

## **As you're coming in, please do the following:**

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1. Rename yourself to the name you would like to be called, and enter your preferred pronouns
2. In the chat, type your name, where you're from, and a fun fact about yourself!
3. In the chat, we've posted a list of names and corresponding numbers. Please locate your number and remember it/write it down.

# **Voting with a Feminist Lens**

A workshop by  
teens, for teens



**Thank you to Moving Traditions and Kol Koleinu for supporting me throughout the process of developing this workshop!**

**Thank you to our  
co-sponsors!**

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NFTY

Jewish  
Feminist  
Alumnae  
Network



USY



BBYO

# Sessions

1

## Why is voting important?

Session 1 will cover the importance of voting, with an emphasis on the history of the women's suffrage movement.

2

## Which issues matter to you?

In session 2, you will gain a better sense of the issues that matter to you and learn how your feminism might inform your positions.

3

## What do you look for in a candidate?

The goal of session 3 is to break down candidate selection into several, more manageable parts that can help you be more confident in your decisions.

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# Session 1



Why is voting important?

**A timeline of voting  
past, present, and  
future**

# Examine and edit the Padlet

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Examine the events and their descriptions, and then think of your own personally meaningful events — whether they have already occurred or will come in the future — to add to the timeline.





**A mock election**

# Which ice cream flavor is the best?

Introducing... the candidates!

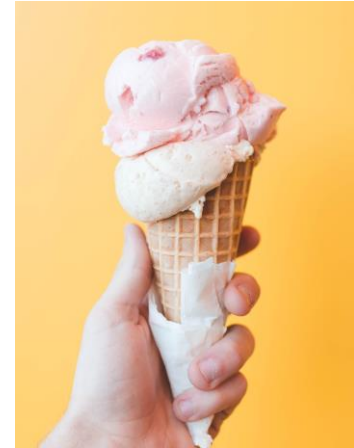
Chocolate



Vanilla



Strawberry



# Voting

## Round 1

Everyone votes!

# 50%

of the nation's eligible voters do not vote\*

\*Politico

**Round 1**

**Round 2**

# Discussion

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1. What was this activity like for you?
2. What was frustrating?
3. How, if at all, did the activity shift the way you originally thought about voting? Does it make a difference if not all people vote?

# Challenges

## **Confusion,**

Fake messages that spread misinformation

Moved to a new state

## **Voter suppression**

accommodating polling centers      Difficulty accessing mail in ballots

Served a period of incarceration

work life balance,

Transportation difficulties

They couldn't vote due to public transportation and they couldn't leave their kids

Access to voter registration!!

# Where, when, and how you can vote

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<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/08/11/us/politics/vote-by-mail-us-states.html>

<https://www.businessinsider.com/how-to-vote-early-in-presidential-election-2020-8#when-does-voting-start-in-my-state>



**1) Why is voting important?**

**1) What are some challenges voters face?**

# Why is voting important? What are some challenges voters face?

## Table 1

List reasons for voting and how much these reasons resonate with you.

## Table 2

List barriers to voting and how much these challenges affect you.

Compare and contrast reasons/barriers in 1920 and 2020

# Discussion

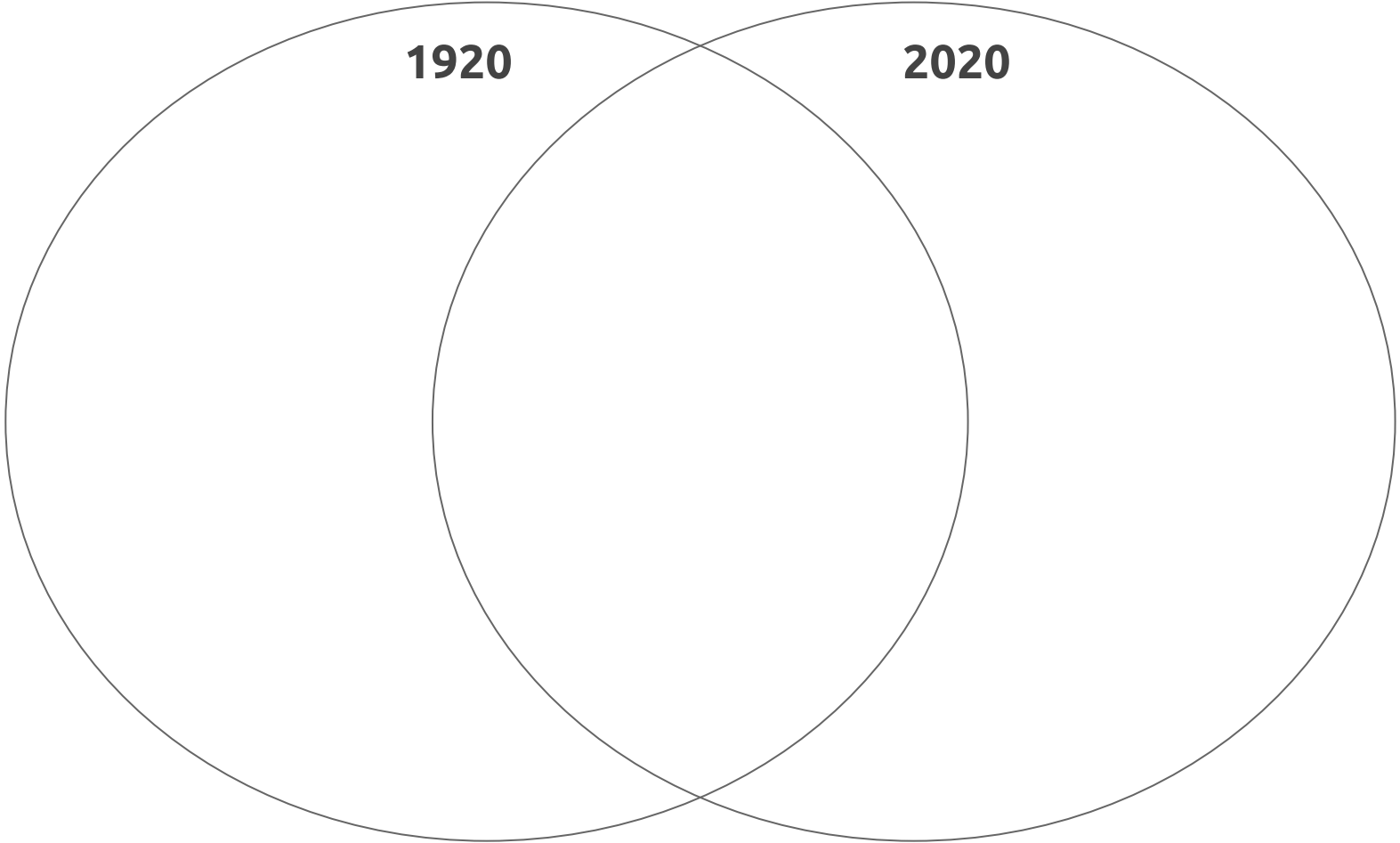
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1. Which motivations for voting have changed over time? Which have stayed the same? Why do you think this is so?
2. Which challenges to voting have changed over time? Which have stayed the same? Why do you think this is so?
3. Which motivations resonated most with you? Which resonated the least with you?
4. Which challenges might affect you? How do these challenges compare those faced by women who are in ethnic minorities, are disabled, or hold a lower socioeconomic status?

# Reasons to vote

1920

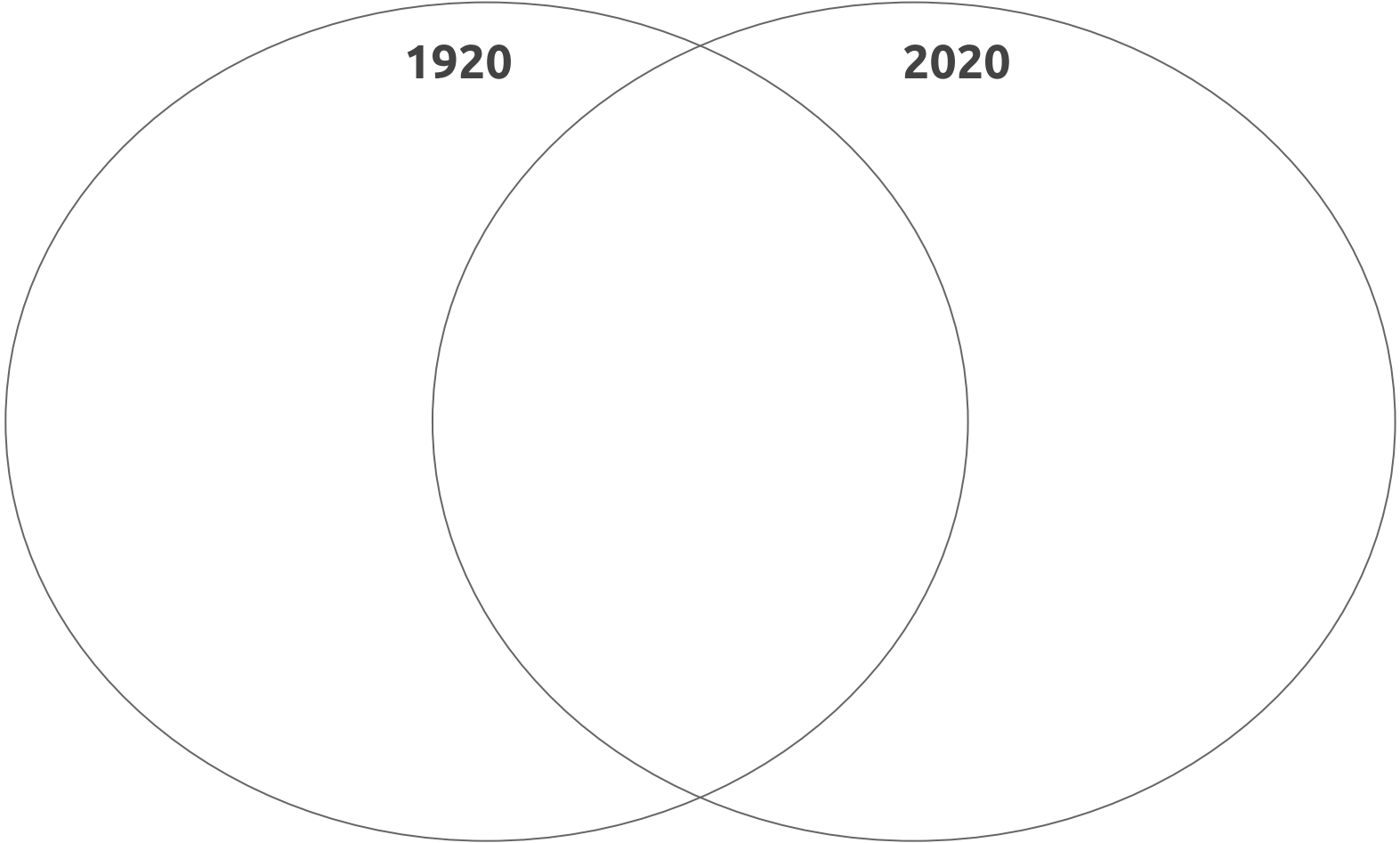
2020



# Barriers to voting

1920

2020



**“Voting is the expression of our  
commitment to ourselves, one  
another, this country, and this  
world.”**

— Sharon Salzberg

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# Session 2



Which issues matter to  
you?



**1) Which issues matter to us?**

**1) How do we apply a feminist lens to these issues?**

# What is a feminist lens?

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Personally, I define feminism as providing all genders equal rights and opportunities, and respecting the diverse experiences, identities, knowledge and strengths of all women.



Immigration

Food &  
Agriculture

Military

Gun Control

Trade

Elections

Energy &  
Environment

Technology

Education

Criminal Justice

Health Care

Taxes

Economy

# **Mind Map of Issues & Values**

# Resources to check out

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## Getting out the vote

- [Rock the Vote](#)
- [League of Women Voters](#)
- [Voto Latino](#)
- [Campus Vote Project](#)

## Finding local elections

- [BallotReady](#)

## Explanations of the issues

- [iSideWith](#)
- [Politico](#)

## Candidates' views on the issues:

- [iSideWith](#)
- [CEEP](#)
- [OnTheIssues](#)
- [ProCon](#)

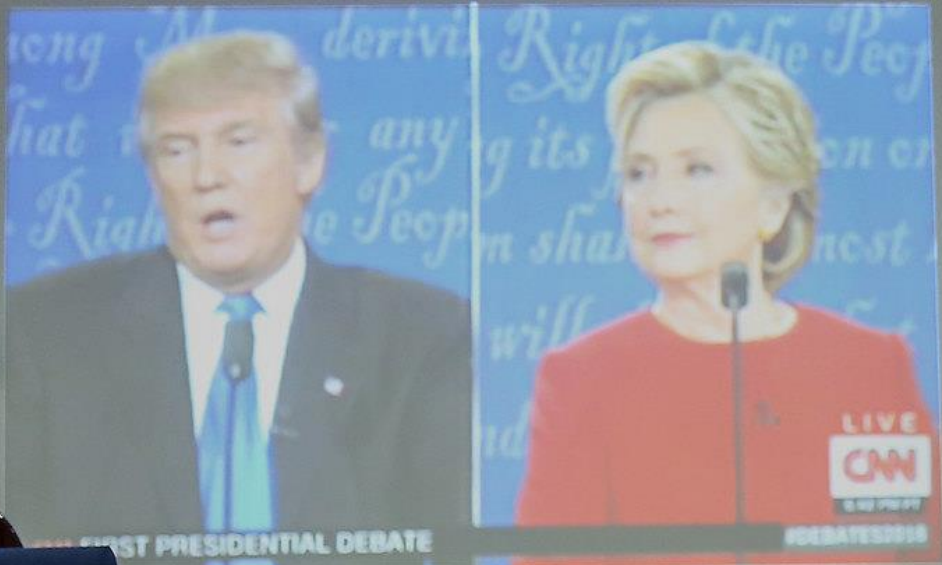
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# Session 3

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What do you look for in a candidate?

**Let's watch some  
debates!**





We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect 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 shewn that mankind are 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.



## What did you notice first?

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- Body language and facial expressions
- Physical appearance
- Speaking mannerisms
- Content of speech
- Interaction with other candidate

**Double standards**

## Double standards in your life

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- What are double standards? What do they mean in the context of comparing men and women?
- In what parts of your life have you experienced double standards? Sports (e.g., being aggressive on the field) and school (e.g., dress codes) are a few topics to get the conversation going.
- If you have multiple identities (for example, you are black, Jewish, female and queer) how have you experienced double standards or triple or quadruple standards?

# Characteristic Reframe

# Blind Candidate Eval