

Zoom in –  
Tues, May 14 at Noon

12 | Welcome

12:05 | Topic Overview

12:25 | Video

12:35 | Full Conversation  
&/or Breakout Groups



## Get Out The Vote ChesCo

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bB-J4sxLEo>

Oprah Winfrey Network

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw7MOGISE-Q>



**Deb Bookman, Chester County Prothonotary**



**Cristian Luna, Chester County Deputy Prothonotary**



**Angel Williams, Community Liaison/Connector**

# THANKS TO OUR PROMO PARTNERS



- Please be respectful to all.
- Some may never have dealt with these topics before while others may have lived through traumatic experiences.
- Unmute yourself + turn on your video to encourage open dialogue.
- Mute yourself during the video streaming.
- Raise your hand or use the chat room to make a comment or pose a question.
- Tackle problems, not people.
- Discuss the undiscussable.





## Family Timeline

You have been assigned Family A. Read the description below and answer the questionnaire by either writing a “yes” or “no” after each statement. Use your best guess.

### Family A

You are descendant of an African-American family in the Deep South. You have been able to trace your roots proving that your ancestors started their life in America as plantation slaves. Most of your family remains in the Deep South to this day.

### The Questionnaire

1. Once the US Constitution was ratified in **1789**, your male ancestor was considered a US citizen with the right to vote.
2. In the **early 1800’s**, your male ancestor could legally move from one state to another and own property.
3. By **the 1850’s**, your male ancestor was legally considered a free person and could marry and raise a family as he wished.
4. By **the 1870’s**, after The Civil War, your male ancestor could own property, travel and vote without restrictions and without fear violence.
5. By the **late 1890’s**, your male ancestor could legally attend any public school, eat in any restaurant, shop in any store, walk on any sidewalk, use any means of public transportation or any public restroom without restrictions.
6. By **the 1920’s**, your male ancestor could legally get a bank loan and buy a home in any neighborhood he chose to live in.
7. By **the 1940’s**, your male ancestor could go to his voting place and vote on Election Day just by registering to vote like every other citizen of eligible age.
8. By **the 1950’s**, your ancestor was welcome to attend any quality public school he or she wished to attend.
9. By the **late 1950’s** and **early 1960’s**, your ancestor was free to sit anywhere on public transportation, eat in any public restaurant and use any public facility without fear of arrest or beating.
10. By the **late 1960’s**, it was likely your ancestor felt like he had the same job and educational opportunities as all other American citizens

## Family Timeline

You have been assigned Family A. Read the description below and answer the questionnaire by either writing a “yes” or “no” after each statement. Use your best guess.

### Family B

You are a descendant of a Northern European family in New England. You have been able to trace your roots proving that your ancestors arrived as immigrants and started life as merchants. Most of your family remains in New England to this day.

### The Questionnaire

1. Once the US Constitution was ratified in **1789**, your male ancestor was considered a US citizen with the right to vote.
2. In the **early 1800’s**, your male ancestor could legally move from one state to another and own property.
3. By **the 1850’s**, your male ancestor was legally considered a free person and could marry and raise a family as he wished.
4. By **the 1870’s**, after The Civil War, your male ancestor could own property, travel and vote without restrictions and without fear violence.
5. By the **late 1890’s**, your male ancestor could legally attend any public school, eat in any restaurant, shop in any store, walk on any sidewalk, use any means of public transportation or any public restroom without restrictions.
6. By **the 1920’s**, your male ancestor could legally get a bank loan and buy a home in any neighborhood he chose to live in.
7. By **the 1940’s**, your male ancestor could go to his voting place and vote on Election Day just by registering to vote like every other citizen of eligible age.
8. By **the 1950’s**, your ancestor was welcome to attend any quality public school he or she wished to attend.
9. By the **late 1950’s** and **early 1960’s**, your ancestor was free to sit anywhere on public transportation, eat in any public restaurant and use any public facility without fear of arrest or beating.
10. By the **late 1960’s**, it was likely your ancestor felt like he had the same job and educational opportunities as all other American citizens

**All of the answers for Family A are “no.”**

**All of the answers for Family B are “yes.”**

- How hard or how easy it was for the family to “move up” from one generation to the next?
- What were some of the main rights that allowed or stopped each family from being able to improve from one generation to the next?



# When did Americans get the right to vote?



**1788:** The *U.S. Constitution* is ratified. States retain the right to set their own voting laws. In most cases, white men over the age of 21 who own property can vote.

**1792–1856:** States amend their constitutions to remove the property requirements associated with voting. All white men over the age of 21 can vote.

**1870:** The *15th Amendment* to the U.S. Constitution is ratified. The amendment prohibits states, including those in the north, from denying the right to vote on account of race, color, or prior enslavement. Black men over the age of 21 can now vote.

**1877–1968:** States pass and enforce *Jim Crow laws*. Despite the adoption of the 15th Amendment, laws that enforce literacy tests, poll taxes, and the grandfather clause as well as outright intimidation and violence **disenfranchise** (or stop) African Americans from voting. Government institutions like the Supreme Court uphold many of the laws.



**1890:** Wyoming becomes the first state to grant women the right to vote. Women's groups continue to lobby state by state to have voting rights included.

**1920:** The *19th Amendment* to the U.S. Constitution is ratified. The amendment grants women the right to vote. Despite their participation in getting the amendment passed, African American women continue to face discrimination and disenfranchisement due to Jim Crow laws.

**1924:** The *Indian Citizenship Act* is passed. This Act grants full citizenship to all Native Americans born in the U.S. However, voting rights are still determined by the states and Native Americans face discrimination at the polls.





**1961:** The *23rd Amendment* to the U.S. Constitution is ratified. Residents of Washington, D.C. can participate in presidential elections.

**1962:** Native Americans earn voting rights state by state. Utah is the last state to guarantee voting rights for this group.

**1964:** The *24th Amendment* to the U.S. Constitution is ratified. This amendment bans the use of poll taxes in federal elections.

**1965:** The *Voting Rights Act of 1965* is passed. This Act finally reinforces the 15th Amendment outlawing discriminatory voting practices and allowing federal oversight of voter registration in states that had disenfranchised minority voters.

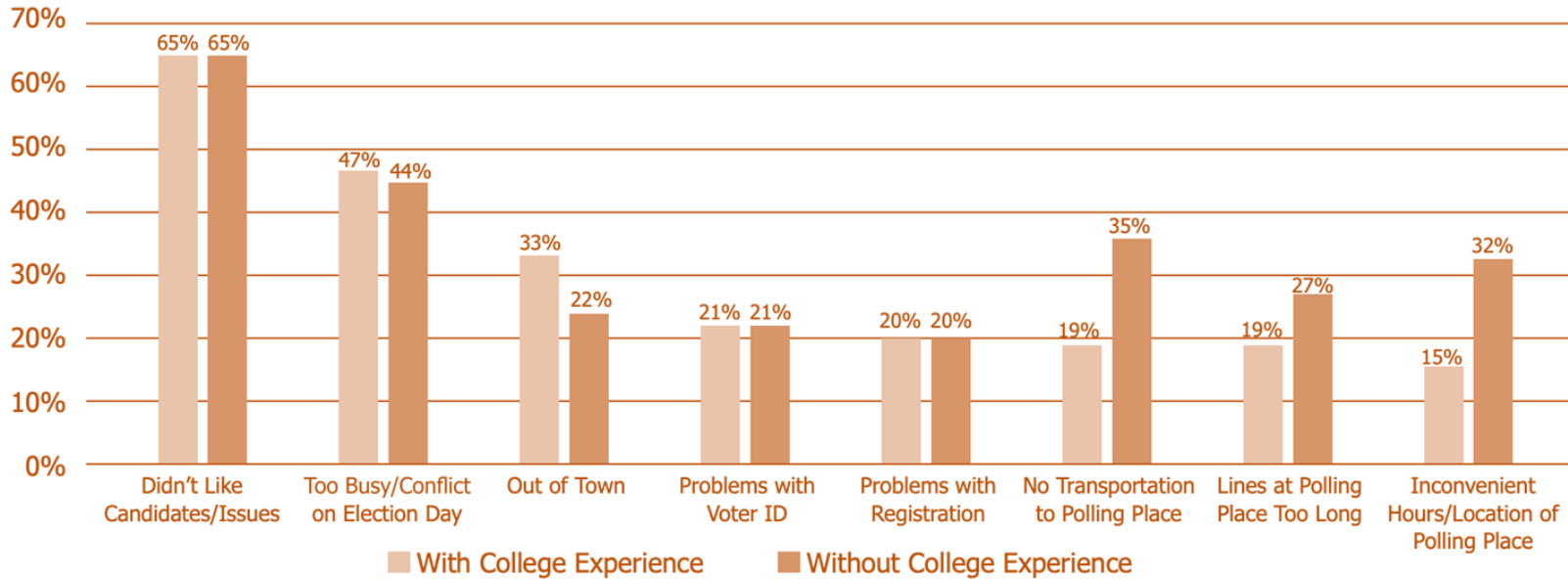
**1971:** The *26th Amendment* to the U.S. Constitution is ratified. This amendment, passed in the wake of the Vietnam War, lowers the voting age from 21 to 18. It is ratified in just two months. (The shortest time of any amendment!)





## CIRCLE: Youth Reasons for Not Voting in 2016 Election, by College Experience

Source: CIRCLE analysis of the 2016 Survey of the Performance of American Elections (SPAEE)



**Which reason for not voting surprises you the most?  
Why?**





## BARRIERS TO VOTING

Irrespective of voter registration status, young voters reported the following barriers to vote:



**52%**

need to rearrange their work or school schedule



**26%**

need help discerning truth vs. fake news



**39%**

did not know where to vote



**25%**

need to arrange a ride to the polls



**26%**

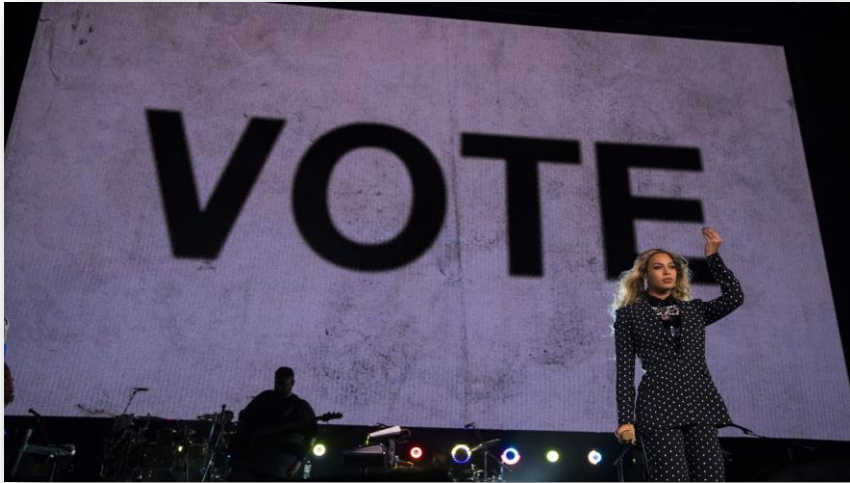
need help with their questions about candidates, ballots and polls



**16%**

need to find someone to cover their shift

<https://circle.tufts.edu/latest-research/growing-voters-engaging-youth-they-reach-voting-age-strengthen-democracy>



## GET OUT THE VOTE PSA

1:49

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw7MOGISE-Q>



## GET OUT & VOTE! Your Voice Matters!

| [#OWNYourVote](#) | Oprah Winfrey Network

1:00

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bB-J4sxLEo>

<https://www.oprah.com/sp/own-your-vote.html>

Sep 27, 2022

OWN and national voting rights leaders today joined forces to launch the OWN Your Vote 2022 campaign – a bipartisan, pro-social campaign mobilizing Black women to vote in the upcoming midterm election and arming their communities to do the same. OWN Your Vote first launched in 2020 to inspire and equip thousands of voters and community leaders with specific steps they can take to register to vote, request absentee ballots, and mobilize voters throughout their community. As a direct result of this campaign, infused with powerful national town halls and informative social content, more than 250,00 women engaged in conversations about the power of their vote. Black women showed up to the polls in droves, with the 2020 Presidential election having one of the highest voter turnout rates in history. OWN and national voting partners aim to build on the success of the previous campaign by informing voters of the massive importance of casting their ballot every year and owning their vote.



**15%** percent of Black voters  
**14%** of Hispanic voters  
**5%** of white voters  
had trouble finding polling places  
on Election Day

>**10%** of Black & Hispanic voters  
**3%** of white voters  
missed the registration  
deadline to vote in 2016



Black and Hispanic voters were **2x** as likely as white voters  
to have been unable to get off of work for voting

<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2018/07/poll-prri-voter-suppression/565355/>



Calling all BIPOC Organizations, Faith Communities, Sororities,  
Fraternities, Businesses and Allies!  
Call to Action: Take the Challenge!



**COMMIT**

to talking with family, friends, and neighbors to make plans to cast ballots for upcoming ELECTIONS.

For more information email:  
[WWW.vote411.org](http://WWW.vote411.org)

**COMMIT**

to canvass or write postcards to the underrepresented in Chester County in preparation for ELECTION DAY.

For More information email:  
[laila@newpaproject.org](mailto:laila@newpaproject.org)

**COMMIT**

to amplify our voices. Join #OurVoiceShouldBeHeard to educate and connect with underrepresented women about the political process.

For more information email:  
[blackwomenofccinaction@gmail.com](mailto:blackwomenofccinaction@gmail.com)

## #OurVoiceShouldBeHeard

A non-partisan multimedia campaign to increase the participation of the under-represented women in the political process through voting in Chester County, PA.

Learn more → <https://www.bwcca.org/general-9>



<https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/pennsylvania/>

DONATE

SHOP

ABOUT US

REGISTER TO VOTE



**ROCK**  
THE  
**VOTE**

HOW TO VOTE

GET INVOLVED

PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

ACTION FUND



## Volunteer with Rock the Vote

Join our team of volunteers who are passionate about organizing their communities to vote.

GET STARTED



## Read Democracy Explainers

Stay informed about what is going on with our short, easy-to-understand explainers.

LEARN MORE



<https://www.rockthevote.org/about-rock-the-vote/follow-rock-the-vote-on-social/>

<https://www.rockthevote.org/the-15th-amendment/>

## Brief Intros

- Who are you? What brought you to today's Community Conversation?
- What did you want to learn? What have you learned?

## Discussion Questions

1. What specific means have been used to restrict voting rights for people of color? What can be done to prevent/overcome this?

*State laws and policies regarding voting today--strict voter ID laws, purging voter rolls, and reducing voting timeframes--can have a negative impact on voter turnout.*

*Some people argue that these practices reduce voter fraud, but research has found that, in general, instances of voter fraud are low and not widespread.*

2. How can you help Get Out the Vote?



**Deb Bookman**  
Chester County  
Prothonotary



**Cristian Luna**  
Chester County  
Deputy Prothonotary



**Angel Williams**  
Community  
Liaison/Connector



# Spread the Word

## Community Conversations

Zoom in at noon – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues monthly - free

DATE	TOPIC	TITLE	SPEAKER
10/10/2023	<b>Income Inequity</b>	<u><a href="#">Income Inequity: Building Bridges To Get Out of Poverty in America</a></u>	<u><a href="#">The Economist</a></u>
11/14/2023	<b>Diversity</b>	<u><a href="#">Implicit Bias--How It Effects Us &amp; How We Push Through</a></u>	Melanie Funchess TEDx Flour City
1/9/2024	<b>Equity &amp; Education</b>	<u><a href="#">The Consciousness Gap in Education - An Equity Imperative</a></u>	Dorinda Carter Andrews TEDxLansingED
2/13/2024	<b>Black History</b>	<u><a href="#">The Mission to Safe Guard Black History in the US</a></u>	Julieanna L. Richardson, Founder The HistoryMakers
3/12/2024	<b>Nutrition, Health &amp; Wellness</b>	<u><a href="#">What We Get Wrong When We Think About Food Insecurity</a></u>	Leslie Campbell TEDxYouth@PCI
4/9/2024	<b>Latinos &amp; Race</b>	<u><a href="#">A Conversation With Latinos on Race</a></u>	<u><a href="#">The New York Times</a></u>
5/14/2024	<b>Get Out The Vote ChesCo</b>	<u><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bB-J4sxLEo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bB-J4sxLEo</a></u> <u><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw7MOGISE-Q">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw7MOGISE-Q</a></u>	Deb Bookman, Cristian Luna, Angel Williams, <b>Thought Leaders</b>
6/11/2024	<b>Juneteenth</b>	<u><a href="#">The Truth About Juneteenth</a></u>	Daniel Middleton for Unique Coloring/Black History Explainer

