**Moderator:** Well, let's go ahead and get started. So my first question. **Participant 1**, I'll start with you on this one. Each of you is here because you said that this election you voted for the very first time. And so I want to hear from each of you, why did you decide to vote? Why participate in this election? So, **Participant 1**, we'll start with you first.

**Participant 1:** Sure. So the last election I was 19, so I was able to vote, but I didn't feel that I was educated enough on who to vote for to make a correct decision and I didn't want to follow through with that. Now this election, I'm a little bit older and I think I have formed enough of an opinion to feel confident in my vote.

**Moderator:** Great. How about, **Participant 2**? You say you voted for the first time in this election. Tell me a little bit about why you decided to participate this time.

**Participant 2:** Yeah, so last election I was 17, so I was not able to vote. And now I'm 21, so basically it was my first time being able to. And yeah, kind of like the same thing **Participant 1** said. I just felt like I was able to form enough of my own opinion to be able to voice it.

**Moderator:** How about you, **Participant 3**? What was your rationale for deciding to vote this time?

**Participant 3:** I just turned 19 in October, so I wasn't eligible for the last election. But I think it's important to vote because it's more of a responsibility to represent yourself and choose the people representing you. So that's why I voted.

**Moderator:** **Participant 4**, how about you? You are a first time voter. Why did you decide to participate in this election?

**Participant 4:** Yep. So last election I was able to vote, but I was out of state for school. And then I didn't feel it was worth the effort to try to like deal with an absentee ballot for where neither candidate was someone I was that passionate about or that opinionated against. So this election I had a stronger opinion, so that made me more inclined to vote.

**Moderator:** Got it. **Participant 5**, how about you? This is your first time voting. Why did you decide to participate in this election?

**Participant 5:** Personally, last time I didn't really care about the voting and everything like that, but over the last four years I've kind of realized the impact of why it's necessary to vote. So I just feel like it was a huge responsibility for me personally to make sure I put my own opinion and my own decision out there to be effective.

**Moderator:** Was there anything in particular that was the moment or the piece of information or the thing you heard that made you decide? Okay, this time around I am going to vote?

**Participant 5:** Not necessarily, but I just feel like over the last four years, the way the society have. Kind of the way the president has impacted the society has been huge. And it's kind of important for me to put my voice out there if I want to make a change. Yeah, that's kind of what I would think. Yeah.

**Moderator:** **Participant 6**, how about you? What was the reason why you decided to participate in this election?

**Participant 6:** Same as other people. I couldn't vote because I just turned 21, but I think it's like our duty to vote and I want to have my voice heard. And especially with these elections, I think it was especially important.

**Moderator:** **Participant 7**, how about you?

**Participant 7:** Kind of like the others, I was also too young to vote last election, but I feel like it's really important to democracy to vote every time you can and be educated on the subject. And so I was really excited to this year.