



YOUR POWER IN POLITICS

THE POWER YOU DIDNT
KNOW YOU HAD &
WHY YOU NEED TO USE IT

SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Be empowered to make an impact through this practical session, as home-educating mom Theresa Ng shares her unexpected journey into the political realm and important lessons she has gleaned along the way. Learn how relatively few people are needed to make a tremendous difference, and why your efforts as home educators are needed now more than ever.*

INTRODUCTION

- Whether we like politics or not, we cannot escape the effects of politics on our lives.
- We often assume that the same laws and rules which govern us today will still be there tomorrow, but that is simply not the case.
 - Laws, rules and regulations can change significantly, with just a stroke of a pen or the edict of a leader.
 - As a result, the way we experience the world on a daily basis can also change very quickly, for either better or worse.
- Unfortunately, our society has bought into two major lies:
 1. It is possible to receive the full benefits of healthy democracy and good government with little to no effort on our part.
 2. The extent of our democratic responsibility is that we show up and vote in elections.

PURPOSE OF TODAY'S SESSION

- Renew your commitment to engage more deeply in the political realm through being proactive, present and persistent
- Equip you with some practical strategies and ideas that you can put into action, sowing seeds that will lead to a more positive future for our children and grandchildren.

THE POWER OF BEING PROACTIVE

- By the time people experience imminent threats it is often too little, too late to respond in a way that would be most effective.
- If we truly want maximum results when it comes to expending precious time and effort then we need to shift our focus from reactive to proactive actions.
- For those who care about the direction of our culture and who desire a healthy democracy, high caliber representatives and strong competent leaders, it is essential to prioritize proactive engagement instead of just reactive engagement.

THE POWER OF BEING PRESENT

- Decisions are made by those who show up
- When it comes to who is making the decisions that impact the direction of the political realm, it actually comes down to a surprisingly small number of committed people who make sure they show up.

THE POWER OF BEING PERSISTENT

- Healthy democracies, like healthy bodies, derive strength from the cumulative effect of proactive decisions and building intentional habits over the long term.
- “The price of freedom is eternal vigilance”. Note that eternal vigilance is ongoing: It doesn’t stop and doesn’t give up.
- Accountability matters. The role of the people in a healthy, well-functioning democracy is critically important in order to provide vigilant and vocal levels of accountability, keeping our government of the day in check.
- If we truly care about freedom and democracy then being vigilant and investing our time and effort into keeping our elected representatives accountable is non-optional.

BEING PROACTIVE, PRESENT & PERSISTENT: PUTTING PRINCIPLES INTO PRACTICE

Seven practical and specific ways that you can be proactive, present and persistent to impact change through our political realm:

1. Participate in Nominations
2. Participate in policy conventions
3. Participate in voting for the leader of a political party
4. Volunteer for candidates
5. Connect with your elected representatives
6. Get involved in your local constituency/EDA board
7. Spread the word to change the culture

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

- We have been entrusted with a gift of exceptional value – a gift bought at a tremendous price on the part of those who came before us: the opportunity to participate in a democracy and enjoy its associated rights and freedoms.
- We need to be wise stewards of that gift, recognizing it is the seeds we sow today – whether those of complacency, apathy and inaction or those of active engagement - that will grow the future our children will reap.
- Democratic rights come with democratic responsibilities
 - It is simply not possible to receive the full benefits of freedom, healthy democracy and good government with little to no effort on our part.
 - Our participation as citizens in the political realm should not be viewed as an optional activity, but as an essential responsibility.
- Let’s get to work, being proactive, present and persistent, so together we can build a strong, healthy and freedom-loving province and country now and for our future generations!