

Student Handout 1

What Do You Think?

a check in the column that most accurately reflects your opinion on each statement.

	Agree	Disagree
1. Behind every successful candidate is a clever image-maker.		
Today, people are more likely to vote for the person other than the party.		
Debates provide a valuable political service.		
Grassroots democracy is threatened by the increasing number of political action committees (PACs).		
5. If two candidates are otherwise matched, the winner will be the one who looks and sounds better on television.		
3. Qualifications, issues, and proposed solutions to problems usually decide elections.		
7. Having many powerful, popular, and rich supporters usually ensures election to office.		
3. The media should report all information concerning a candidate's personal history.		
1. The candidate with the most money to spend during an election campaign usually wins.		

Economic and social climate at the time of the **election** are the greatest influence on who will be **elected** to **office**.

Social Media will heavily influence the **2020** **presidential election** and future elections.

Student Handout 2 How Should a Candidate be Judged?

1. In voting for a presidential candidate, which of the following factors should you consider? Rank the ones you check in order from most important to least important.

- _____ age
- _____ religion
- _____ party affiliation
- _____ position on the issues
- _____ gender
- _____ educational background
- _____ previous occupations and/or military service
- _____ personality
- _____ ethnic background
- _____ health and physical fitness

2. Should other factors be considered? If so, which ones?
3. Do you think most voters consider all of these factors? Why or why not?
4. What qualifications do you think are most important when considering who might make a good president?