



## WHY VOTE?

- Why do you think it's important to vote? Do you know someone who has voted? If so, do you know why they did it?



- Do you care about: Job opportunities and health care for your family and friends? The length of prison sentences? When someone is eligible for parole? Our national security? Funding for education, music and sports programs? Financial aid for college? Programs to help you find a job when you graduate?
- Guess what? Every one of those things, and many more, are decided by our elected officials (the people who run your school board, work in Sacramento and represent you in Congress). They are making decisions every day that impact your life. Voters legalized marijuana in Colorado and Washington and passed Proposition 47 in California, reducing some nonviolent felonies to misdemeanors.
- Voting is our chance to choose the decision makers and say what we think on the issues that matter most to us.
- Voting brings us together as Americans. It is one time when young or old, rich or poor, we all have the same say.



Voting is our chance to take control over what happens to our families, our community, and us.

- Once you are registered, get informed about what is on the ballot, then VOTE!

- Most likely, you'll have several choices to make when you vote. For example, in 2016 you'll vote for the President and US Senator. You may also be asked to vote on other things, like money for schools or roads, and whether you approve of certain laws.
- *You do not have to vote for everything on your ballot. You can cast your vote only for the issues and offices you choose.*



Go to <http://www.votersedge.org/ca> for answers to your voting questions.  
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