Politics is all about power. It’s about how an individual or group attains and maintains power. Some who wish for a better world don’t have the power to be able to choose the leaders who make important decisions about their lives and the future of our world. Many who have that power don’t use it.

A government is the body that has the authority to make and enforce the rules that govern a city, state or nation. Over two thousand years ago, the philosopher Plato classified governments as: a monarchy, where one individual rules; an oligarchy, where one group rules; and a democracy, where all the people rule. In modern times, governments are much more complicated and many forms of government have a mix of these three basic types. Today many talk about left-wing and right-wing political views. Generally what is meant is that the right is often associated with social equity -- moral and social conservatism and religion, while the left is often linked with social equality -- redistribution of wealth and resources to all citizens and secularism.

Those who have power in a society can make decisions that affect all who live in that society. For this reason, politics plays an important role in helping to create a better world. It is important to help to elect leaders who will make decisions that are in the best interest of all their citizens, while taking into account what is best for the well-being of the planet as well. Election Day, observed on the 1st Tuesday after the 1st Monday in November in the United States, is one opportunity to choose leaders who can help create a better world. It’s also important to continue to remind leaders in power about our shared priority to create a better world based on more peaceful, just and sustainable communities.

Do One Thing for a Better World

1. Find out more about election reform
2. Help promote voter registration
3. Support organizations that promote voter registration and election reform

Political Links

- Project Vote (projectvote.org)
- Rock the Vote (rockthevote.org)
- Act For Change (actforchange.org)
- Common Cause (commoncause.org)
- MoveOn.org (moveon.org)
- ReformElections.org (reformelections.org)
- True Majority (truemajority.org)