



SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

## **DEMOCRACY SIMILES**

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### **Activity Description**

This activity allows students to explore then compare the meaning of democracy to objects (glasses, comb, mirror, book, etc.).

### **Suggested Grade Level**

Elementary, middle school, high school

### **Estimated Time to Complete**

One class period

### **Objectives**

Students will

- choose an object and compare the object to the ideology of democracy;
- write and read responses to share thoughts.

### **Materials Needed**

- A variety of objects from which students can choose; enough so there is one for each student
- Democracy statement: “Democracy is like (object) because it (reason)” and example written on chart paper or the classroom board
- Markers
- Chart paper
- Paper
- Pencils

### **Activity Procedures**

1. Students choose an object and take it to their desk.
2. Students utilize the following statement setup as they compare democracy to the object: “Democracy is like (name the object) because it (reason).” Example: “Democracy is like glasses because it allows citizens to see that they have the power to create change.”
3. Following the democracy statement example, students write to complete their statement.
4. Students read statements they have created and the statements are written on chart paper or the classroom board.