



Participant Comments from
ACTIVATING DEMOCRACY
How Grass Roots Movements Can Revolutionize Politics

- While I may be disappointed in the Democratic Party, [I] have no illusions about dramatic change. I feel that if we elect another Republican we are in great danger of losing our democracy. I would like to see Edwards as President, but even if he does not get the nomination I plan to work very hard to elect a Democrat as president. Not sure how that will happen but will start with MoveOn.org and take it from there. -Joe Orlando
- Get more people involved in the Newton Democratic Party. -Tim Snyder
- Certainly, active citizenship is about participation. But participation without education is dangerous. The pivotal role grass roots organizations and political parties should have is in educating the citizenry on the issues and helping them examine for themselves their beliefs. -Anonymous
- Inform young people about the issues in this election, not just the personalities. -Anonymous
- Get myself and my family to vote! -Anonymous
- I'm currently sharing political information and socially relevant literature via internet social networks. I also blog, comment on news websites, and contact journalists in response to relevant stories they have written. I maintain my own list of contacts in powerful community leadership positions who also have great capacity for effecting change. -Anonymous
- Work in local political campaigns where every vote really does count. Work with local, social justice organizations to stand up for fair and equal treatment of all. -Anonymous
- How can I be an active citizen? Vote in all elections (inc. all local), politicize. -Anonymous
- More so than action [I think], our political process lacks independent, critical thinking on the part of citizens. -Anonymous
- As a young adult, I have learned that the best way to lead is to study and observe the leadership of others while slowly immersing myself in civil service. The more I learn, the more informed decisions I can make as a leader. I intend to apply what I know to a position as [an] elected or appointed official in the future. -Anonymous
- I am volunteering at the Lucy Parsons Center (a collective, non-profit, politically progressive bookstore). I am campaigning for Obama ☺. I am getting involved in a grassroots organization that bolsters democratic ideals. -Emily Krol
- I can make [a] difference by finding the strength in my voice. -Anonymous
- The struggle I [have] is trying to decide what cause to fight for...there are so many, but I don't think there is time for all of them. I need to find that topic and get started. -Anonymous
- Read up, wise up and speak up. Watch Indy Media and think independently, but act communally. -Anonymous
- I will continue to be involved in the 2008 Presidential Election and try to engage the young people I know so that they'll get involved as well. -Anonymous
- There are too many "causes" to be involved w/o causing personal stress. I am an environmental advocate and specifically involved in recycling. -John Reed