



## Girl Scouts of Kentucky's Wilderness Road 2024 Community Service Project

Voting is the ultimate form of community activism. The message that voters give when casting a vote is: "I count and I can make a difference!" Young people can count too, when the adults in their lives vote.

### Important Dates

- o National Voter Registration Day: September 17, 2024
- o Voter Registration Awareness Weekend: September 27-29, 2024
- o GSKWR Staff Voter Registration Day: October 1, 2024
- o Deadline to Register to Vote: October 7th, 2024
- o Promise to Vote Day: October 26, 2024

# Table of Contents

Purpose .....	3
Promise to Vote Service Project .....	4
General Requirements.....	5
Activities.....	6-7
Facts about Voting.....	8
Community Scavenger Hunt.....	9
What Makes a Good Leader .....	10
How to Judge a Candidate .....	11-12
History of Women's Rights .....	13
Declaration of Sentiments .....	14-15
Glossary .....	16-18
Voting Promise Form .....	19
Voter Registration Flyer .....	20
Patch Program Evaluation Form .....	21
Important Dates to Remember .....	22

## The US Constitution

The Founding Fathers wanted to form a government that did not allow one person to have too much control, so they wrote the Constitution to provide for a separation of powers into three separate branches of government: legislative, executive and judicial.

Each branch of government has its own responsibilities; however, they work together to ensure the country runs smoothly. This is done through a system of checks and balances.

## Did you know?

The entire Constitution is displayed only one day a year—September 17, the anniversary of the day the framers signed the document.

The Rotunda of the National Archives Building in downtown Washington, DC, displays the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the Declaration of Independence.



# Greetings Girl Scouts, Families and Friends!

The national, state, and local election process will be top of the news until Election Day in November. The Girl Scout role in any election is to provide an accurate, age appropriate, non-partisan interpretation of the election process.

The purpose of this program is to engage and empower Girl Scouts to understand the voting process in a patriotic—not political— manner, eagerly anticipate their right to vote, and encourage and enable women to exercise their right to vote. While working on this program or for any potentially political purpose, be aware that GSUSA's policy concerning political activity is referred to in Safety Activity Checkpoints.

This program contains activities for Girl Scouts in all age levels. Each level must complete a specific number of activities, as noted in the "General Requirements" section.

Discussions of different political parties and views are an important part of this program and should be encouraged. Activities should concentrate on general education about the election and research all sides of an issue so girls can make informed, independent decisions.

In addition to the patch program, check out the related citizenship badge for each age level!

- o Daisy: Democracy for Daisies, Good Neighbor
- o Brownie: Celebrating Community, Democracy for Brownies
- o Junior: Democracy for Juniors, Inside Government
- o Cadette: Democracy for Cadettes, Finding Common Ground
- o Senior: Behind the Ballot, Democracy for Seniors
- o Ambassador: Democracy for Ambassadors, Public Policy

Thanks for educating girls about the importance of participating in our democratic process, and have fun with the program!

# Promise to Vote Service Project

## Why Vote?

Despite the many hard-won battles for increased voting rights, including recent government efforts to make voter registration easier and more accessible, many eligible voters choose to exercise their right not to vote.

Did you know? Only 66% of the eligible voting population in the United States voted in 2020, and that was the highest percentage of people voting since 1900. Only 21.8% percent of youth eligible to vote in Kentucky voted in 2022. That means there is still a large percentage of people who aren't voting, even in our own state!

This doesn't necessarily mean that these individuals are not good citizens or do not care about their community and country. Lack of information or misinformation about the voting process – voter registration procedures and deadlines, for example – keeps many people from the polls.

## Voter Registration Awareness Weekend - September 27 - 29, 2024

Prior to Girl Scout Promise to Vote Day on October 26, 2024, GSKWR is pledging to assist Kentuckians in registering to vote. Girl Scouts are asked to sponsor a booth to encourage eligible adults to vote - this can be done virtually (tips and guidelines enclosed) or in-person. Girl Scouts should distribute voter resources such as voting instructions and voting locations. Girls are encouraged to distribute Promise to Vote stickers to adults. Stickers serve as a visual reminder of the promise made by Kentuckians to contribute back to their communities. Promise to Vote Stickers will be available for purchase at all GSKWR shop locations. Girl Scouts may create their own Promise to Vote stickers to distribute at their booth. Girl Scout staff will also host a Voter Registration Day Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2024.

## Promise to Vote Day - October 26, 2024

In addition to Voter Registration Awareness Weekend, GSKWR is dedicating itself to reminding our communities about their responsibility to vote on Election Day Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024. Girl Scout troops are asked to sponsor a booth - this can be done virtually or in-person. Girl Scouts will share voter resources such as FAQ's regarding: voting locations, instructions on voting, etc. - and "Promise to Vote" stickers to adults as a visual reminder to vote. These stickers will serve as a visual reminder of the promise made by Kentuckians to contribute back to their communities.

\*in-Person Booths - please do not contact Walmart or Kroger. Stores such as: Goodwill, Insurance Agencies, local grocery stores, local boutiques, coffee shops, banks, etc. are acceptable.



# General Requirements

## Community Service

In each succeeding national election, fewer and fewer eligible voters actually vote. In 2016, fewer than half the eligible women voted; forty-five million women did not vote. In addition, many young people are experiencing an alienation from any kind of political involvement. An informed and active electorate is essential to the success of a democracy, and one goal of the Girl Scout organization is to help girls develop into resourceful and active citizens.

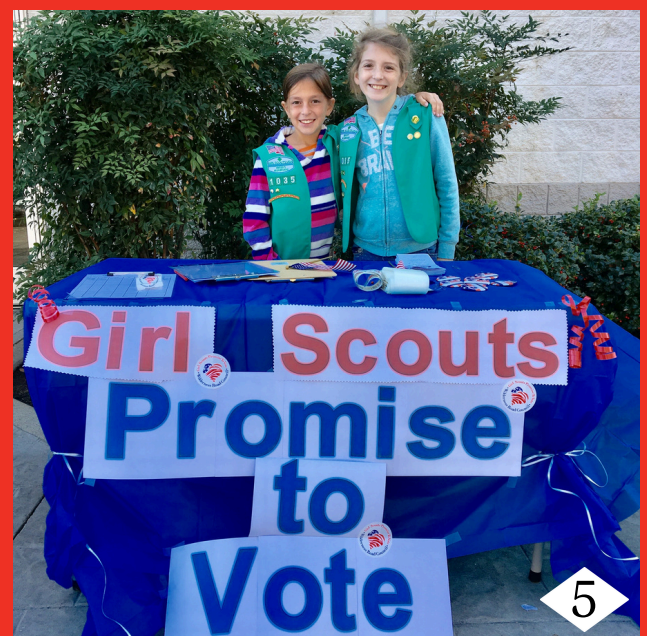
Part of the program is to remind adults to Promise to Vote in this year's election. Be sure to start the program early enough so the girls are well informed to participate in this part of the program.

## Age Level Patch Requirements

Each Age Level Must Complete the Following Number of Activities:

- Daisy and Brownie: 1 Discover, 1 Connect, 1 Take Action
- Junior and Cadette: 2 Discover, 2 Connect, 1 Take Action
- Senior and Ambassador: 3 Discover, 3 Connect, 1 Take Action

*Patches are available at the GSKWR Service Center Retail Shops and by mail as needed. Once you or your troop has completed the steps to receive your patch(es) please complete the patch program questionnaire no later than December 1, 2024.*







Shirley Chisholm represented New York State in the U.S. House of Representatives from January 3, 1969 until January 3, 1983.

Chisholm was a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus and championed minority education and employment opportunities throughout her tenure in Congress.

In 1972, she ran for the Democratic nomination for the presidency—becoming the first major-party African-American candidate and second woman to do so.

In 2015, Chisholm was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

# Activities

## Discover

- ☐ Investigate the election process. Research who is eligible to vote and how they register, or learn about the specific requirements for different offices. Running for president looks a lot different than running for mayor.
- ☐ Discover differences and similarities between our government and others. Pick a country you'd like to know more about and learn what rights their citizens have. Who is eligible to vote? Who is their current leader? Consider inviting a returned Peace Corps volunteer or international aid worker to your troop meeting to share their experiences, and hear first-hand what living in a different political system is like.
- ☐ Complete the Promise to Vote Scavenger Hunt (enclosed.)
- ☐ What makes a great leader? As a troop, discuss some of the characteristics of a good leader. What does leadership mean to you? Why? Be sure to include both local and global leaders in this discussion! Use the What Makes a Good Leader activity sheet (enclosed) to make a list of the characteristics of a good leader.
- ☐ Research the evolution of voter rights. Did you know that women weren't always able to vote? Focus on a significant figure in the women's suffrage movement, or draw a timeline that includes major events and changes in voter rights over history.

## Connect

- ☐ Interview three women to find out why they vote and what impact their vote has in the community.
- ☐ Pretend you are running for office and make a commercial telling people why they should vote for you.
- ☐ Collect three newspaper articles or pictures that discuss the 2024 elections. Discuss them with your troop.
- ☐ Complete the How to Judge a Candidate exercises (enclosed).
- ☐ Help other Girl Scouts learn about voter registration. Complete a voter registration form together.
- ☐ Pick an election issue that is important to you. Research your issue and summarize what you have learned for your troop. Hold a friendly debate on the issue.

# Did You Know?

- ✿ The ability to vote in the US started in 1788 with the first presidential election. At the time, only white males who owned property could vote.
- ✿ Black men could vote in 1869 following the Fifteenth Amendment.
- ✿ Women were not allowed to vote until 1920.
- ✿ On August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was finally ratified.
- ✿ The 19th Amendment says that women, like men, deserve all the rights and responsibilities of citizenship!
- ✿ Four years ago, in 2020, we reached the 100 year anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment guaranteeing and protecting women's constitutional right to vote.



# Activities

## Take Action

Distribute Voter Registration Flyer (enclosed) and ask each individual to sign the Pledge Card (enclosed) promising to vote in the 2024 Presidential Election. If you do not have printed copies of the Voter Registration Flyer, secure the signatures on the Pledge Card and give instructions to the potential voter on how to access the information online.

- ☐ Conduct a Virtual or In-Person Voter Registration Awareness Booth
  - Voter Registration Awareness Drives should take place during September 27 - 29, 2024.
  - Distribute the Voter Registration Cards and ask each individual to sign the Pledge Card (enclosed) promising to vote in the 2024 Presidential Election. If you do not have voter registration cards, secure the pledges on the card and give instructions to the potential voter on how to download a form.
  - You can show people how to register to vote online at [govote.ky.gov](https://govote.ky.gov). If someone is already registered, help them check that their registration is up-to-date and verify the location of their polling place.
- ☐ Conduct a Virtual or In-Person Promise to Vote Booth
  - Promise to Vote Booths should be held on October 26, 2024.
  - Distribute voter resources and Promise to Vote stickers. Ask each individual to sign the Pledge Card (enclosed) promising to vote in the 2024 Presidential Election.



# Facts about Voting



**Myth:** It is hard to meet the voters' registration qualifications.

**Fact:** You can register to vote if you are:

- ◆ A United States Citizen
- ◆ 18 years old by election day
- ◆ A resident of the state in which you are voting
- ◆ Not a felon
- ◆ Not judged mentally incompetent

**Myth:** Someone must register me.

**Fact:** You can register yourself. Fill out a registration form. Sign the form yourself. Registration must take place 28 days before an election to be eligible to vote in that election. This year's deadline is October 7, 2024 at 4 PM.

**Myth:** Forms are hard to get.

**Fact:** Forms are available at a variety of locations such as: Post offices, libraries, fire stations, Department of Motor Vehicle offices, city, and county offices. You can contact the County Clerk Office in your county or register online at [www.govote.ky.gov](http://www.govote.ky.gov) to get a form sent to your home.

**Myth:** Once I fill out the registration form, I am registered.

**Fact:** You are registered when the county clerk processes the voter registration card.

**Myth:** If I do not vote in an election, I must re-register.

**Fact:** Registration at this time is permanent. You do not have to vote in each or any election to remain registered as long as you do not move. However, when you move to a different county, change your name, or wish to change political parties, you must update your registration.

**Myth:** I can register for someone else.

**Fact:** You can only register for yourself.

**Myth:** If I am away from my home country on Election Day, I cannot vote.

**Fact:** You can vote absentee by mail, absentee in person, or on the three days of early voting. Contact your County Clerk Office or go to [govote.ky.gov](http://govote.ky.gov) for information on how to register for absentee voting.

**Myth:** Women have always been able to vote.

**Fact:** No. Thank you to abolitionist Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott who organized the Women's Suffrage Movement and gained women the right to vote in 1920.



# Community Scavenger Hunt

*Use the Internet, local directories, and newspapers to find the following information. Check off as you fill in each answer!*



- ☐ What are the names of the newspapers in your community?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ What is the Declaration of Sentiments?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Who is the current President of your country?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Who is the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth of Kentucky?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Who is the Governor of Kentucky?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ If you could create a law, what would it be?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Where do you go to vote?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ What are the major issues for the election this year?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ When is the Presidential Election?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ How many State Senators does Kentucky have? Are any of these people women?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Obtain and read a campaign pamphlet from someone running for a state or local office.

# What Makes a Good Leader?

Who can you think of that makes a good leader? Is it a family member, a teacher, or your troop leader? Maybe someone you know in the community, a politician or celebrity, or a fictional character from your favorite movie or book?

Think about who a "good leader" is and write or draw something that represents them below! You could even start by listing characteristics or skills that a good leader would have!

# How to Judge a Candidate and See Through Distortion Techniques

Elections present voters with important choices. Whether it is a local race that will affect your community or a national race that could change the direction of the country, it is a time to consider the issues which you care about and decide which candidate you support.

Even if you are under 18 and not yet eligible to vote, election campaigns offer an excellent way to learn about the people and issues that affect your future. But how do voters go about comparing and then judging the candidates? All too often, slogans, name recognition, and personality are all that come through in the campaign materials. As television has come to dominate political campaigns, it has become difficult to move beyond a candidate's image to the substance of the campaign. However, it is possible to move beyond style to substance.

The seven steps outlined here are designed to help you judge a candidate.

## Step One: Decide what you are looking for in a candidate

Candidates can be judged in two ways: the positions they take on issues and the leadership qualities and experience they would bring to the office. Both are important. Your first step in picking a candidate is to decide the issues you care about and the qualities you want in a leader. When you consider issues, think about community or national concerns that you want people in government to address. For example, you may be interested in the threat of nuclear war, government funding for student loans, or teenage unemployment. Those are issues.

## Step Two: Find out about the candidates

Use the Internet, magazines, newspapers, and television to find out about the candidates.

## Step Three: Gather materials about the candidates

Put together a "library" of information about the candidates. Collect any information you can find on the candidates. Call campaign headquarters and watch the press. Sources of information from which you may choose include:

- Campaign literature
- Direct mail letters (mass mailings sent to selected voters asking for support and funding)
- Press reports (newspaper clippings and television and radio reports)
- Radio and television ads
- Candidates' speeches
- Candidate debates

## Step Four: Evaluate candidates' stands on issues

As you read the materials you collect, keep a journal. Do the materials give you an overall impression of the candidate? What specific conclusions can you draw about the candidates' stands on issues? Record what you have learned about their stands on your priority issues from each source.

## Step Five: Learn about the candidates' leadership abilities

Deciding if a candidate will be a good leader is difficult. How can you know if someone will be honest, open or able to act under pressure if elected to office? Here are some ways to read between the lines as you evaluate the candidates' leadership qualities.

- Look at the candidates' background and their experience. How well prepared are they for the job?
- Observe the candidates' campaigns. Do they accept speaking engagements before different groups that might not be sympathetic? Do they accept invitations to debate?
- Review the campaign materials. As you read the materials and watch the campaign develop, add to your journal information that provides insights into candidates' personalities and leadership qualities. For example, do campaign materials emphasize issues or just image?

# How to Judge a Candidate

## Step Six: Learn how other people view the candidate

Now that you have accumulated information from campaigns and other sources, you will want to learn what other people think about the candidates. Their opinions can help clarify your own view, but do not discount your own informed judgments. You may be the most careful observer of all!

- Seek the opinions of others in your community who keep track of political campaigns. Interview three people (not family members), such as a shopkeeper, neighbor, or politically active volunteer, to find out which candidate they support and why.
- Learn about endorsements. This is a way for interest groups and organizations to give a “stamp of approval” to a candidate. Endorsements provide clues to the issues that a candidate supports. For instance, a candidate endorsed by the Sierra Club (an environmental organization) will probably be in favor of legislation that protects the environment. A candidate endorsed by the National Rifle Association will probably be opposed to gun control laws. Get a list of endorsements from each of the candidates’ websites. Find out what these groups stand for and find out why they are endorsing this candidate.

## Step Seven: Sorting it all out

Review the information you have collected and compare all the candidates. Ask yourself these final questions:

- Which candidates’ view on the issues do you agree with the most?
- Who ran a fair campaign?
- Which candidate demonstrated the most knowledge on the issues?
- Which candidate has the leadership qualities you are looking for?
- Is the choice clear? If so, pick a candidate.

# See Through Distortion Techniques

## Honest and Fair

All the candidates are trying to sell themselves to voters. Sometimes their language is so skillfully crafted that they distort the truth in ways that are difficult for even the most careful observer to detect. Here are examples of distortion techniques that you should watch for as you review candidates’ campaign materials.

- **Name Calling/Appeals to Prejudice:** These are attacks on an opponent based on characteristics that will not affect performance in office. Accusations such as, “My opponent is arrogant and full of hot air,” do not give any real information about the candidate. References to race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexuality, immigration history, or marital status can be subtly used to instill prejudice.
- **Rumor Mongering:** These include statements such as, “everyone says my opponent is a crook, but I have no personal knowledge of any wrongdoing”, which implies, but does not state that the opponent is guilty.
- **Guilt by Association:** These are statement such as, “we all know Candidate B is backed by big money interests,” that attack candidates because of their supporters rather than because of their stand on the issues.
- **Catchwords:** These are phrases such as “Law and order” or “un-American” that are designed to trigger a knee-jerk emotional reaction rather than to inform.
- **Passing the Blame:** These are instances in which a candidate denies responsibility for an action or blames an opponent for things over which he/she has no control.
- **Promising the Sky:** These are unrealistic promises that no elected official could fulfill.
- **Evading Real Issues:** These include instances in which candidates may avoid answering direct questions.



# History of Women's Rights



Did you know about women's struggle to gain the right to vote?

If you opened up a dictionary and looked up the word Suffrage you would find that it means the right to vote. Our country is a democracy, identified by the phrase, "one person, one vote." The framework of our government, The United States Constitution, did not give the right to vote to everyone. In fact, two groups in this country, African Americans and women, were denied this inalienable right for a long time. It was a long and arduous battle for the citizens of this country to be able to stand side by side and declare their right to vote in elections.

When the U.S. Constitution was drafted by a group of men in Philadelphia in 1787, they did not include women as they debated and discussed how to govern the country. Compelled to create a democracy, it was with limitations that did not extend past white men who qualified by various religious, property, and taxpaying criteria.

The Fifteenth Amendment provided the right to vote for black men in 1869 but it took until 1920 for women to gain that right when the Nineteenth Amendment was ratified (passed).

The struggle really began in 1848 at a meeting held in New York called the Seneca Falls Convention. It was at this convention that people assembled, took the words of Thomas Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence, and stated their claim to their voting rights in a document called the Declaration of Sentiments (see below). Just like the Declaration of Independence, which was signed by 56 men, the Declaration of Sentiments was also signed by those who adopted it-68 women and 32 men. The principle author was Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

At a time when the role of women was very traditional, these women became the foundation of the Suffragist Movement and fought long and hard but most did not live till 1920 to see their battle won. It caused a great deal of controversy. People respected their hard fought battle at first but were unwilling to let go of their traditional mindset. One article in a local newspaper event described it to be the "most shocking and unnatural paper recorded in the history of womanity." It was the Declaration of Sentiments that formed the basis for the movement that eventually won women the right to vote 72 years later!

2020 marked the Centennial of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote in the United States. Now, in 2024, women have had the right to vote for the past 104 years. The Girl Scout organization is only 8 years older, as we turned 112 in March!

*Bibliography: Arlington, K.M. and Taylor, W., eds (1992). Voting Rights in America; Berghe, G.V. and Cultice, W.W (1992). Youth's Battle for the Ballot; Roger, D.W., ed (1992). Voting and the Spirit of American Democracy; Williamson and Chilton (1960). American Suffrage from Property to Democracy, 1760-1860.*



# The Declaration of Sentiments

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one portion of the family of man to assume among the people of the earth a position different from that which they have hitherto occupied, but one to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind required that they should declare the causes that impel them to such a course.

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men and women are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights governments are instituted, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. Whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of those who suffer from it to refuse allegiance to it, and to insist upon the institution of a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its power in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to affect their safety and happiness.

Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly, all experience hath shown that mankind is more disposed to suffer. While evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their duty to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of the women under this government, such is now the necessity which constrains them to demand the equal station to which they are entitled.

- The history of mankind is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations on the part of man toward women, having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over her. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.
- He has never permitted her to exercise her inalienable right to the elective franchise.
- He has compelled her to submit to laws, in the formation of which she had no voice.
- He has withheld from her rights which are given to the most ignorant and degraded men— both natives and foreigners.
- Having deprived her of this first right of citizen, the elective franchise, thereby leaving her without representation in the halls of legislation, he has oppressed her on all sides.
- He has made her, if married, in the eye of the law, civilly dead.
- He has taken from her all right in property, even to the wages she earns.
- He has made her, morally, an irresponsible being, as she can commit many crimes with impunity, provided they be done in the presence of her husband, he becoming, to all intents and purposes, her master—the law giving him power to deprive her of her liberty, and to administer chastisement.
- He has so framed the laws of divorce, as to what shall by the proper causes, and in case of separation, to whom the guardianship of the children shall be given, as to be wholly regardless of the happiness of women—the law, in all cases, going upon a false supposition of the supremacy of man, and giving all power into his hands.

# The Declaration of Sentiments (*continued*)

After depriving her of all rights as a married woman, if single, and the owner of property, he has taxed her to support a government which recognizes her only when property can be made profitable to it.

- He has monopolized nearly all the profitable employments, and from those she is permitted to follow, she received but a scanty remuneration. He closes against her all the avenues to wealth and distinction which he considers most honorable to himself. As a teacher of theology, medicine, or law, she is not known.
- He has denied her the facilities for obtaining a thorough education, all colleges being closed against her.
- He allows her in church, as well as state, but a subordinate position, claiming apostolic authority for her exclusion from the ministry, and, with some exceptions, from any public participation in the affairs of the church.
- He has created a false public sentiment by giving to the world a different code of morals for men and women, by which moral delinquencies which exclude women from society are not only tolerated, but deemed of little account in man.
- He has usurped the prerogative of Jehovah himself, claiming it as his right to assign for her a sphere of action, when that belongs to her conscience and to her God.
- He has endeavored, in every way that he could, to destroy her confidence in her own powers, to lessen her self-respect, and to make her willing to lead a dependent and abject life. Now, in view of this entire disfranchisement of one-half the people of this country, their social and religious degradation—in view of the unjust laws above mentioned, and because women do feel themselves aggrieved, oppressed, and fraudulently deprived of their most sacred rights, we insist that they have immediate admission to all the rights and privileges which belong to them as citizens of the United States.

Now, in view of this entire disfranchisement of one-half the people of this country, their social and religious degradation—in view of the unjust laws above mentioned, and because women do feel themselves aggrieved, oppressed, and fraudulently deprived of their most sacred rights, we insist that they have immediate admission to all the rights and privileges which belong to them as citizens of the United States.

*As cited in Fowler and Wells (1889). Elizabeth Cady Stanton, A History of Woman Suffrage. Rochester, NY: 1. P. 70*





# Glossary: Election Terms

*Here are some words you will hear or see during an election campaign.*

Absentee Ballot Drop Box - A receptacle to return absentee ballots.

Absentee Voting - A way people can vote when they can't get to their polling place. They vote on a special form and mail it.

Ballot - A list of people who are running for public office: a form voters use to show whom they vote for.

Ballot Scanner - Where voting forms are submitted. CHECK VERBIAGE

Budget - A plan for spending money.

Cabinet - The group of government department heads who advise the president.

Campaign - What a candidate does to get people to vote for her/him.

Campaign Committee - A group of political party members who plan how to get the party's candidate elected.

Candidate - A person who runs for a public office; someone who wants to be chosen for public office.

Caucus - A special meeting of legislators surrounding a common interest.

Chad - Punched out paper in a paper ballot that was difficult to count because it didn't fully release from the ballot during the 2000 election.

Chief Executive - The president; the official in charge of our relations with other nations.

Civil Rights - Rights that all citizens have. Those rights are given by law.

Commander in Chief - The president; the head of the army, navy, and other military forces.

County Clerks Office - The office that handles records of voters and information about voting. (In some places, this office is called the Office of Voter Registration.)

Defense Program - A plan or system to protect our country. Weapons and armed forces are part of our defense program.

Delegate - A party member who is chosen by other members to go to the party's convention.

Democrat - A member of the Democratic party.

Democratic Party - One of our two main political parties. Its symbol is the donkey.

Domestic Issue - An issue/problem inside our country.

Economic Aid - Help such as money or food that a country provides to another country.

Elected Official - A person who is elected to a public office in the government, as opposed to appointed or hired. The president of the United States is an elected official.



# Glossary: Election Terms

Election Officer - A person who works at the place where people vote to make sure voting laws are followed; a poll worker.

Electoral College - A group of people who meet right after an election for our president. Our constitution says this group formally elects the president and vice-president.

Foreign Policy - How our government relates to the government of our nations.

GOP - Acronym which stands for Grand Old Party, the nickname of the Republican party.

Inauguration Day - January 20, the day when the president is sworn into public office.

Incumbent - A person who holds a public office and wants to be elected to that office again.

Independent - A person who does not belong to either of the two main political parties.

Issue - A point of debate or controversy between the candidates or parties. How to deal with unemployment or social security would be examples of issues.

Majority - More than half. A group or political party whose numbers equal more than half of a body or vote.

Military Aid - Military help, (soldiers and/or weapons) that one or more countries provide to another country.

National Convention - An important political meeting for party members from all over the country, at which Republicans, Democrats, and/or other political parties choose their party's candidate for president.

National Economy - The system a country has that keeps track of how much it spends and how much it makes.

National Election - An election for president and vice-president. All registered voters in the nation can vote in a national election.

Nominate - To suggest that someone be a candidate for an office.

Oath of Office - The pledge that the new president, along with all elected officials, makes to uphold and defend the Constitution.

Party Headquarters - An office where party members meet to work for the party and/or candidate.

President-elect - The title for the candidate who wins the election for president but who has not yet taken the oath of office.

Primary Election - An election that a political party holds in a state, to narrow down the number of people running for an office.

Register - Sign up to vote.

Registered Party Member - Someone who signs a form saying she or he belongs to a certain political party.

Republican - A member of the Republican Party.

# Glossary: Election Terms

Republican Party - One of our two main political parties. Its symbol is the elephant.

Social Program - A plan or system to help nations' citizens. Medicare is a social program that helps to pay medical bills.

Special Interest Group - A group of people who all want specific things from the government.

Environmental organizations are often special interest groups.

State Convention - A big political event held by each party. This is where national delegates are selected.

Super Delegate - Important players in the National Parties who help decide which candidate will secure the nomination.

Term - How long a person is elected to a public office. The president's term is four years.

Third-Party - Any political party that is not Democrat or Republican.

Ticket - A list of all the candidates in one political party who are running in an election.

Treaty - An agreement between the governments of two or more nations.

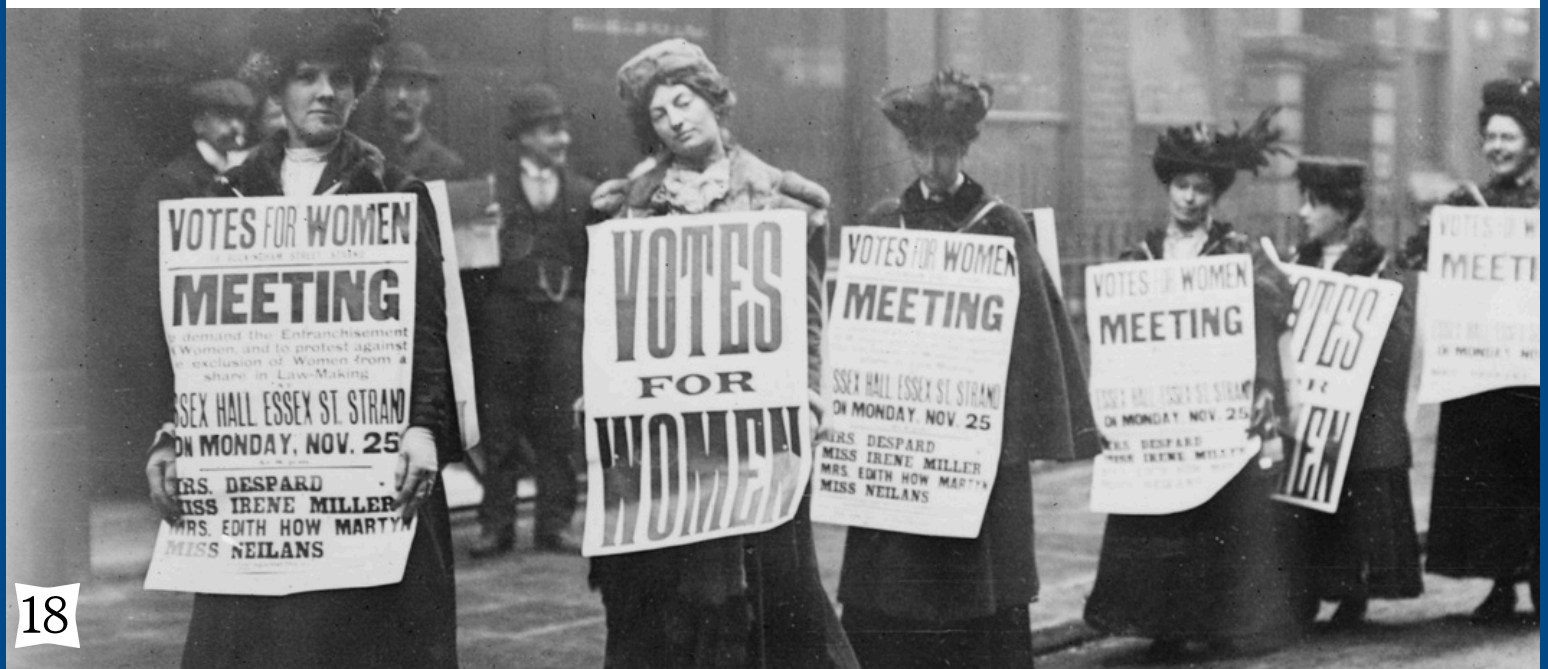
Voting Equipment - A machine people use when voting.

Voter ID - Photo ID issued by a federal, state, or county government agency.

Voter Registration Card - The form that people use to register to vote.

Ward - A political district that is made up of several precincts.

Notes/Additions:



Name

Date

# I Promise to Vote in the General Election

This card belongs to:

Troop #:

	Name	Date
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[www.govote.ky.gov](http://www.govote.ky.gov)



*Unmute  
yourself.*

*Register to  
vote.*



[www.govote.ky.gov](http://www.govote.ky.gov)



*Unmute  
yourself.*

*Register to  
vote.*





PATCH PROGRAM EVALUATION

Troop \_\_\_\_\_ Service Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Age Level \_\_\_\_\_

Troop Leader's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street City Zip

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Our troop of \_\_\_\_\_ girls worked on and completed the GSKWR 2020 Promise to Vote Patch Program.

Please complete the following evaluation with responses from the girls.

1. Why did you choose this program? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. How much time did you spend on it? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What outside resources did you use? (people, facilities, equipment, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What part did you like best? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Who were some of the important women you discovered something special about?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. What are some things you learned for the first time? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. How did the adults feel about the program? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form by **December 1st, 2024**

to: Girl Scouts of Kentucky's Wilderness Road

ATTN: Programming Department

12 Price Ave

Erlanger, KY 41018

OR via email to [program@gswrc.org](mailto:program@gswrc.org)

GSKWR 2024 Promise to Vote Patches are available to purchase at/through any of our GSKWR retail centers.

## Important dates to remember...

- Kentucky Primary Registration Deadline: April 22, 2024
- Kentucky Primary Election: May 21, 2024
- General Election Registration Deadline: October 7, 2024
- General Election: November 5, 2024

### *National Conventions*

July 15-18, 2024

Republican Party National Convention

August 19-22, 2024

Democratic Party National Convention

### Did you know?

- The first woman to run for U.S. president was Victoria Woodhull, who campaigned for the office in 1872 under the National Woman's Suffrage Association.
- Jeanette Rankin of Montana became the first woman elected to Congress in 1916.
- The first female governor of a U.S. state was Wyoming governor Nellie Tayloe Ross, elected in 1924.
- The first female member of a president's cabinet was Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor under FDR.



*Special thanks to our community partners for their support and assistance on the development of our 2020 Promise to Vote program: Kentucky's Secretary of State office, the Kentucky League of Women Voters and the Kentucky Historical Society.*



*Thank you to our Girl Scout sister from the Girl Scout Council of Eastern Pennsylvania and Central Indiana for their inspiration and resources that were used to develop this program.*