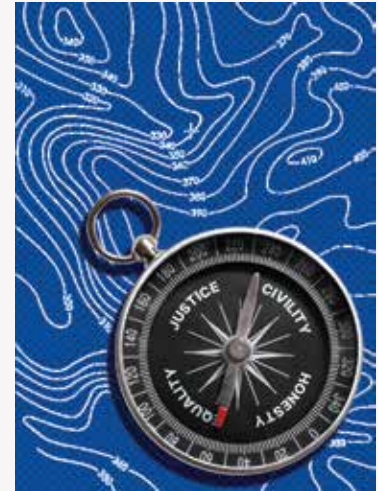




### Mapping Your Values

Understanding your values is essential in identifying the issues that matter most to you and your communities. Values are individual beliefs that motivate people to act in one way or another. In this activity, we will explore your values and prioritize them based on their importance to you. By mapping out your values, you can gain insight into the issues that are most important to you and guide your efforts in addressing issues through public policy solutions. To do this, start by reflecting on what matters most to you and mapping our communities so you can learn how you can make a difference in your community. Use the Values Cards and Values Chart on the next few pages to complete this activity.



1. Using the values cards, sort each value into the following categories according to how significant each value is to you and the way you navigate the world:
  - Always Valued
  - Often Valued
  - Sometimes Valued
  - Seldom Valued
  - Least Valued
2. Think about this as you sort your cards: why is each value important or not important to you?
3. Once you have finished sorting your values, pick the three values that are most significant to you.
4. Discuss your results with your group:
  - Did you have any similarities with others? Any differences?
  - Importantly, are any of your values shared by your community or communities? Where are there similarities and differences? Refer back to the community map you completed in Chapter 1.
5. After your discussion, decide what value is most important to you. This can be hard, but prioritize one just for the sake of getting started.
6. Four corners of your classroom will be labeled with the following categories:
  - Protecting the rights of individuals to life, liberty, and property
  - Promoting the common good
  - Promoting justice or fairness, including equal opportunities for all people
  - Providing safety and security
7. Move to the corner of the room that you think best matches the value card that you have prioritized as most important.
8. Once in that corner with other classmates, share the value card you are holding and why you thought it matched the corner description. There are no wrong answers. Make connections with your classmates and the values they brought to that corner. Notice that the people in your corner group might share similar values. This will be important when it is time to pick a problem as the focus of your project.
  - How do you think your community's current policies help or hurt [the specific category represented by the corner you chose]?
  - What changes or improvements would you propose to better address [the specific category represented by the corner you chose] in your community?



## Mapping Your Values: Values Cards

### Individual Responsibility

An obligation of each person to take ownership of their actions, choices, and duties, and to be accountable for the consequences that result from them.

### Equality

The absence of discrimination or bias, allowing every person to have a fair chance to succeed and thrive.

### Civility

The practice of respectful and courteous behavior in interactions with others, even in disagreement or conflict.

### Courage

The willingness to take bold action in the face of uncertainty or potential risk.

### Respect for the Rights of Others

The appreciation of the fundamental freedoms and dignity of every individual.

### Respect for Law

The adherence to legal principles, statutes, and regulations established by society, recognizing the authority of the legal system.

### Patriotism

Actively supporting and defending the interests, ideals, and institutions of one's nation, often including a willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

### Compromise

The willingness to negotiate and find solutions that address the interests and concerns of all involved parties, promoting cooperation and conflict resolution in various contexts.



## Compassion

Demonstrating kindness, empathy, and support toward individuals experiencing difficulties, fostering a sense of connection in times of need.

## Diversity

The presence of a wide range of differences and variations among individuals.

## Justice

The principle of fair and impartial treatment of individuals, holding people and institutions accountable for their actions, and providing remedies for wrongdoing.

## Dissent

The expression of disagreement with prevailing beliefs, policies, or practices, often challenging the status quo and advocating for alternative perspectives.

## Open-Mindedness

The willingness to consider new ideas, perspectives, or information without prejudice or preconceived notions, fostering a curious attitude toward different viewpoints.

## Honesty

Being truthful and trustworthy in all dealings, honoring commitments, and upholding moral principles, even when faced with difficult choices or consequences.

## Loyalty

The unwavering commitment and allegiance to a person, group, organization, or cause, demonstrated through consistent support and devotion.

## Other?

(Name and define a value that might be missing.)



## Mapping Your Values: Values Chart

**Always Valued**

**Often Valued**

**Sometimes Valued**

**Seldom Valued**

**Least Valued**