

GUIDELINES: CIVIC RESPONSES

Guidelines: In *Step Six: Act* of the deliberation process, students are asked to explore, develop, and implement a civic response related to the deliberation topic in question. The purpose is not only for students to realize there are practical applications for the information and skills learned during the deliberation process, but also to actively engage in democratic processes. Acting based on personal positions is putting democracy in action, a very important component for effective democracies. Civic responses can be done individually, in groups, or as a whole class.

Examples of Civic Responses:

1. Blogging or other social networking to encourage awareness
2. Crafting informational leaflets and distributing them to city council members
3. Creating an informational video or piece of expressive art work for public display
4. Holding a teach-in at school
5. Making a school bulletin board display providing critical information
6. Organizing a letter-writing campaign or petition
7. Planning an event to create awareness and/or raise funds
8. Preparing for and participating in a public meeting
9. Producing an educational play and presenting it to local elementary school students
10. Raising funds for a cause
11. Wearing self-made buttons, stickers, or T-shirts related to the issue
12. Writing a petition, having it signed, and sharing it with legislators
13. Volunteering for an organization
14. Voicing a series of informational, inspirational, or advocacy messages each morning at school over the public announcement system