

WORKSHOP: Navigating the Politics of Civic Engagement

Below is an exercise frequently used for student group exercises. In this workshop, we will adapt the exercise to explore the politics of civic engagement.

“How do you define community service?” Reflection Exercise

What actions constitute *community service*? Read the list below. **Write “1” next to the statement that fits most closely with your personal philosophy of service.** Write a “2” next to the statement that is the second closest to your philosophy of service, and so on.

- _____ Giving \$50 to the United Way.

- _____ Walking a frail person across a busy street.

- _____ Giving blood.

- _____ Tutoring a migrant worker.

- _____ Adopting an eight year old boy.

- _____ Quitting your job to move to a monastery and meditate for a year.

- _____ Working as a state legislator.

- _____ Voting.

- _____ Joining the armed forces.

- _____ Providing dinner once a week at a homeless shelter.

- _____ Chaining yourself to an old growth tree as loggers enter the forest.

- _____ Leaving your car at home and biking to work and/or school every day.