

## **We the People**

1. Begin by introducing yourself and your organization. Prepare attendees by explaining how you will facilitate the conversation. For example, *“Today we are going to be talking about the topic of We the People. We will look at a couple of different texts and photos to help guide our conversation. I encourage you to listen to each other with respect and share your opinions and thoughts openly with the group.”*
2. **Introductions- 5 minutes**
  - a. Pass out the image of *Mrs. Yoshiye Abe Making Flags*. Ask participants to say one word or phrase that comes to mind when they see the image.
3. **Whole Group- 15 minutes:**
  - a. Ask participants:
    - i. Were you surprised by anyone’s responses?
    - ii. Would anyone like to explain their response?
    - iii. What’s happening in this image?
    - iv. What message do you take from this image?
4. **Small Groups – 15 minutes**
  - a. Have participants break into small groups of 2-3
  - b. Ask participants to discuss:
    - i. Why do you think the photographer took this photo?
    - ii. What do you think this photo represents?
5. **Whole Group – 15 minutes**
  - a. Pass out image of *The First Vote*.
  - b. Ask participants:
    - i. What is the message behind this image?
    - ii. What are the rights of the people?
    - iii. What are the people’s responsibilities to their community?
    - iv. How is voting a right? How is it a responsibility?
6. **Small Groups- 15 minutes**
  - a. Pass out the *Photograph of the Veterans for Peace at the March*.
  - b. Ask Participants:
    - i. What is going on in this image?
    - ii. How does this connect to the phrase, “We the People?”
    - iii. How do people make their voices heard in your community?
    - iv. How should people make their voices heard?
7. **Wrap Up- Whole Group – 5 minutes**
  - a. Have participants go around and say one word or phrase that comes to mind when considering “We The People.”
  - b. Thank participants for attending and encourage them to keep talking!

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### **Additional Questions**

1. How do we define who “the people” are?
2. Who defines who “the people” are?
3. How do “the people” participate in society?
4. Can you talk about a time when you felt that you did not belong with a group?
5. Is there a time where it was important to organize behind a cause?
6. How do people organize behind ideas?
7. What can people do together that they cannot do alone?
8. How does belonging create a sense of community?
9. What are some benefits of community or group of people?
10. What are some benefits and consequences when people participate in their government?
11. How do people govern themselves in your community?
12. Can you talk about a time when you’ve participated in government?
14. When do you feel the most inspired to participate in your local government?

*Mrs. Yoshiye Abe Making Flags*



*The First Vote*

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*Veterans for Peace March*



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