# Civics for Adults—and Others! Workshops Enhancing Civic Knowledge / Inspiring Political Engagement

Our democracy is strengthened when citizens have accurate and non-partisan civic knowledge.

### Misinformation, Fake News and Political Propaganda

Are you overwhelmed with messages from politicians, news sources and other media? Distinguish truth from fiction using real-world examples of political ads, news headlines, logical fallacies, graphs / charts, the effect of word choice in messaging, statistical data and other types of information. Become your own "factchecker"! Also, finding accurate information.

"Well organized, excellent information!"
"This was fun and informative! Thank you so much!"
"...students need this!!!"

## Citizen Activism 101—Making Change Happen

Want to improve life for yourself and your neighbors or have a concern about local, state or federal laws? Learn about strategies for change, and more: Examples of successful advocacy; Brief historical perspective; Choosing your battles; What matters to *you*?; Who makes the rules?; Getting heard: tools for change; "Tracking" legislation; providing "testimony".

"ACTIONABLE!"

"Great presenter...should be a day conference!"
"Recommend this class to be taught to high school students."

#### The Power of the Constitution on Political Conversation

By looking at the creation of the Constitution and tracing major changes to its interpretation we puncture some myths and develop a perspective that helps us evaluate current politics more thoughtfully.

"Every citizen should take this serious look at our Constitution."
"Good level of history and contemporary political ideas"

## **Beyond Voting: Elections and Campaign Financing**

This is a unique workshop covering topics related to our electoral systems and presenting specific ideas for bi-partisan civic/political engagement. Topics include: Voting as Constitutional right(?), Voting Security, Alternative Systems, Redistricting, Electoral College, Campaign Financing, Dark Money, Tracking Money/Campaign Finance Databases, Public Financing of Elections. Ideas for bi-partisan civic/political engagement



"...solid information – This is what all Americans need to know."

"I consider myself a wellinformed citizen but I learned a great deal of new information"

"You are a great teacher, Donna."



Donna L. Cohen, M.L.I.S, M.Ed.
Teacher and Librarian
Portland 503-737-1425 dcohen@hevanet.com
https://www.civicthinker.info