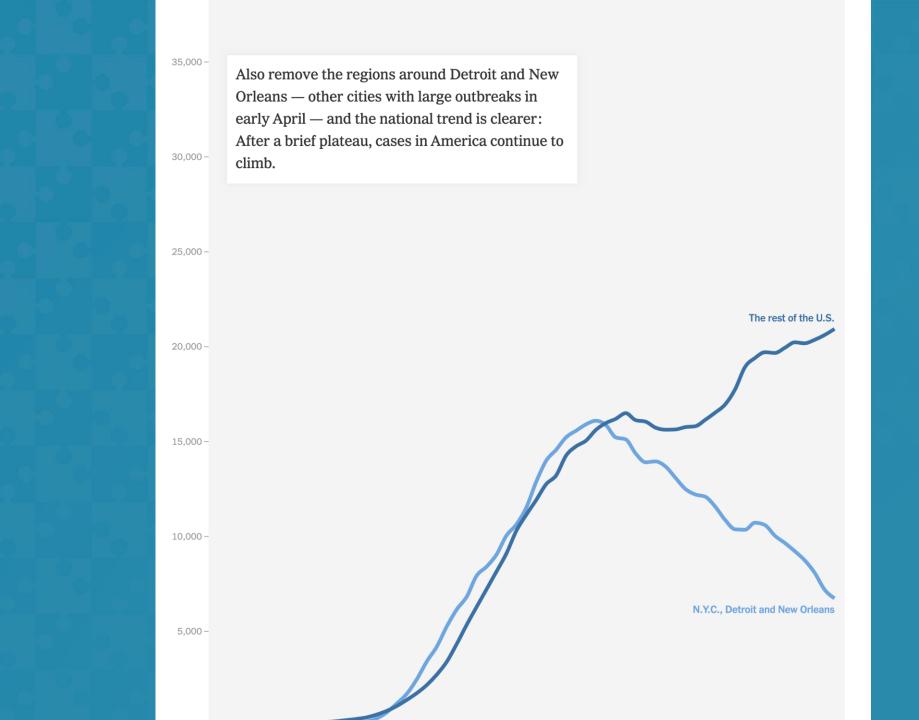
Lead by JHU CSSE. Automation Support: Esri Living Atlas team and JHU APL. Contact US. FAQ.

Confirmed

Logarithmic

Daily Cases

Lancet Inf Dis Article: Here. Mobile Version: Here.



From the New York Times Online:

Don't Be Fooled by America's Flattening Curve By Nathaniel Lash MAY 6, 2020

## Poll Question: Federalism

As the United States continues to manage the public health response to COVID-19, which level of government do you think should control the process of reopening?

- a) Federal Government
- b) Regional State Coalitions
- c) Individual States
- d) Counties
- e) Cities

Powers of the Federal Government

**Shared Powers** 

Powers of State Governments

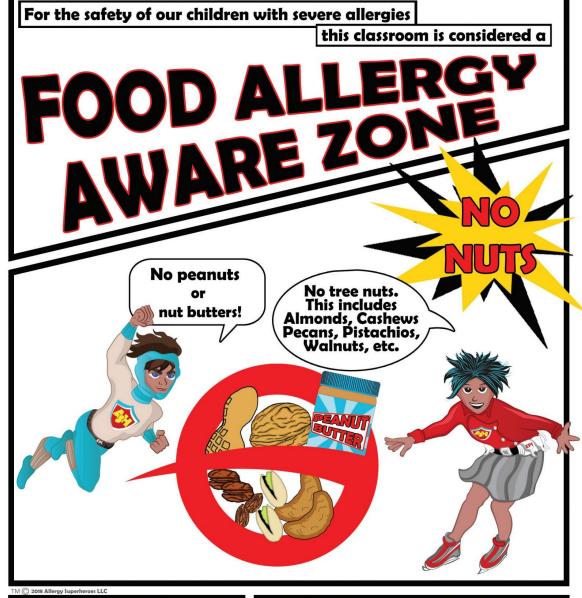
# How do we promote civil discourse?

The A.R.E. Method\*

Assertion: Simple Statement

Reasoning: Because/Why

• Evidence: Data



Please refrain from bringing tree nuts, peanuts or products containing these into this room. Did you know washing your hands removes germs and allergens? Please wash your hands when possible!

Thank you!



<sup>\*</sup> Teaching Tolerance, Civil Discourse In The Classroom (www.tolerance.org) Voting and Voices: Engaging Students and Families in Democracy

# Refutation & De-escalation

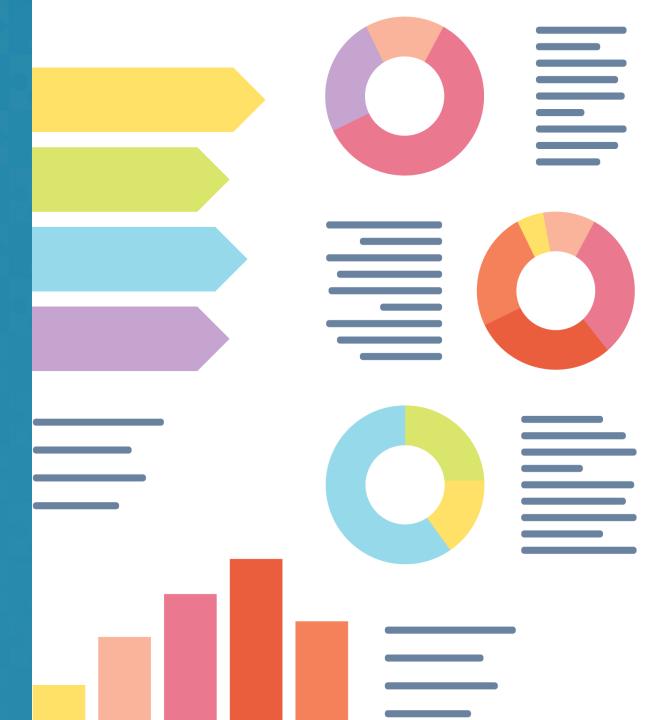
## Four-Step Refutation\*

Step 1) Restate: "They say . . . . "

Step 2) Refute: "But ....."

Step 3) Support: "Because . . . . "

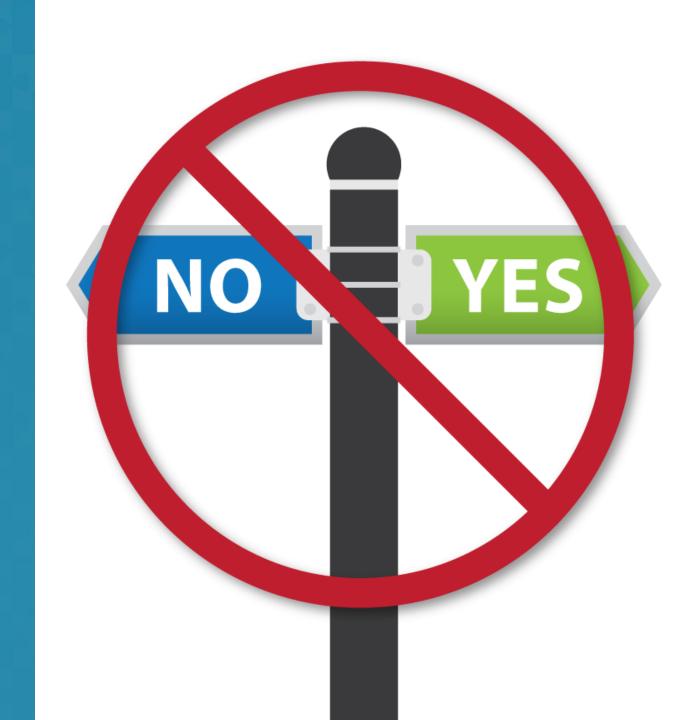
Step 4) Conclude "Therefore . . . "



<sup>\*</sup> Teaching Tolerance, Civil Discourse In The Classroom (www.tolerance.org) Voting and Voices: Engaging Students and Families in Democracy

# **Modeling Discourse**

- Avoid the *Either/Or* trap
- Invite people to analyze their argument or data
- Look for common ground
- Offer multiple paths







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ElectionEdge.SecondAvenueLearning.com/free.

## Sources for Further Exploration

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# Thank you!

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