Universal Suffrage in the Isle of Man

2019 Education Pack
This education pack focuses on the key topics of popular elections and democracy in the Isle of Man to help teachers create follow-up lessons in the classroom and to support parliamentarians in their outreach activities. For more information, visit our website.

Introduction from the Speaker of the House of Keys

This year sees the 100th anniversary of the passing of the House of Keys Election Act 1919, which gave the vote to all men and women over the age of 21 who lived in the Isle of Man. In other words, this Act introduced universal adult suffrage to the Island, some nine years before residents in the United Kingdom would enjoy similar rights.

By this stage, the Isle of Man was used to being ahead of the times when it came to extending voters’ rights. Unmarried women who owned property had been able to vote in elections to the House of Keys since 1881, and unmarried women who rented property had been able to since 1892. A residency qualification had been in place since 1903. Married women and men without any form of property were, however, still disenfranchised.

As was the case in 1881, there was no mass movement of Manx people demanding their right to vote in 1919. Instead, the impetus for reform came from an individual Member of the House of Keys. Mr William Crennell, MHK for Ramsey, had been attempting to give the vote to married women since at least 1912. Although he finally succeeded in 1919, he unfortunately did not live to see the first elections to the House of Keys in which all adults could vote.

These reforms took place shortly after the end of the First World War, which inevitably left its mark on the Act. The Keys decided to introduce votes for men aged 18 and above who had served in the armed forces, and take the vote away from conscientious objectors who had not done work of national importance for a period of five years.

The new law not only changed who was eligible to vote, but also who was eligible to stand for election. Now everybody who could vote could also stand as a candidate, except for members of the clergy and certain officeholders. However, this new right did not have an immediate impact on the composition of the membership of the House of Keys: it was not until 1933 that the first woman was elected to the House of Keys.

The passing of the House of Keys Election Act was the first in a number of significant constitutional reforms that took place in 1919. It also helped to lay the groundwork for future reform. The first election held under universal adult suffrage resulted in a politically progressive House of Keys, who went on to introduce old age pensions, national insurance, and various other initiatives considered fundamental to our society today.
1867-1919

**SUFFRAGE IN THE ISLE OF MAN**

1867
Men aged 21 and over who meet the property qualification are given the right to vote.

1881
The franchise is extended to unmarried women over the age of 21 who meet the property qualification and male lodgers.

1892
The franchise is extended to unmarried women lodgers over the age of 21.

1903
A residency qualification is introduced for both male and female voters.

1919
Universal adult suffrage based on residency is introduced. The entire electorate becomes eligible to stand for election.
The introduction of universal adult suffrage in the Isle of Man was the result of a private member’s initiative. Mr William Crennell, MHK for Ramsey, was persistent in his attempts to introduce an Adult Suffrage Bill, giving the vote to all men and women resident in the Isle of Man. Sadly, he died before he could see his efforts come to fruition.

On **19th November 1912**, William Crennell moved that ‘the time has arrived when the principle of adult suffrage should be accepted as the basis of qualification for voters in the election of members of the House of Keys’. After some debate, the motion was approved by the Keys, with 16 Members voting in favour, and the Lieutenant Governor Lord Raglan was requested to prepare the necessary legislation for introduction. When the Second Reading of the Bill took place on **18th February 1913**, however, 13 Members of the Keys voted against it.

**If at first you don’t succeed...**

Crennell tried again five years later—with more success. On **20th November 1917**, he moved exactly the same motion. The House of Keys supported it again, with 19 Members voting in favour. The Second Reading of the Adult Suffrage Bill took place on **30th April 1918**; this time the motion carried unanimously, and the House immediately began to consider the clauses of the Bill. The Bill aimed to give the vote to all men and women aged 21 and over who lived in the Isle of Man, regardless of their property or marital status, and also to give them the right to stand for election to the House of Keys.

**Redistribution and plural voting**

There was some debate about whether the Bill should first be considered by a Committee, which would also be tasked to consider the thorny question of **redistribution**: the number of seats representing each area of the Island. The Keys eventually voted against this proposition. The Keys also voted against Clause 7, which aimed to abolish **plural voting** and introduce the principle of ‘one vote for each citizen’. This remained a controversial topic well into the 20th century: the property qualification was not abolished until 1969.

Read the debates in full in Hansard.
The Impact of WWI

In 1919, the Isle of Man was just beginning to recover from the turbulent events of the First World War. This was reflected in two important amendments to the Bill. The first gave the vote to men aged 18 and above who had served in the armed forces. The second disenfranchised conscientious objectors who had refused to do any work of ‘national importance’. While some Members wanted to remove this right to vote for life, the House agreed that it should only be for a period of five years from the end of the war.

Death of William Crennell MHK

Crennell died suddenly on 29th May 1918 at the age of 51. An obituary in the Ramsey Courier commented that ‘his last achievement in the Keys was to successfully pilot through the Adult Suffrage Bill, which was always dear to his heart, and with its completion he finished his work in the Manx Legislature. It was his crowning achievement.’

Council amendments

On 18th February 1919, the Council considered the clauses of the Bill and changed the age of voting for women to 30 years, in line with the UK’s law. The Keys considered the Council’s amendments on 11th March 1919. After a conference on 8th April 1919, the Council agreed to withdraw this amendment, meaning that the Bill as passed by the Keys was the final form. The Bill was signed in Tynwald on 15th April 1919, received Royal Assent on 25th June, and was promulgated at St John’s on 5th July.

General Election 1919

The first election under universal adult suffrage took place in September 1919. It is now considered to be a ‘landmark election’. Of the 24 returned Members, 11 had never before held office—the biggest change in membership since 1867. The new House was progressive in nature, favouring political and social reforms—many of which, such as the introduction of a national health insurance scheme and old age pensions, took place in the following years.

Find out more about the legislative process.
**Key Laws in our Democracy**

**Equality Act 2017** This Act deals with discrimination with regard to employment and the provision of goods and services on various grounds, including sex and gender.

**Marriage and Civil Partnership (Amendment) Act 2016** This Act provides for the marriage of same sex couples and civil partnership of opposite sex couples.

**Representation of the People (Amendment) Act 2015** This Act amends the 1995 Act to provide for gender-neutral language, and also introduces rules on the registration and conduct of political parties.

**Constitution Act 2006** This Act provides for the House of Keys alone to put forward a Bill for Royal Assent.

**Registration of Electors Act 2006** This Act gives 16 year olds the right to vote in General Elections.

**Representation of the People Act 1995** This Act governs elections to the House of Keys. It was amended in 2013 to redistribute the constituencies.

**Sexual Offences Act 1992** This Act decriminalised homosexuality in the Isle of Man.

**Constitution Act 1990** This Act removed the Lieutenant Governor from ordinary sittings of Tynwald and created the position of President of Tynwald.

**Referendum Act 1979** This Act provides for the holding of referenda in the Isle of Man.

**Representation of the People (Franchise) Act 1971** This Act lowered the age of voting from 21 to 18 years of age.

**Representation of the People (Registration of Electors) Act 1969** This Act abolished the property qualification for voters.

**House of Keys Election Act 1919** This Act introduced universal adult suffrage based on residency. It also gave the vote to men aged 18 years and above who had served in World War I. It provided for the entire electorate to be eligible to stand for the House of Keys.

**Constitution Amendment Act 1919** This Act reformed the Legislative Council, including providing for four Members to be elected by the Members of the House of Keys.

**House of Keys Election Act 1881** This Act extended the franchise to unmarried women who owned property worth at least £4 a year. It also lowered the property value requirements for male voters, and enfranchised male lodgers of property worth at least £10 a year.

**House of Keys Election Act 1866** This Act gave the vote to all men aged 21 and over who owned property worth at least £8 or rented property worth at least £12 a year. It also established the four towns and the 6 shewings as the basis of the constituencies.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terms Used</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult Suffrage</td>
<td>The right of all citizens over a certain age to vote in elections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enfranchisement</td>
<td>Giving a right or privilege to someone or a group of people, especially the right of voting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disenfranchisement</td>
<td>Taking away or not giving a right or privilege to someone or a group of people, especially the right of voting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Franchise</td>
<td>The right to vote in public elections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>The group of people who officially control a country; in the Isle of Man this is the Council of Ministers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliament</td>
<td>The group of people who make the laws for a country and scrutinise the work of the Government; in the Isle of Man this is Tynwald.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plural voting</td>
<td>A system which allows a person to vote multiple times in an election, especially in more than one constituency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Member</td>
<td>A member of a parliament who does not have a government job; in the Isle of Man specifically Members who are not part of the Council of Ministers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property qualification</td>
<td>A rule that means that people who do not own property of a set value are not enfranchised to vote in elections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redistribution</td>
<td>The process by which constituencies are added, removed, or changed (e.g. by redrawing the boundaries).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffrage</td>
<td>The right to vote in public elections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Suffrage</td>
<td>Another term for ‘adult suffrage’.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Learn more political terminology in [English](#) and [Manx Gaelic](#)!
A Brief History of Suffrage in the Isle of Man

Before 1866

The House of Keys is a self-selecting body. Whenever a seat becomes vacant, the Keys select two candidates to present to the Governor, who chooses one of them to take up the seat. Membership is for life or until the Member decides to retire from the position.

1866

The vote is given to men aged 21 and over who either owned property with an annual value of at least £8 or rented property with an annual value of at least £12. Candidates for election have to be male, aged 21 and over, with real estate of the annual value of £100, or of £50 together with a personal estate producing an annual income of £100.

1867

The first elections are held on 2nd and 3rd April. Five of the ten constituencies are uncontested; 3996 votes were cast in the other 5 constituencies. Since the franchise is based on property ownership, some voters are able to vote in more than one constituency.

1881

The franchise is extended to all men and unmarried women aged 21 and over who owned or, in the case of the former, occupied real estate worth an annual value of no less than £4. The property qualification for candidates is modified to allow the alternative of personal property producing a yearly income of £150. The first elections in which some women can vote are held in November.

1892

The franchise is extended to unmarried women occupiers of property worth at least £4 and to male lodgers who were sole tenants of lodgings worth an annual value of at least £10. The property qualification for candidates is removed.

Find out more about the first popular elections to the House of Keys.
1903
A residency qualification for voters was introduced in addition to the property qualification. The time between elections is reduced from 7 to 5 years.

1919
Universal adult suffrage on the basis of residency is introduced: all men and women aged 21 and above and resident on the Island can vote. The entire electorate, with the exception of clergy and holders of office of profit, becomes eligible to stand for election.

1956
The 24 seats of the House of Keys are redistributed into 13 constituencies, with a mixture of one-, two-, and three-seat constituencies.

1969
The property qualification is abolished, putting an end to extensive plural voting.

1971
The voting age is reduced from 21 to 18 years old. Candidates may not hold office in local authorities.

1976
Candidates must have been resident in the Isle of Man for at least three years, and pay a £100 election deposit.

1982
The single transferable vote system is introduced. It is used in the 1986 and 1991 General Elections, before a return to the first-past-the-post or block vote system.

1985
The 24 seats of the House of Keys are redistributed into 15 constituencies, with a mixture of one-, two-, and three-seat constituencies.

2006
The voting age is reduced from 18 to 16 years old.

2015
The 24 seats of the House of Keys are redistributed into 12 constituencies, with two Members for each.
No Women’s Suffrage Bill as such was ever brought before Tynwald. Giving women the right to vote was instead debated as part of wider reforms to elections in the Isle of Man—and it was achieved through the removal of a single word from a Bill.

After Richard Sherwood made an unsuccessful attempt to reform elections in 1875, Governor Loch brought his own House of Keys Election Bill to Tynwald in October 1880. With the intention of modernising the legislation he had introduced in 1866, Governor Loch’s proposals included extending the vote to male leaseholders and lodgers, redistributing the 24 seats of the Keys, and abolishing the property qualification for candidates. The Bill was not intended to extend the vote to women.

At the Bill’s Second Reading in the House of Keys on 5th November 1880, Sherwood moved that the word ‘male’ be removed from clause 8, which set out the qualifications for voters. After some debate, the Keys voted in favour of Sherwood’s amendment by 16 votes to 3. This meant that the Keys had decided that householders, leaseholders, and lodgers—regardless of their sex or gender—would have the right to vote.

The Bill as amended was then reconsidered by the Legislative Council. Ever the pragmatist, Governor Loch was unwilling to introduce votes for women before it had happened in the United Kingdom. Eventually, after negotiations with the Governor and Legislative Council, the House of Keys accepted a compromise: the vote would be given to women property owners, but not occupiers.

When the franchise was extended to unmarried women occupiers 11 years later, it was also achieved through an amendment to a Bill.

Find out more about women’s suffrage in the Isle of Man.
Elections to the House of Keys

The Isle of Man is a parliamentary democracy.

Members of the House of Keys are elected by residents of the Isle of Man in a General Election. It is held every five years.

Eligibility

You are eligible to vote in the election if:

- You have been resident in the Isle of Man for at least 12 months;
- You are aged 16 or over;
- You are not subject to any legal incapacity to vote; and
- You have registered to vote.

Electoral Register

The register contains the names and addresses of everyone who is registered to vote. It is also used as the source for choosing people to serve on a jury.

Constituencies

You are registered to vote in one of the 12 constituencies. A constituency is an area of the Isle of Man whose residents are entitled to vote for their representative. These residents are known as constituents.

Since 2016, each constituency has elected two Members to the House of Keys. This means each constituent has two votes in each election.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Turnout at the 2016 General Election</th>
<th>Turnout of 16 and 17 year olds at the 2016 General Election</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total number of voters at the 2016 election</td>
<td>31,757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of registered voters Island-wide</td>
<td>59,963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Find out more about elections to the House of Keys.
This activity aims to teach the audience about the history of suffrage in the Isle of Man.

Read out each statement and ask the audience to guess whether it is true or false. Give them the answer, providing an explanation of whether they are right or wrong.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>True or false?</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Isle of Man was the first place in the British Isles where people could vote for their representatives.</td>
<td>False</td>
<td>Until 1866, the House of Keys was a self-selecting body. There had been a form of elections to the House of Commons since medieval times, and in 1832 the Great Reform Act gave the vote to all male householders in the United Kingdom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Isle of Man was the first place in the world where women were able to vote in a general election.</td>
<td>True</td>
<td>Yes, but only some women. In 1881, unmarried women who owned property in the Isle of Man were given the right to vote in elections to the House of Keys. Married women did not have a vote. In 1893, New Zealand became the first country to give all women resident there the vote.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emmeline Pankhurst campaigned for votes for women in the Isle of Man.</td>
<td>False</td>
<td>It is not thought that either Pankhurst or her mother Sophia Goulden contributed to developments in the Isle of Man. Goulden had, however, moved back to the Isle of Man by this time with her activist husband, and so she may have been involved in organising the series of talks that Lydia Becker gave in the Isle of Man in the summer of 1880.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The first woman to be elected to the House of Keys was a member of a political party.</td>
<td>True</td>
<td>Marion Shimmin was elected in 1933 at a by-election caused by the death of her husband. Shimmin was a member of the Manx Labour Party, as was Annie Bridson, the second woman to be elected to the House of Keys. The majority of MHKs are elected as independents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Isle of Man was the first place in the British Isles where all adult men and women could vote in a general election.</td>
<td>True</td>
<td>The House of Keys Election Act 1919 gave the vote to all men and women aged 21 and over who lived in the Isle of Man. Residents of the United Kingdom didn’t enjoy similar rights until 1928.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From 1919 onwards, each resident could only vote in one constituency of the Isle of Man.</td>
<td>False</td>
<td>Plural voting based on property ownership continued until 1969. This meant that a resident could vote in every constituency in which he or she owned a property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Isle of Man was the first place in the world where 16 year olds could vote.</td>
<td>False</td>
<td>In 2006, the Isle of Man became the first place in western Europe to give 16 and 17 year olds the right to vote in national elections. Other western European countries had already given 16 and 17 years old the right to vote in local elections.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Activity 2—Similarities and differences

This activity aims to teach the audience about some of the similarities and differences between the United Kingdom and the Isle of Man, using the example of suffrage, and emphasises that the Isle of Man is able to make its own laws.

**Using the information below, ask the audience to guess when the United Kingdom and the Isle of Man introduced various voting rights. If you have access to a whiteboard, you could write down the dates as a prompt. Discuss the potential reasons for the similarities and differences between the two jurisdictions.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When were men given the vote?</th>
<th>United Kingdom</th>
<th>Isle of Man</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1832</strong> Vote given to men who meet the property qualification (Great Reform Act)</td>
<td><strong>1867</strong> Vote given to men who meet the property qualification (House of Keys Election Act)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1918</strong> Vote given to all men aged 21 and over (Representation of the People Act)</td>
<td><strong>1919</strong> Vote given to all men aged 21 and over (House of Keys Election Act)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When were women given the vote?</th>
<th>United Kingdom</th>
<th>Isle of Man</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1918</strong> Vote given to most women aged 30 and over who met a property qualification (Representation of the People Act)</td>
<td><strong>1881</strong> Vote given to unmarried women aged 21 and over who meet the property qualification (House of Keys Election Act)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1928</strong> Vote given to all women aged 21 and over (Equal Franchise Act)</td>
<td><strong>1919</strong> Vote given to all women aged 21 and over (House of Keys Election Act)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When the voting age was reduced to 18?</th>
<th>United Kingdom</th>
<th>Isle of Man</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1969</strong> Vote extended to men and women aged 18 and over (Representation of the People Act)</td>
<td><strong>1971</strong> Vote extended to men and women aged 18 and over (Representation of the People (Franchise) Act 1971)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When the voting age was reduced to 16?</th>
<th>United Kingdom</th>
<th>Isle of Man</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The voting age in the UK remains 18. In 2008, there was an unsuccessful attempt to reduce the voting age with a Private Member’s Bill (Voting Age (Reduction) Bill 2008)</td>
<td><strong>2006</strong> Vote extended to 16 and 17 year olds (Registration of Electors Act)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When the property qualification was abolished?</th>
<th>United Kingdom</th>
<th>Isle of Man</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1918</strong> The property qualification was abolished for men aged 21 and over (Representation of the People Act)</td>
<td><strong>1969</strong> The property qualification was abolished, putting an end to extensive plural voting (Representation of the People (Registration of Electors) Act)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1928</strong> The property qualification was abolished for women, who now had the same rights as men (Equal Franchise Act)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activity 3—Why should I vote?

This activity encourages the audience to think about whether they should vote in an election to the House of Keys. It helps to raise awareness of the ways in which Tynwald affects the everyday lives of residents of the Isle of Man.

**Step 1**

Using the infographic, encourage the audience to think about all the different ways in which their everyday lives are affected by politicians.

![Infographic: How parliament affects you](image)

**Step 2**

Explain that there were times when groups of people were not allowed to vote. This meant that they were expected to obey the law but they had no say over who governed them. This changed over time (see p. 4 of this pack), e.g.:

- Until 1919, married women in the Isle of Man were not able to vote in elections.
- Until 2006, 16 and 17 year olds were not able to vote in elections.

**Step 3**

Lead a discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of voting in elections to the House of Keys. Discussion points could include:

- Will you use your vote when you are older/at the next election?
- Why do you think being able to vote is important?
- Would you register to vote at 16? Would you know how to register to vote (see pp.12-13 of this pack)?
- Why do you think people don’t vote in elections?
- What would you do to encourage people to vote in elections?
Activity 4—Diversity and representation

This activity encourages the audience to reflect on the importance of diversity in public institutions and parliament.

Using the information provided below, lead a discussion on diversity and representation in public life. Discussion points could include:

- Do you feel represented in Tynwald?
- Do you agree with Lord Lisvane’s assessment of Tynwald? Why/why not?
- Why do you think Tynwald has only had 22 women Members since 1919?
- What would you do to encourage people from different backgrounds to stand for election?
- Would you stand for election?

‘...Tynwald has a major problem, both in demonstrating diversity and in reflecting the society it serves…’ — Lord Lisvane

IOM RESIDENT POPULATION BY QUINARY AGE 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>4,789</td>
<td>4,422</td>
<td>4,326</td>
<td>4,506</td>
<td>4,873</td>
<td>5,612</td>
<td>6,497</td>
<td>6,681</td>
<td>5,887</td>
<td>5,170</td>
<td>5,441</td>
<td>4,212</td>
<td>3,155</td>
<td>2,129</td>
<td>2,268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>4,422</td>
<td>4,326</td>
<td>4,506</td>
<td>4,873</td>
<td>5,612</td>
<td>6,497</td>
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<td>3,155</td>
<td>2,129</td>
<td>2,268</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IOM RESIDENT POPULATION BY GENDER 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>41,269</td>
<td>42,045</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Registered</th>
<th>Voted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1158</td>
<td>535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>1234</td>
<td>668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>397</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OVERALL TURNOUT FOR 16 & 17 YEAR OLDS
Activity 5—Changing the law

This activity aims to teach the audience about the legislative process and encourages reflection on the ways in which the law changes over time.

Using the resources on the Tynwald website, compare and contrast the debates that extended the franchise over time.

Step 1

- Briefly talk about the legislative process, including: consultation, Three Readings and Consideration of Clauses, signing, Royal Assent, and promulgation.
- Briefly talk about parliamentary procedure: how debates proceed, how amendments are tabled, how voting works.

Step 2

- Read any or all of the debates to find out how the law was changed to give more people the right to vote. Was the proposal already in the Bill? Was it introduced by way of an amendment?
- Discuss the type of language and arguments used in the debates.

Take it further

- In 1891, the Keys debated whether it was appropriate to deal with important constitutional issues by way of amendment to a Bill. Do you agree?
- Find out more about recent amendments to Bills.
Engagement

- Different types of voting systems: https://www.electoral-reform.org.uk/voting-systems/types-of-voting-system/
- Should voting be compulsory? : https://www.idea.int/data-tools/data/voter-turnout/compulsory-voting
- Voting in your country and voting in Europe: https://epthinktank.eu/2019/02/14/european-elections-voting-rights-for-eu-citizens-living-abroad/

Voting at 16

- Votes at 16: http://www.votesat16.org/
- Debating Europe— Should 16-year-olds be allowed to vote?: https://www.debatingeurope.eu/2015/05/14/should-16-year-olds-be-allowed-to-vote/
- Electoral Reform Society — Votes at 16: https://www.electoral-reform.org.uk/campaigns/votes-at-16/
- European Youth Forum—Vote 16: https://www.youthforum.org/vote-16
- Vote 16 USA: http://vote16usa.org/
- Are you old enough to vote at 16?: http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/zsbtbk7
Disenfranchisement: Does everyone have the right to vote?

Felony disenfranchisement

6.1 million Americans cannot vote because of a felony conviction: https://www.sentencingproject.org/issues/felony-disenfranchisement/

Too Poor to Vote

If you don’t have money, you might be left out of democracy: https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/01/opinion/election-voting-rights-poverty.html

World map of political regimes: https://ourworldindata.org/democracy
Journeys to Suffrage Around the World

**New Zealand**


**The Netherlands**

Why are we celebrating 100 years of universal suffrage?: [https://ikviermijnstem.nl/english](https://ikviermijnstem.nl/english)

**The United Kingdom**

Getting the vote: [http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/pathways/citizenship/struggle_democracy/getting_vote.htm](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/pathways/citizenship/struggle_democracy/getting_vote.htm)

**South Africa**


**The United States of America**

Click on the hyperlinks to be taken to further information and resources.