

Unit 3: Active Citizenship & Civil Society 2022 Year 4 Social Studies & Philosophy

Unit Overview



Part 1

Active citizenship and interest articulation



Part 2

Civil society and its development in Singapore



The challenges of growing civil society

Essential Questions

- Why should citizens play an active role in the political decision-making process?
- What can individuals do to effect change in society?
- What is civil society?
- How has civil society developed in Singapore?
- What are the challenges of growing civil society in Singapore?
- What are the limits to political participation in Singapore?

Part 1: Active Citizenship and Interest Articulation

Slido Question

 What is citizenship? Write the first word that comes to mind when you think of the concept.



- Attributes of citizenship
 - A legal status: membership with rights and responsibilities
 - A sense of belonging and identity shaped by shared beliefs and experiences
 - Participation in public affairs or matters of general concern in society

(Upper Secondary Social Studies textbook pp. 5-25)

- Sense of belonging
 - Feeling connected to and accepted as a member of a place or community
- National identity
 - A sense of a nation as a cohesive whole, as represented by distinctive traditions, culture, and language

- Citizenship is a relationship between the individual and the state in which the two are bound together by reciprocal rights and duties
- Citizens differ from subjects and aliens in that they are full members of their political community or state by virtue of their possession of basic rights

(Andrew Heywood, 2007, Politics [3rd ed.] pp. 440-441)

- Becoming a citizen:
 - Descent
 - Marriage
 - Naturalisation
 - Place of birth
 - Others (e.g. investment)







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prove they must come to the U.S. to give birth for medical reasons and they

political priorities.

have money to pay for it or have another compelling reason — not just because

they want their child to have an American passport. Officials said that consular officers will not be asking all female visa applicants

of child-bearing age whether they are pregnant or intend to get pregnant. Rather, they said consular officers would ask the question only if they had reason to believe the applicant is pregnant and likely or planning to give birth in the U.S.

US imposes visa rules for pregnant women on 'birth tourism'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration is imposing new visa rules

States to give birth so their children can have U.S. citizenship. The regulations,

aimed at restricting "birth tourism," in which women travel to the United

which take effect Friday, address one of President Donald Trump's main

The regulations seek to chip away at the number of foreigners who take

advantage of the constitutional provision granting "birthright citizenship" to

anyone born in the United States, a particular peeve of Trump's. Under the

new rules, pregnant applicants will be denied a tourist visa unless they can



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9 countries where you can easily buy citizenship and how to do it

Taylor Borden Oct 2, 2020, 1:31 AM



With a minimum \$2 million investment, Cyprus is the most expensive "Citizenship by Investment" program on this list.

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"A number of countries in the Caribbean and Europe offer 'Citizenship by Investment' programs, where the elite can invest in a country in exchange for citizenship. That investment varies from country to country, but can range from a donation to a developmental fund to a realestate purchase in a governmentapproved area."

Padlet Discussion

- What do you think is the most important right/privilege of a citizen? Why?
- What do you think is the most important responsibility/obligation of a citizen? Why?
 - Work in pairs/trios; group leader posts response
 - Write member names in title, response in body
 - Colour post for rights in green, obligations in red

- Citizenship rights (Marshall, 1950)
 - **Civil rights**: freedom of speech, assembly, movement and conscience; equality before the law; property rights
 - Political rights: right to vote, stand for election, hold public office
 - Social rights: guaranteed minimum social status as basis for exercising civil and political rights

(Andrew Heywood, 2007, Politics [3rd ed.] pp. 440-441)

Duties and obligations of Singapore citizens

National Service

 Under the Enlistment Act, all male Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents, unless exempted are required to serve National Service (NS). Following the completion of full-time NS, they will be required to serve up to 40 days of Operationally Ready National Service (ORNS) per year for the duration of their ORNS training cycle till the age of 50 years (for officers) or 40 years (for other ranks).

- Duties and obligations of Singapore citizens
 - Compulsory voting
 - Voting is compulsory in Singapore as it is as much a fundamental right of citizenship as it is a civic responsibility to be exercised by citizens to choose and elect their leaders in a democracy. All Singapore citizens whose names are in the Registers of Electors have to cast their votes on Polling Day.

Other obligations?

Next Lesson: Active Citizenship

Prepare responses to Q. 6-7