

WHERE'S THE LINE?

YOU Are the Answer to What Ails America

Class 6 Handout (Capstone) · Leverage Your Voice: Multi-Level Liberty · iGovern.us

A six-week course: the 5-Minute Method to restore American self-government

CLASS 6 AT A GLANCE

The Principle: America is governed by the majority who PARTICIPATE — so where participation is thin, every organized sovereign is leveraged. Twelve handwritten postcards “inundated” a governor’s office in a State of 3.5 million.

The Physics: “By uniting we stand, by dividing we fall” (Dickinson, 1768). Association is constitutionally protected (NAACP v. Alabama, 1958) — and it is “the mother of science” of self-government (Tocqueville).

The Framework: Multi-Level Liberty: yourself → your five (3×5) → your precinct → your district (Impact Council of 100) → your State → among the States (10×10). Lift where we stand.

Homework — forever: Start the 16-week cadence, share the Six KNOWs with five people, and join or found your district’s Impact Council.

Participation Is Power

America is not governed by the majority — it is governed by the majority who **participate**, and that number is startlingly small: a great city’s mayor effectively chosen by ~3% of its people; a State House seat decided by 3,000–5,000 votes (and really decided earlier, at caucus and primary, by far fewer). This is your opening: where participation is thin, every participant is leveraged. Archimedes: “Give me a lever long enough and a fulcrum on which to place it, and I’ll move the world.” Your lever is the combined constituent voice; your fulcrum is the State.

The Inundated Story

2012: carrying the public lands bill, I asked audiences to send the governor a postcard if they agreed. Two weeks later a deputy demanded: “Ivory, what in the world are you doing? We’re getting INUNDATED with these postcards!” The count, in a State of 3.5 million: **twelve**. Twelve handwritten, personal notes registered as a flood — because virtually nobody else writes that way. If 12 can inundate, what can 100 do — in every district?

“We Bred That Out of Them”

Grandma’s chickens were ferocious; a generation later, our store-bought hens didn’t so much as ruffle a feather when the eggs were taken. The clerk: “Oh, yeah — we bred that out of them.” Passivity can be bred into a people — and bred back out. Learn to **peck**: politely, persistently, forever. And remember: “When performance is measured and reported, the rate of improvement accelerates” — your agents perform better the moment they know the boss is watching.

Fill in the Blanks: The Arithmetic

1. We have government by the majority who _____.
2. The governor's office was "inundated" by _____ postcards.
3. The clerk said they _____ the pecking out of the chickens.
4. When performance is measured and _____, improvement accelerates.

The Founding Physics of the Combined Voice

"Then join hand in hand, brave Americans all! By uniting we stand, by dividing we fall."

— John Dickinson, "The Liberty Song" (1768)

"Effective advocacy of both public and private points of view ... is undeniably enhanced by group association."

— NAACP v. Alabama, 357 U.S. 449 (1958) (unanimous)

"In democratic countries the science of association is the mother of science; the progress of all the rest depends upon the progress it has made."

— Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America

"Knowledge will forever govern ignorance; and a people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives."

— James Madison to W.T. Barry (1822)

The proof at scale: Samuel Adams' Boston Committee of Correspondence (1772) — ordinary citizens on a standing writing discipline — grew into the colonial network Madison later described as constitutional design itself: "A correspondence would be opened. Plans of resistance would be concerted. One spirit would animate and conduct the whole." (Federalist 46.)

Multi-Level Liberty: The Six Levels of the Lever

Level	The Work
1. Yourself	Master the Six KNOWs; keep the 5-minute cadence — "frequent recurrence to fundamental principles"
2. Your Five (3×5)	Teach the Six KNOWs to five people; ask each to teach five more (5 → 25 → 125). Consider \$5/week to sustain the model.
3. Your Precinct	Attend the caucus; become a delegate or precinct chair; conduct the Class 4 job interviews in person — where hiring is actually decided
4. Your District	The Impact Council: 100 servant sovereigns; divided roles (research, communications, events, one relationship-keeper per agent); information up and down
5. Your State	The Impact Community (iGovern.us); teach agents the Federalism Index & Policy Tracker; support the guardians' eight powers
6. Among the States	10×10: 10,000 trained sovereigns in 10 States; the NFI Summit of States — Federalist 46 fulfilled: "one spirit"

Lift Where We Stand

Moving the heavy piano didn't require the strongest men in the right spots — it required everyone to **lift where they stand**. Nobody carries the nation; everybody lifts their corner — five, precinct, district, State — and the nation rises. “Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.” (Theodore Roosevelt.)

Fill in the Blanks: The Lever

5. Dickinson: “By _____ we stand, by _____ we fall.”
6. Tocqueville: the science of _____ is the mother of science.
7. The 3×5 Solution: you plus _____ people, each teaching _____ more.
8. The Impact Council goal: _____ servant sovereigns per legislative district.
9. The 10×10 Initiative: _____ people in _____ States.

Your Standing Cadence: The 16-Week Rotation

Five minutes a week, rotating your four primary agents with the Bonus Deck scripts (see the Bonus & Review deck for full text):

1. Weeks 1–4 (Rep → Senator → AG → Governor): the APOLOGY — “I haven't been acting like a very good boss ... What can I do to help YOU be more successful at this job we hired you to do?”
2. Weeks 5–8: the STRUCTURE — Roberts: “States are separate and independent sovereigns. Sometimes they have to act like it.” How is our State acting like it — and how can I support you?
3. Weeks 9–12: the GUARDIANS — Dickinson's “their own faults”; are you aware of the 8 powers of the State? Which is our State using now?
4. Weeks 13–16: the TOOLS — walk them through the Federalism Index & Policy Tracker (federalismindex.org) for their committee's jurisdiction.
5. Week 17+: repeat forever, keyed to the current issue: “How can I better help YOU with _____?”

“Every member of the State ought diligently to read and to study the constitution ... and teach the rising generation to be free.”

— John Jay (1777)

The Two Questions — and Your Commission

One day your two-year-old will ask: **“Did you see this coming?”** and **“What did you do about it?”** You're here — so the first answer is yes. The cadence, your five, and your council are the second. Go forth as **happy warriors** (Reagan) — “Nil desperandum — Never Despair ... where there is a spark of patriotic fire, we will rekindle it” (Samuel Adams).

Your Week 6 Call to Action — and Forever

1. Start the 16-week cadence tonight: Week 1, contact your State Representative with the apology script.
2. Share the Six KNOWs with five people this month — and ask each to share with five more (the 3×5 Solution).
3. Join or found your district's Impact Council through your State's Impact Community at iGovern.us.
4. Bookmark federalismindex.org — and get your free copy of *Where's the Line? How States Protect the Constitution*.

My five: 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____

Graduation creed: *"I'm American. Nothing's impossible."* — Condoleezza Rice

Answer Key (Fill in the Blanks)

Arithmetic: 1. participate 2. twelve 3. bred 4. reported · *The Lever:* 1. uniting, dividing 2. association 3. five, five 4. 100 5. 10,000, ten