

Dream of a Nation
Citizen Stewardship

Infographic

1. How can civic participation result in the most efficient allocation of scarce public resources?
2. Are deliberative processes essential or wasteful for a society with divergent interests?
3. How would you argue that the benefits of the deliberative process outweigh the costs of time, money, management, risk of elite capture, possible instability and potentially unrealistic expectations, inherent within?

Unified In Stewardship

1. How does civic engagement enable better management of natural resources?
2. How does an increase in social capital lead to an increase in environmental capital?

Staying Within Our Limits

3. Given the economic disparity of people in America, would the process of civic engagement result in genuine societal transformation or top-down implementation of policies favoring elites?
4. Oakley has noted that while years ago studies on the effectiveness of social campaigns would focus on technology and good management, today's studies highlight the key commonality between effective campaigns as civic engagement. Why is this?

Living Lighter

5. Is it possible, through a process of civic engagement, to convince people in America to give up what they already have if it is environmentally unsustainable?
6. Do you agree with Agrawal that, "a high level of participation could be antithetical to democracy, for it may endanger freedom and rights, impede governability and destroy pluralism?"

Citizens Shaping Their World

7. How does the idea Esman and Uphoff posit, that, "where poor communities have direct input into the design, implementation, management and evaluation of projects, returns on investments and sustainability of the project is enhanced," influence your understanding of the philanthropy of Rachel and other philanthropists?

The Power of Young People to Change the World

8. How are Ryan and Ashley's efforts at civic engagement more at risk for moral hazard and adverse selection than Chloe or Shawn's efforts?

Post-Reading Questions

9. What are the criteria for success in a civic engagement effort? How are those criteria determined?
10. Discuss the limitations in scaling up micro civic engagement (in the community) into macro civic engagement (the U.S. and internationally).