

# Our Goals

# Lifting Our Voices to Solve Important Social and Ecological Problems

Overall, the primary goal of *Lift Every Voice* is to help young people and adults to lift their voices to advocate ways to solve important social and ecological problems.

## 1. Choose a *Lift Every Voice Project*

To begin with, you can choose the social or ecological problem/project that you want to focus on. The first problem that we have developed resources for is Project 1: Stop Gun Violence. In the summer and fall of 2023, we will include Project 2: Stop the Pandemic, Project 3: Stop Police Violence,

and Project 4: Stop Global Warming. You can of course choose other problems and use the same eight step process.

# *Lift Every Voice*

How can we lift our voices to advocate for a more compassionate, just, and free country and world?



Six minutes and about 20 seconds. In a little over six minutes 17 of our friends were taken from us, 15 were injured and everyone, absolutely everyone in the Douglas community was forever altered....

—Emma Gonzalez  
March for Our  
Lives Speech,  
March 24, 2018



Project 1:  
Stop Gun Violence



Project 2:  
Stop the Pandemic



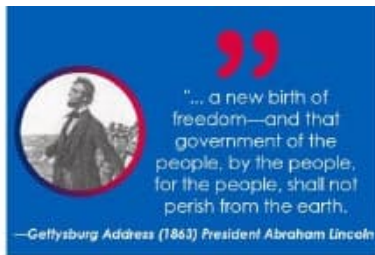
Project 3:  
Stop Police Violence



Project 4:  
Stop Global Warming

## **2. Propose Solutions to Social and Ecological Problems: Eight Steps**

The Social and Ecological Problems Projects are organized into eight steps that will help you understand the complexity of these problems and then how to research, choose, develop, and present your proposed solution. You can then debate and discuss your proposed solution and the proposals of other people—anywhere in the world.



# Lift Every Voice

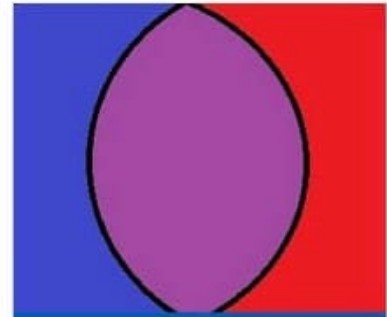
How can we lift our voices to advocate for a more compassionate, just, and free country and world?



Step 8:  
Lift Your Voices,  
Cast Your Votes



Step 1:  
Connect to the Problem



Step 2:  
Compare and Evaluate  
Case Studies



Step 7:  
Discuss and Debate  
the Proposals



Project 1:  
**Stop Gun Violence**



Step 3:  
Analyze the Data



Step 6:  
Develop and Present  
Your Proposal



Step 5:  
Read Proposals and  
Listen to Speeches



Step 4:  
Listen to and Share Stories

**3. Learn and Apply Related Democratic Values, Skills, and**

# Knowledge

As you work through the 8 Steps, you will be encouraged to read and think about the Democratic Competencies (values, skills, and knowledge) that can help you analyze the problem you have chosen and develop your proposal(s) for solving this problem.



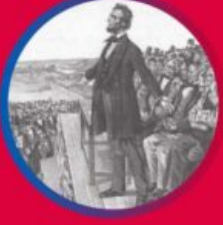
Book 1:  
Democratic  
Values



Book 2:  
Social-Emotional  
Skills



Book 3:  
Democratic Skills  
and Practices



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“... a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

—Gettysburg Address  
(1863) President  
Abraham Lincoln

## Lift Every Voice

How can we create a more compassionate, just, and democratic country and world?



Book 4:  
Social and  
Ecological Awareness



Book 5:  
Democratic  
Knowledge

## 4. Lift Your Voice and Present and Discuss Your Proposal

The ultimate goal of *Lift Every Voice* is to empower young people and adults to lift their voices to advocate for

solutions to some of the most important social and ecological problems in our country and in our world.

Lift every voice means raising our voices to solve our most important problems! To achieve our most important goals!

This includes researching, developing, writing, and presenting your proposal and then engaging in discussion and debate with other people about what are the best ways to solve these problems.

Our hope is that you—the young people and adults in our country and around the world—will continue to lift your voices throughout your lives and pass these values and skills down to your children and future generations—to continue the process of creating a more perfect union! A more perfect world!

[https://youtu.be/ONg0H\\_tq7-Q](https://youtu.be/ONg0H_tq7-Q)