

Who Should Not Vote?

Restrictions on Voting Rights

All states have some voting restrictions. Are they necessary?

Below are five traditional restrictions on the right to vote. Form small groups to decide whether your state should retain each of these restrictions. Before making a decision on each restriction, the group should discuss and write answers to these two questions:

Q What are some reasons favoring the restriction?

Q What are some reasons against the restriction?

After the groups have finished their work, each restriction should be discussed and voted on by the entire class.

Restrictions on the Right to Vote

In order to vote, you must...

- A. Reside in a voting district for at least one month.
- B. Be at least 18 years of age.
- C. Not be in prison or on parole for a felony conviction.
- D. Be a U.S. citizen.
- E. Register to vote.

Worksheet: Restrictions on the Right to Vote

Below are five traditional restrictions on the right to vote. In your small group, decide whether your state should retain each of these restrictions: Before making a decision on each restriction, the group should discuss and write down reasons in favor and reasons against retaining the restriction. Then write down your group's decision to **RETAIN** [keep] or **DISCARD** the restriction.

RESTRICTION	REASONS IN FAVOR	REASONS AGAINST	DECISION
Reside in a voting district for at least one month			
Be at least 18 years of age			
Not be in prison or on parole for a felony conviction			
Be a U.S. citizen			
Register to vote			

Be prepared to present and explain your choices to the entire group.