

# Real World Projects That Impact Our Lives

**Course:** Civics and Economics

**Instructor:** Mr. Schlafer

**Grade:** 10th and 12th

## Project Overview:

One great thing about our nation is the process of free speech. Without free speech, people in the United States would not be able to freely express their thoughts, ideas, and concerns, this is a right that many people around the world do not have. Throughout history there have always been heated topics that people are divided on that need to be discussed and decisions to be made by our government, and the use of propaganda has been at the front lines.

## Product:

Groups gave speeches (with visuals) to persuade the Continental Congress to vote for their way for their specific assigned topic. Groups give an argument to a panel (Continental Congress), along with an opposition, the panel decided the winners of the argument based on facts provided.

## Instructor Reflection:

“Students worked really well using SCRUM this semester. They also really dug deep into the content to find true facts and data that proved their arguments. I believe this PBL will help my students understand the true importance of facts when presented with an argument or idea.”

## Student Reflections:

“I believe that collaboration and communication was a big contribution to our teams success. Our group was able to find parts that we were able to do well and put them together to make it flow and look good. We were able to communicate and find concrete evidence and find the positive and negative in the evidence and do what works best for our claims.”

“Having a clear, structured rubric and planned class time to work on the project.”

“Asking questions helped, communicating with members, after school meetings, and actually using in class project work time contributed to our success.”

## Driving Question:

Even with such a loud voice, are the people truly heard by our government?

## Essential Questions:

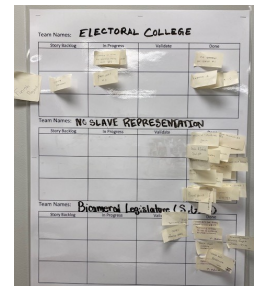
- ◆ What is the appropriate relationship between citizens and the government?
- ◆ What should happen to citizens or the government if they are not doing their part in the Social Contract?
- ◆ What is America's national identity in terms of the role of government and its relationship to citizens?
- ◆ How has the Declaration of Independence played a role in the development of America's national identity?



Mr. Schlafer explaining the project to the class.



Student team meeting with Ms. Ray, Media Specialist, for resources and PBL structure support.



SCRUM boards were used to track teams progress towards their goals.



Student team using technology and dry-erase desk tops while brainstorming ideas.



Student team using green screen to record persuasive speech.