

Candidate Position History Research

Objective:

Students will research a candidate's position over time.

Students will:

- enhance research skills
 - learn policy research
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Resources/Materials:

- 2020election.procon.org
 - Suggested: a list of resources for possible research (ex: senate.gov)
 - internet connection
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Preparation:

- Teachers may want to make a list of suggested topics.
 - Teachers may want to compile a list of resources for students to use for research.
 - This activity may be completed individually or in small groups.
 - This activity may be completed in a wired classroom or for homework.
 - This activity may be completed as a written assignment or for an in-class presentation.
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Activity:

1. Assign or have students choose a topic from 2020election.procon.org.
2. Assign or have students choose a 2020 candidate.
3. Students should state the candidate's position on this issue (ex: Candidate X supports raising the minimum wage).
4. Students should then do research to form a historical picture of the candidate's position. For example, a candidate who is a senator may have voted on the topic, suggested a bill, or spoken against legislation. Students may examine public records, social media accounts, articles and books written by the candidates, as well as other relevant documents.

Evaluation:

1. Research ability
2. Finished product: quality of writing assignment or class presentation