

Civics for Adults Update, February 11, 2023.

Upcoming

Beyond Voting: Elections and Campaign Finance

Wednesday, February 15, 4-5:30 PST / 7-8:30 EST Stoughton Public Library [MASS]. Virtual

Register: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfTmRarMHL4apDk-MemecXZErXMoQLoyQlzxAeU0oSeD3kWbA/viewform>

- Right to vote?
- Voter suppression
- Election 2020 continuing issues and 2024 concerns
- Redistricting / gerrymandering
- Primaries
- Alternative voting systems
- Campaign financing issues and tracking

The Constitution: Fulfilling Democracy's Promise? – The Constitution, Democracy and Representation

Wednesday, March 8, 4-5:30 PST / 7-8:30 EST. Stoughton Public Library [MASS]. Virtual

Register: One week ahead. Check website.

We'll look at the Constitution's creation, trace major changes to its interpretation, and examine its current structural limitations.

- Status of democracy
- Forming a country
- Bill of Rights
- Interpreting the Constitution
- Structural issues / representation
- Changes needed?

Selected Civics for Adults Facebook posts:

Article in the Boston Globe about my workshop!

Local groups want to put civics education back on the front burner

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2023/01/20/metro/local-groups-want-put-civics-education-back-front-burner/>

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Quite a good article summing up the impacts of redistricting based on the 2020 Census and the resulting flood of court cases, many claiming maps that are racially gerrymandered. The outcome of these cases will impact the maps used for 2024. Two very significant cases are in the Supreme Court; we'll know their outcome next June.

We'll take a quick look at a couple of these maps in the Elections workshop on Feb 15.

2020 Redistricting Cycle Report: How Maps Were Challenged in Court

https://www.democracymarket.com/analysis/2020-redistricting-cycle-report-how-maps-were-challenged-in-court/?fbclid=IwAR2gOQ6Qn8ScGZyjDuL0ONsD15PGZ5GwGN8AZP_HSNkk5evK1MWWMHODifl

Another related, helpful article from the Brennan Center, **Redistricting Litigation Roundup:**

https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/redistricting-litigation-roundup-0?fbclid=IwAR2pFs6iNU8VHnkQ_9AbHUWrAR09bjRCHyQgtoq2tOJmIYDsFpx19Ze_joY

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There is a bill in the Oregon Legislature right now **SB579** that would **allow those who are incarcerated to vote**. It is ridiculously easy to submit written testimony [aka your opinion] or to sign up for in-person or virtual testimony now. [We have one of the best systems in the country for doing so!]. Just go to the link and look around: information, sign up, follow the bill via email alerts, etc.

It's a hotly contested topic. Check out what people have submitted as testimony.

https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Measures/Overview/SB579?fbclid=IwAR3tiWuhqjR_zrhJYOIjytr6jL_xbh2qPnlquT-bwUwSXLFFHlwUagzdO214

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More at <https://www.facebook.com/Civics-for-Adults-1490728887922036>

Ask your local library or community group to sponsor a workshop! Thanks.

Flyer describing workshops: https://static.s123-cdn.com/uploads/2516289/normal_5fe8c854352d5.pdf