

# VOTING SIMULATION INSTRUCTIONS

Students will first participate in two mini-elections as a way to gain an understanding of what it may have been like for women to not have voting rights in the United States before 1920 (and for some women, much later). Students will respond to a quick-write or a partner share at the conclusion of the voting simulation.

## #1: Only One Enfranchised Group

- Decide ahead of time on an action for students to vote on (i.e. length of free class time or silent reading time, type of reward, favorite candy, etc.)
- Use the provided ballot template and fill it out to include at least two options for this vote.
- Show ballots to students and explain that they will vote for only one option.
- Distribute the ballots only to students who are wearing shoes with laces, explaining that voting rights are only extended to those wearing shoes with laces.
- After they have voted, collect and tally the votes.
- Announce the results.

## #2: All Groups Enfranchised

- Now hold a second election. This could be the same item students voted on in the first mock election or it could be a different item.
- Using the template provided, create ballots that include at least two options for this vote.
- Show ballots to students and explain that they will vote for only one option.
- Distribute the ballots to w students.
- After voting, collect and tally the votes.
- Announce the results.

Have all students respond to the quick-write (see next page) and/or have them turn to a partner to discuss their responses to these questions.

## BALLOT

Select one:

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\_\_\_\_\_ :

## BALLOT

Select one:

\_\_\_\_\_ :  
\_\_\_\_\_ :

## BALLOT

Select one:

\_\_\_\_\_ :  
\_\_\_\_\_ :

## Quick Write

Did NOT Vote: How did you feel about not being able to vote? How did it feel watching others vote? Do you think this was fair? Why or why not?

Did Vote: How did it feel to vote? How did you feel about those not being able to vote? Do you think this was fair? Why or why not?

ALL: Do you think it's important that all are allowed to vote regardless of who they are? Why or why not?