

Assessing and Developing Pathways to Evidence Informed Civic Engagement and Political Awareness

by Julia N. Neuvirth

Many studies have determined that there are many aspects that highly affect the civic engagement and the political awareness of today's youth. This study explores the aspects that affect civic engagement and the political awareness of today's youth while also evaluating the type of civic education that students are receiving throughout their time in the school system. Using a method of surveying undergraduate students seeking a degree in education, this study aims to determine what kind of civic education students have received. In addition to gathering data on civic education, this study aims to create plans that teachers across the nation can implement in order to better incorporate civics and political awareness throughout their classroom, beyond the social studies lessons. The evaluation of the research participants asks a series of questions that helps evaluate their civic engagement and political awareness. The survey gathers data on the circumstances in which the individual was raised and the education that they receive. This helps to evaluate how the way an individual is raised can impact their civic and political engagement later in life. Using the data, the goal of this study is to draw conclusions that help to improve the civic education system.