



Host a Debate Watch Party

Debate watch parties are a great way to engage your family, friends, and community to discuss the issues that are important to women and their families — and to remind people to vote on Tuesday, November 4! Follow these simple steps to host a Debate Watch Party.

Use the Debate Watch Party as a membership recruitment tool! Hold the event in a public place — a restaurant, a college, a community center — and invite the public. Be sure to advertise the event in advance and promote a half price membership using AAUW's [Shape the Future Campaign](#). Click [here](#) for tips for working with the media.

Before the Debate:

- Invite neighbors, colleagues, and friends to your Watch Party
- Ask participants to arrive 20-30 minutes prior to the debate

Night of the Debate:

- Arrange the room so everyone can see the television
- Supply pens and paper for the Candidate Debate BINGO Cards and note taking
- Only turn the TV on shortly before the debate begins

After the Debate:

- Turn the TV off when the debate ends - before the post-debate commentators start talking
- Remind everyone that this is a discussion and that there are no right or wrong opinions
- Follow the suggested questions below or raise your own. Encourage group members to ask questions

Watch Party Discussion Questions

General Questions:

- What did you learn about the candidates or issues that you did not know prior to the debate?
- What topics or issues discussed in the debates were most useful or informative?
- Were there any issues raised that you considered irrelevant or unimportant? What issues would you like to see discussed in subsequent debates?

Questions About the Watch Party Experience:

- Will participating in this Watch Party discussion affect the way you read, watch or discuss the election?
- Will participating in the Debate Watch Party influence or change the way you vote in this election?

Questions for the Subsequent Debates:

- What did you learn from this debate that you did not learn from the previous debate(s)?
- Did the town hall style debate prove to be more valuable than the traditional format?
- How, if at all, did the press coverage of the previous debate(s) influence your attitudes about the candidates or the issues in this debate?

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) empowers women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Our nonpartisan, nonprofit organization has more than 170,000 members and supporters across the United States — as well as 1,000 local branches and more than 800 college and university partners. Learn more and join us at www.aauw.org. You can also follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/AAUW.NYS).