### 1. California Survey of Civic Education - Spring, 2007

Dear Students,

We want to know what you think!

Before you start, we want to let you know a few things:

- \*This survey is designed to find out what high school seniors think about their schools, their communities, and the government.
- \*This is not a test. There are no right or wrong answers.
- \*Your answers are confidential. Your answers will be combined with those of other students to describe what California students think, do, and experience.
- \*This survey is voluntary. You do not have to answer any question you do not wish to answer. We hope you will answer as many questions as you can.

When you're ready to start, hit the NEXT button. The survey will automatically close when you reach the end.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

### 2. Commitment: Personally Responsible Citizenship

	Are you currently taking US Government?							
	j <sub>n</sub> Yes j <sub>n</sub> No							
	If you answered jn Yes jn No	no, have you already taken US Government?						
*	Before you begin, answers on this s be used to help us	please tell us some information that will help us match your urvey with the survey you took last year. This information will only someone your opinions now with your opinions from the previous wers will NOT be shared with anyone.						

### 3. Commitment: Participatory Citizenship

How do you feel about different kinds of community involvement? Please indicate your agreement with each statement using the boxes below.

	Strongly Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Undecided	Slightly Agree	Strongly Agree
a. Being concerned with national, state, and local issues is an important responsibility for everybody.	j'n	jα	j'n	j'n	jα
b. Everyone should be involved in working with community organizations and local government on issues that affect the community.	j'n	<b>j</b> m	j'n	jn	j'n
c. I think it is important to get involved in improving my community.	jα	<b>j</b> o	jα	j∩	<b>j</b> a
<ul> <li>d. Being actively involved in state and local issues is my responsibility.</li> </ul>	<b>j</b> 'n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	jn	<b>j</b> n
e. I think it's important to challenge inequalities in society.	jα	jα	ja	j∖n	<b>j</b> a
f. I think it's important to think critically about laws and government.	j'n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m
g. I think it's important to protest when something in society needs changing.	jα	ja	<b>j</b> n	jα	jα

### 4. Political Interest, Patriotism, Concern for Welfare, Political Orientation

The statements below refer to attitudes about politics, government, and America. Please indicate your agreement with each statement using the boxes below.

	Strongly Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Undecided	Slightly Agree	Strongly Agree
a. Once I am 18, I expect I will vote regularly.	jα	<b>j</b> α	<b>j</b> α	jα	<b>j</b> Ω
<ul><li>b. I am interested in political issues.</li></ul>	j'n	<b>j</b> n	j'n	j'n	<b>j</b> m
c. I think I know enough to be an informed voter.	j'n	<b>j</b> o	<b>j</b> o	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> o
d. I always try to learn about current social and political issues.	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n
e. I think that people in government care about what people like me and my family need.	jη	ja	<b>j</b> n	j'n	jα
f. In America, everyone should be treated equally.	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m
g. Those who are well off in this country should help those who are less fortunate.	jη	jα	jn	j'n	jα
h. Basic services such as health care and legal assistance should be available to everyone.	j'n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	j'n
i. It is not right for people to go hungry in our country.	jn	ja	<b>j</b> α	jα	<b>j</b> a

Please indicate your agreement with each statement using the boxes below.

J	Strongly Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Undecided	Slightly Agree	Strongly Agree
a. I support US policies because they are the policies of my country.	j'n	j'n	jo	<b>j</b> n	jα
<ul><li>b. I think it's good when people discuss their country's problems.</li></ul>	<b>j</b> ∩	<b>j</b> n	jm	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n
c. It is un-American to criticize this country.	<b>j</b> n	j'n	j'n	<b>j</b> α	<b>j</b> n
d. It's good for the country that people speak up when they oppose US policies.	jn	j'n	j'n	j'n	jm
e. I have great love for the US.	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> 'n	j'n	<b>j</b> α	<b>j</b> ʻn
f. To be truly patriotic, one has to be involved in the civic and political life of the community.	j'n	jn	<b>j</b> m	<u>j</u> n	<b>j</b> n
	Very Conservative	Moderately Conservative	Middle of the Road	Moderately Liberal	Very Liberal
How would you describe yourself politically?	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> a	<b>j</b> ʻa

### 5. Civic Skills

Suppose you found out about a problem in your school or community that you wanted to do something about. Please mark how much you agree or disagree with the statements below.

	Strongly Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Undecided	Slightly Agree	Strongly Agree
a. I would be able to create a plan to address the issue.	jα	jα	j'n	jα	<b>j</b> m
<ul> <li>b. I would be able to organize and run a meeting.</li> </ul>	j'n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	j'n
c. I would be able to find and examine research related to the issue.	j'n	jα	j'n	jα	j'n
<ul><li>d. I would be able to express my views in front of a group of people.</li></ul>	jn	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m

Please mark how much you agree or disagree with each of the statements below.

	Strongly Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Undecided	Slightly Agree	Strongly Agree
<ul> <li>a. I believe people like me can make a difference in the community.</li> </ul>	jn	jα	j'n	jα	<b>j</b> ta
b. There are issues in my community or in the broader society that I care deeply about.	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	j'n	j'n	<b>j</b> m
c. I feel connected to others who are working to improve society.	j'n	jα	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	jα
d. I know about other people who care about the same social issues that I do.	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	j'n	j'n	<b>j</b> m

Please mark the answer that indicates how much you agree with each of the statements below.

	Strongly Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Undecided	Slightly Agree	Strongly Agree
a. I think it's important that the government ensures that all students have access to a high quality education.	j∩	<b>j</b> a	jn	j'n	<b>j</b> o
b. I think it's important that the government provides basic health care for everyone.	jn	<b>j</b> m	j'n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m
c. I think it's important that the government provides a decent standard of living for old people.	jn	jα	jn	j'n	ja

How do you feel about working with other people? Please mark the answer that indicates how much you agree with each of the statements below.

	Strongly Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Undecided	Slightly Agree	Strongly Agree
a. I can learn a lot from people with backgrounds and experiences that are different from mine.	j'n	jn	j <sup>*</sup> o	jη	jα
<ul><li>b. I think it's important</li><li>to hear others' ideas</li><li>even if I find their ideas</li><li>very different from mine.</li></ul>	<b>j</b> m	j'n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n
c. I enjoy working in groups or on projects with people with backgrounds and experiences that are different from mine.	j'n	jn	j <sup>*</sup> o	jα	jα

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6. Political Knowledge						
THE NEXT SECTION ASKS YOU ABOUT POLITICAL FACTS.						
PLEASE REMEMBER, THIS IS NOT A TEST. IF YOU DON'T KNOW AN ANSWER, SIMPLY MARK "I DON'T KNOW" IN THE BOX PROVIDED.						

#### 7. Political Facts

The questions below ask what you know about politicians or political processes. This is not a test and will not be graded. Please answer the questions as best you can.

## What job or office is held by Dick Cheney?

jn Secretary of State jn Vice President jn Chief Justice of jn House Majority jn I don't know Supreme Court Leader

#### Whose responsibility is it to determine if a law is constitutional or not?

 $j_\Omega$  President  $j_\Omega$  Congress  $j_\Omega$  Supreme Court  $j_\Omega$  I don't know

How much of a majority is required for the US Senate and House to override a presidential veto?

jn 51% jn 2/3 jn 3/4 jn 3/5 jn I don't know

# Right now, which political party has the most members in the House of Representatives in Washington?

 $j_{\Omega}$  Democrats  $j_{\Omega}$  Republicans  $j_{\Omega}$  Other  $j_{\Omega}$  I don't know

#### Which political party is considered more conservative at the national level?

† Democrats † Republicans † They're equally conservative † I don't know

#### Who are the US Senators representing California? PLEASE MARK UP TO 2 ANSWERS.

€ Arnold Barbara € Gray € Antonio € Dianne € Donald € John € Arianna € I don't Schwarzenegger Boxer Davis Villaraigosa Feinnstein Rumsfeld Ashcroft Huffington know

The next 3 questions refer to the following passage:

We the citizens have had enough! A vote for the Silver Party means a vote for higher taxes. It means an end of economic growth and a waste of our nation's resources. Vote instead for economic growth and free enterprise. Vote for more money left in everyone's wallet! Let's not waste another 4 years! VOTE FOR THE GOLD PARTY!!

### This is a political advertisement which has probably been issued by...

m a. the Silver Party

b. a party or group running against the Silver Party

to c. a group which tried to be sure elections are fair

d. the Silver Party and the Gold Party together

### The authors of the advertisement think that higher taxes are...

in a. a good thing

to c. necessary for economic growth

in d. a bad thing

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	The party or group that has issued this advertisement is likely also to be in favor of
	$j_\cap$ a. reducing government control of the economy
	jn b. lowering the voting age
	$j_{\cap}$ c. capital punishment $j_{\cap}$ d. more frequent elections
	Jii d. more request elections

### 8. Civic Activities

The next section asks about activities you may have been involved with outside of school.

Please mark the answer that shows how frequently you've been involved in each activity.

	Never	Once	A Few Times a Year	Once a Month	More than Once a Month
a. I have volunteered in my community (for example: by tutoring, mentoring, doing environmental work, working with the elderly, etc.).	jo	j'n	jα	j'n	jα
b. I have done something to help raise money for a charitable cause. (for example: participate in run/walk/ride, bake sale, etc.)	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n
c. I have worked with a group to try to change a policy or law in my community, state, or nation.	jn	jn	<b>j</b> o	j <sup>t</sup> n	<b>j</b> :n
<ul><li>d. I have taken part in a peaceful protest, march, or demonstration.</li></ul>	<b>j</b> 'n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	jn
e. I have worked to change a school policy or school rule.	j'n	j'n	jα	j'n	jo
f. I have participated in a poetry slam, youth forum, musical performance, or other event where young people expressed their political views.	j'n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	j'n

### 9. Civic Opportunities

The following statements refer to your US Government Class. Please mark the answer that indicates how often you did each of the following activities.

In my US Government class...

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Very Often
a. We learned a lot of information about the structure of the government and how it works (for example: how a bill becomes a law, the 3 branches, age minimum for President, etc.)	j'n	jα	jη	jα
b. Our teacher emphasized how important it is to be informed about political issues and to act on issues we think are important.	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> 'n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m
c. We discussed issues that matter to me.	jα	jΩ	j'n	<b>j</b> α
<ul> <li>d. Our teacher emphasized the benefits of our constitution and system of government.</li> </ul>	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n

The following questions refer to your experiences in high school this last year. Please mark the answer that indicates how often you did each of the following activities in your classes during this school year.

#### In our classes this year...

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Very Often
<ul> <li>a. We learned about problems in our society and what causes them.</li> </ul>	<b>j</b> n	jα	j'n	<b>j</b> o
<ul><li>b. We shared our perspectives on current events.</li></ul>	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n	j'n	<b>j</b> n
c. We learned information about or researched current issues in the community or broader society.	<b>j</b> a	jn	jn	<b>j</b> o
<ul> <li>d. We discussed political and social topics where students expressed different opinions.</li> </ul>	jn	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	jn
e. Teachers encouraged students to make up their own minds about political and social topics.	jo	j'n	jn	ja
f. We talked about patriotism and what it means.	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n	jn	<b>j</b> n

The following questions refer to your experiences in high school this last year. Please mark the answer that indicates how often you did each of the following activities in school during this school year.

#### In school this year...

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Very Often
a. I worked on a community service project.	j'n	jo	ja	ja
b. I analyzed issues related to my community.	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	Ĵη	<b>j</b> n
c. I participated in school clubs or organizations (like an ethnic/cultural club, drama club, student government, school newspaper or others).	j∙n	jα	j'n	jα
d. I participated in political or legal role-plays. (For example mock elections, campaigns, trials, press conferences, lobbying events, or budget meetings).	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n
e. I had the opportunity to plan a meeting.	<b>j</b> a	ja	jα	jα

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The following questions refer to your experiences in high school this last year. Please mark the answer that indicates how often you did each of the following activities in your classes during this school year.

In our classes this year...

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Very Often
a. We learned about people and groups who work to make society better.	ja	j'n	jn	j'n
<ul><li>b. We met people who work to make society better.</li></ul>	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	j'n	<b>j</b> n
c. We learned how to find sources that give different perspectives on a topic or issue.	jα	jα	<b>j</b> n	ja
d. We learned how to identify relevant questions, facts, or pieces of information that are left out of news reports, political speeches, or political advertisements.	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	j'n	<b>j</b> n
e. We talked about the values or points of view that are represented in media stories or advertisements.	jα	jα	jn	j <sup>*</sup> o
f. We learned how to assess the trustworthiness of information we find on the web.	j'n	<b>j</b> n	j'n	<b>j</b> m
g. We were required to use the internet to get information about political or social issues.	jη	j'n	jn	<b>j</b> o
h. We were required to use the internet to find different points of view about political or social issues.	<b>j</b> m	jn	j'n	<b>j</b> 'n
i. We were given an assignment where we had to create something to put on the web.	jα	j <sup>a</sup>	<b>j</b> n	ja

The following questions refer to your experiences in high school this last year. Please mark the answer that indicates how often you did each of the following activities in your classes during this school year.

#### In our classes this year...

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Very Often
a. We talked about racism, sexism, and other forms of discrimination.	jn	jα	j'n	jη
<ul> <li>b. I learned about my racial/ethnic/religious group's contributions to American society.</li> </ul>	jn	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	j'n
c. I learned about the experiences and perspectives of other groups.	jn	j <sup>a</sup>	jα	jo
d. I've learned about different racial/ethnic/political groups and their contributions to American society.	j'n	<b>j</b> 'n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n
e. We talked about issues or problems in our school related to racism, sexism, or other forms of discrimination.	jα	j'n	j'n	j <sub>0</sub>

### 11. Digital Media

The next questions ask you about your experiences using technology and the internet, both in and outside of school.

#### On average, how often do you...

	Never	Less than Once a Month	Once a Month	A Few Times per Month	Once a Week	A Few Times a Week	Daily	Several Times a Day
a. Use e-mail, text messaging, or instant messenger to communicate with friends or family?	jα	j'n	jα	jα	j'n	j'n	jα	j'n
b. Use blogs, diary, or social networking sites (like My Space) to socialize with people (friends, family, or people you've met online)?	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	j'n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m
c. Use e-mail to communicate with others who are working on a political or social issue?	jα	ţ'n	jα	j'n	jn	ţα	jα	j'n
d. Use blogs or social networking sites (like MySpace) to share or discuss perspectives on political or social issues?	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n
e. Use the internet to get information?	ja	<b>j</b> m	ja	<b>j</b> m	jn	<b>j</b> n	ja	<b>j</b> tn
f. Use the internet to get information about political or social issues?	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	j'n	<b>j</b> m	Ĵ'n	ĴΩ	jn	j'n

online role-playing games (MMORPGS)?

On average, how often do you								
	Never	Less than Once a Month	Once a Month	A Few Times per Month	Once a Week	A Few Times a Week	Daily	Several Times a Day
a. Use blogs, online journals, social networking sites (like My Space), wikis, web communities, and auction sites to share or create media (such as TV/video clips, music, artwork, poetry).	j'n	j'n	jα	jη	jα	j'n	jn	<b>j</b> n
<ul><li>b. Play games on your computer, console or handheld device (such as Play Station, Xbox, PlayStation Portable)?</li></ul>	j'n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m
c. If yes, how often do you play these games with other people?	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> ʻo	<b>j</b> to	j'n	j'n	<b>j</b> ʻa	jn	<b>j</b> ʻo
<ul><li>d. Play simulation games (like The Sims, Civilization)?</li></ul>	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n	j'n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m
e. Play Grand Theft Auto, Driv3r, or The Getaway?	<b>j</b> a	<b>j</b> m	ja	<b>j</b> tn	jn	jn	ja	<b>j</b> ta
f. Play World of Warcraft, City of Heroes or other massively multi-player	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	j'n	j'n	<b>j</b> m	Ĵ'n	jn	<b>j</b> m

Please mark the box that indicates how much you agree or disagree with each statement below.

	Strongly Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Undecided	Slightly Agree	Strongly Agree
a. I've had online conversations with people who have different values or political views than I do.	j'n	jα	j'n	j∩	<b>j</b> o
<ul> <li>b. I feel I've gotten new perspectives on political and social issues because of my online activities.</li> </ul>	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m	j'n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m
c. I feel like I've been able to connect with people who care about the same things that I do through the internet.	jα	jα	j'n	j'n	ja
d. I feel like I've been able to connect to people who share my views about ways to create a better world through the internet.	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n
e. Through the internet, I learned about ways I could get involved in political or social issues.	jn	jα	jn	j'n	ja
f. I have been a leader in an online community.	Ĵ'n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> m	<b>j</b> m

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12. Untitle	ed Page				
ALMOST DONE					
			AND YOUR PLANS F ITS IN GENERAL, NO		RE. THIS INFORMATION WILL ONLY BE
OSED TO BESC	MIDE THOM SOME	JE STOBEN	TO THE GENERAL, THE	or to iblinin	1 100.

#### 13. Demographics

The questions below ask information to describe you. This information is for general purposes only, and your particular information will not be shared with anyone.

Please mark the box that indicates how often each of the following happened in the last year.

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Very Often
a. I talked about community issues and/or politics with my parents or other adults at home.	<b>j</b> α	<b>j</b> a	jα	<b>j</b> α
<ul><li>b. My parents/guardians</li><li>were active in the community.</li></ul>	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n	<b>j</b> n

Please select the response that fits you best. Next year I plan to...

- Attend a 4-Year College
- Attend a 2-Year College
- Attend a Career Preparation or Training Program
- Join the Military
- e I don't plan to continue school or join the military.

#### What is your approximate GPA?

†n <1.0

j₁ 1.0-1.9

j∩ 2.0-2.9

j∩ 3.0-3.9

†
 ↑ 4.0 or greater

To the best of your knowledge, what is the highest level of schooling that your mother has completed?

jn Middle School/Jr.	. j <sub>m</sub> Some High	j̇̃∩ Graduated High	j⊓ Some College or	jn Graduated	j∩ Advanced
High	School	School	Technical School	College	Degree (MA, MS,
					Ph.D. MD. JD)

About how many books would you say are in your home? (Do not count newspapers, magazines or books from school)

m 0-10

jn 11-50

jn 51-100

m 101-200

jn >200

What is your ethnicity? (check all that apply)

- n American Indian/Alaska native
- h Asian/Asian American
- n Pacific Islander
- ├∩ Filipino
- in African American/Black
- Mhite/Caucasian
- h Hispanic
- Other (please specify)

Male	to Famala
Male	j∕∩ Female
nat country were your parent(s) bo	orn in?
ent 1)	
ent 2)	

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You've reached the end of the survey. Thank you for taking the time to share your opinions with us.

#### OPTIONAL:

First Name: Last Name: E-mail:

Telephone:

In the next two years, we would like to contact a small number of students to ask them to take a similar survey. Students who participate will be paid. If you are willing to be contacted in the future about taking a survey, please fill out the information below.

If not, please leave those questions blank and click NEXT to exit the survey.

If you'd like to be contacted to participate in the future, please type your NAME, E-MAIL ADDRESS, AND HOME MAILING ADDRESS in the space below.

Street Address:	
City:	
State:	
Zip Code:	
Phone:	
	second contact person in case you move and we are unable to your current contact information.
First Name:	
Last Name:	
Relationship to you (parent, sibling, friend, etc.):	
Address 1:	
Address 2:	
City:	
State:	
Zip Code:	