

Nancy from Richmond, California

Problem, issue, or policy you are working on:

Texting and driving

What was your last civic action? Describe the outcome(s) and any relationships to policy:

My last civic action was about drinking and driving. I want to make a difference and decrease the percentage of teenagers that die each year for driving under the influence. I made a banner and had people at my school, Richmond High school, sign a paper saying they were not going to drink and drive and if they were drinking they agreed to either walk home or call a taxi home. I had over 50 signatures and most individuals at my school supported my idea more than I actually thought.

What knowledge, skills, or attitudes of effective citizenship did you use or did you gain through doing this civic action? In other words, what did this have to do with what you are supposed to be learning in this class?

As of knowledge I preferred to work on this topic because I have been in a car various times where the driver was not above the influence. Once it actually we got into a serious situation and it was a terrifying experience and I would not want anyone to go through it. I wrote a letter to George Miller explaining to him why I felt so strongly about the topic and reasoned with him about how we can start to make change I mentioned in the letter about having more checkpoints more often.

What is your next civic action? Be specific. For example, "meet with _____, write to _____, attend _____. What is the purpose of this action?

My next civic action is No texting while texting and driving. I have now been driving for the last six months and when I am driving and I hear that my phone receives a text message it comes to attention and I am eager to open it and read it. I have read online that there are apps that I can download into my phone and stop my text messages from coming in the time I am in the car. I will write a letter to Barbara Boxer and explain to her that texting and driving is very dangerous and everyone does it but do not realize the serious consequences behind it. I will attend any meeting that my city, Richmond, has about texting and driving. All I want to do is get the message across.