

BECAUSE
OF THEM
WE CAN

BOX

JUST FOR KIDS

BECAUSE OF SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

AGES 9 - 12



BOTWC MINI POSING AS
SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

Be a
Catalyst
for Change!

CHISELED CHISHOLM: UNBOSSSED AND UNBOUGHT



Shirley Anita St. Hill Chisholm was the first African American woman in Congress (1968) and the first woman and African American to seek the **nomination** for president of the United States. She spoke up for women and **minorities** during her seven **terms** in the **U.S. House of Representatives**.

Shirley Chisholm was born in Brooklyn, New York on November 30, 1924. Her parents were from the Caribbean, she had a father from Guyana and a mother from Barbados. She was on the **debate team** at Brooklyn College. Shirley was excited about the change she could make with her voice and ideas. Her teachers believed that she could go into **politics**.

First, Shirley Chisholm worked as a nursery school teacher. She earned a master's degree from Columbia University in early childhood education and worked with The New York City Division of Day Care. Aware of **racial and gender inequality**, she joined the League of Women Voters, the National Association

for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the Urban League, as well as the Democratic Party Club in Bedford-Stuyvesant (Bedstuy), Brooklyn.

In 1964, Chisholm ran for and became the second African American in the New York State Legislature. In 1968 Chisholm sought—and won—a seat in **Congress**. People began to call her “Fighting Shirley.” Her work supported racial and gender equality, people in poverty, and ending the Vietnam War. She also became the first Black woman and the second woman ever to serve on the powerful House Rules Committee.

Shirley Chisholm’s run for President was filled with discrimination. She was blocked from participating in TV debates, and after taking legal action, was only allowed to make just one speech. Still, students, women, and **minorities** followed and supported her! They called these people “The Chisholm Train.” She did not win but received many **delegate** votes.



THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE



Chisholm **retired** from Congress in 1983. She taught at Mount Holyoke College and co-founded the National Political Congress of Black Women. Chisholm said, “I want to be remembered as a woman ... who dared to be a **catalyst** of change.”

READ & WRITE

1. READ THE SENTENCES AROUND THE WORD “DISCRIMINATION” TO HELP YOU DETERMINE ITS MEANING.

2. BASED ON THE TEXT, HOW MANY ORGANIZATIONS WAS SHIRLEY A PART OF? LIST THEM.



UNBOUGHT
AND ☒
UNBOSSSED

GLOSSARY

Nomination: propose or formally enter as a candidate for election or for an honor or award.

Minorities: a relatively small group of people, especially one commonly discriminated against in a community, society, or nation, differing from others in race, religion, language, or political persuasion.

Debate: argue about (a subject), especially in a formal manner.

Debate Team: a group that competes against other teams in formal debates.

Catalyst: a person or thing that precipitates an event.

Politics: the activities of governments concerning the political relations between countries.

Racial Inequality: social advantages and disparities that affect different races.

Gender Inequality: acknowledges that men and women are not equal and that gender affects an individual's lived experience.

Delegate: a person sent or authorized to represent others, in particular an elected representative sent to a conference.

U.S. House of Representatives: the lower house of the United States Congress. The House and the Senate work together on bills to give to the president to put into law.

Congress: a national legislative body, especially that of the US, which meets at the Capitol in Washington, D.C., was established by the Constitution of 1787 and is made up of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Terms: a fixed or limited period for which something, e.g., office, imprisonment, or investment, lasts or is intended to last.

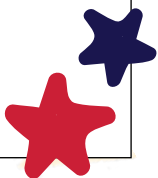
SPEECH



DIRECTIONS: Read the speech excerpt (or watch it on Youtube) by Kid President about “How to Change the World”. As you read, think about what stands out to you and in the space below write, draw, and express your ideas.



KID PRESIDENT’S WORDS	NOTES, DOODLE, LEAVE YOUR MARK!
<p>There are lots of ideas about how you can change the world?</p> <p>Some people think you should just complain about it. That won’t change the world, it will just make it bad.</p> <p>Some people think you have lots of money money; make it rain everywhere you go, holla for a dollar!</p> <p>Some people think you have to be really loud and yell a lot. It’s like with a bullhorn shouting, "Hey you! Yeah you! Do it my way! Right now!!" You heard.</p> <p>Other people choose to just make fun of everything; that is dumb, that is dumb, everyone is dumb. It is easier to make fun of stuff, but it’s cooler to make stuff.</p> <p>Some people think changing the world can only be done by just the smartest person in the world - just put him in a room, they will figure it out. The solution to world hunger? Food. (Wow, that was like so amazing.)</p> <p>Some people see the bad in the world and they just decide to ignore it. But that won’t help anything.</p> <p>Some people will think you have to be really famous, "super cool." Lots of people think you have to be really powerful to make a difference, like being Mayor or a Senator or a President.</p> <p>But the truth is, a title doesn’t make you more important - the world is changed by YOU! It’s one person filled with love and they just have to live it out, so they do something awesome! Then that person is filled with love, and they do something awesome. And it just goes on and on and on and on.</p>	



OUR FUTURE PRESIDENT



DIRECTIONS: One day you will be old enough to vote for President. One day, YOU could be President! Your vote counts! Just as our presidents or people who've run for president have followed varying dreams and paths to the presidency, they have also come from many different walks of life. Most presidents have attended college, served in the military, taught school children, played basketball, and also served as a congressman or governor, but such backgrounds are not required. The

U.S. Constitution guarantees that all American men and women—no matter what their race, religion, or background—have the right to run for president.

We want you to consider people you know that would make a great president and have an election at home, or maybe at school! Our future president could be an activist, a teacher, a parent, the deli owner, your favorite friend, or YOU!

Here are rules for becoming President of The United States:

- be a natural-born U.S. citizen of the United States;
- be at least thirty-five years old;
- be a resident in the United States for at least fourteen years.



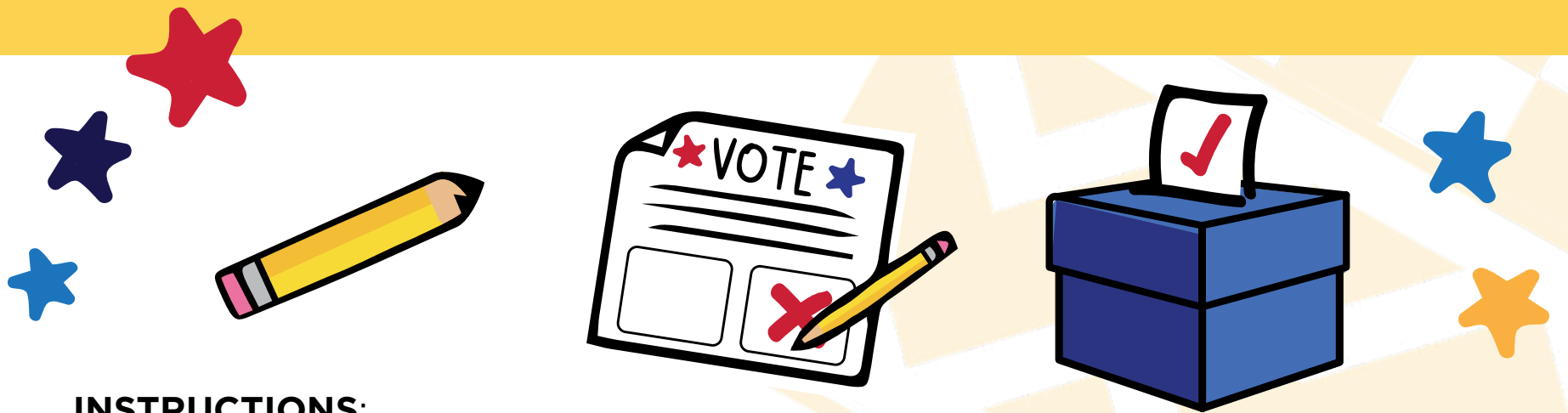
A person who meets the above qualifications would, however, still be disqualified from holding the office of president under any of the following conditions:

- Under the Twenty-second Amendment, no person can be elected president more than twice.
- The Senate has the option of disqualifying **convicted** individuals from holding federal office, including that of president.
- Under Section 3 of the Fourteenth Amendment, no person who swore an oath to support the Constitution, and later rebelled against the United States, can become president.

SERVICE IS THE RENT
WE PAY FOR THE PRIVILEGE
OF LIVING ON THIS EARTH.
— SHIRLEY CHISHOLM



WHO'S YOUR NOMINATION?



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Fill out the ballot profile with three people you chose to run for president. Remember to reread the rules for who can become president of the United States. You can paste their pictures or draw one of your nominee. Underneath their picture, write their name.
2. Tape your ballot profiles to the wall or another space. (Ask your parents!)
3. In front of the pictures, place a box where you can collect votes. Make sure it has a space where people can put their votes inside!
4. Leave blank strips of paper and writing materials so your participants can write down their choice and place it in the box.
5. Gather your friends and hold your election! Give people privacy as they vote.
6. Once everyone is done voting, count the votes. The person with the most votes is your possible future president!
7. Write a short speech before you make your BIG announcement! Be sure to read your speech when you announce the results of YOUR ELECTION. Your speech should answer the following questions:
 - a. Why would this person make a great president?
 - b. What are their accomplishments?
 - c. What from their life shows that they care about ALL people?
 - d. BONUS: Ask your parent/guardian to give you one more question.

IF THEY DON'T GIVE you
A SEAT AT THE TABLE,
BRING A FOLDING CHAIR.
- SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

TAKE THE PLEDGE

I WILL HONOR
THE SACRIFICES OF
MY ANCESTORS.

I WILL BELIEVE
IN ME.

I WILL PURSUE
MY DREAMS.

I WILL HELP
OTHERS ALONG
THE WAY.