



together with

GREENWICH **H**IGH **S**CHOOL
SOcial **S**TUDIES **D**EPARTMENT
AND
GREENWICH **H**ISTORICAL **S**OCIETY

Harvard Case Discussion

A Nation Divided:

The United States and the Challenge of Secession

Event Report: December 1, 2019

Executive Summary

❖ The Participants

- 85 people participated in the case study event and 69 responded to the survey
- Participants were about 70% female and 30% male
- The two largest group affiliations were *League of Women Voters* (37%) and *Greenwich High School* (22%)
- The two largest age cohorts were 50+ (55%) and Under 18 or 18-24 (29%)
(Students accounted for 44% of the audience, but many did not answer the age cohort question)

❖ The Invitation and Reasons for Attending

- The majority of participants were invited by their affiliated organization
- Main reason for attending was a desire to participate in a Harvard case study class

❖ Assessment of Pre-Reading and Event

- Almost all participants viewed the pre-reading assignment favorably
- 90% of participants said that they would recommend that other teachers, schools and civic groups adopt this method of teaching; 94% said that they enjoyed the case method of teaching and would attend future events like this one

Executive Summary

❖ Assessment of Case Facilitation

- The moderators (Aaron Hull and Mike Galatioto) were highly rated

❖ Impact and Follow-Up

- “Women’s Rights and the Fight Over the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution” and “The Citizens United Supreme Court Decision and Corporate Speech” received majority votes for a future case discussion event
- As a result of attending the discussion:
 - 58% of the participants said they would be much more likely to approach future political discussions more constructively, especially when presented with an opposing point of view
 - 35% would be much more likely to vote, and
 - 21% would be much more likely to get involved in politics

WHO ATTENDED?

**HOW DID THEY
HEAR ABOUT
THE EVENT?**



The League of Women Voters of Greenwich
Greenwich Historical Society &
Greenwich High School Social Studies Department
invite you to our

Greenwich
Historical
Society
Explore our colorful past

Third Annual Harvard Case Discussion

**A Nation Divided:
The Challenge of Secession**

Michael Galatioto Aaron Hull Joseph Baske
with special guests from the Harvard Case Method Project

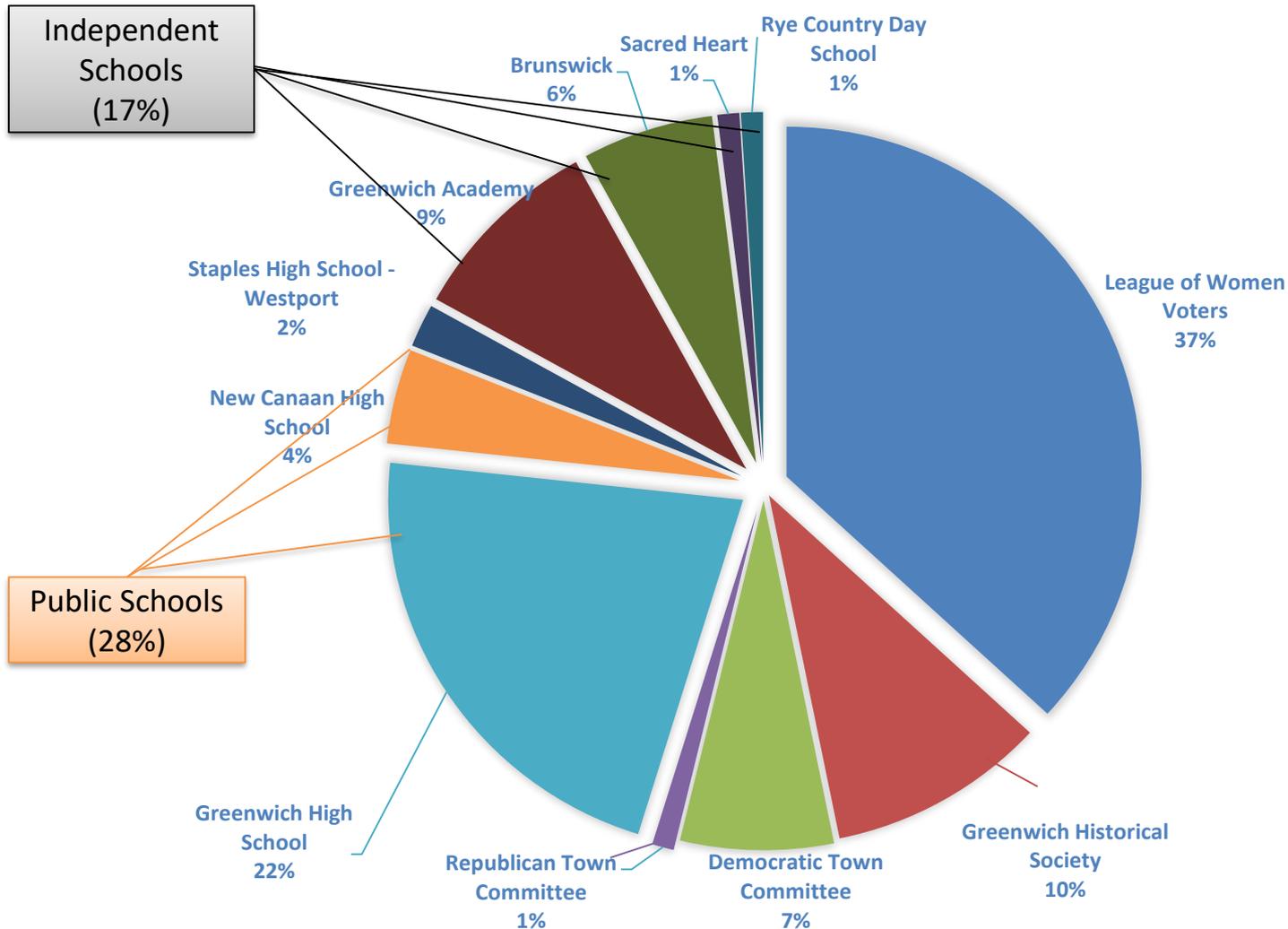
Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Registration: 6:30 - 6:45pm | Discussion: 7:00 - 8:30pm
Greenwich High School, Room 900

Space limited so RSVP early
RSVP: League.RSVP@gmail.com

About the Attendees

- ▶ *Greenwich High School* and the *League of Women Voters* represented the two largest groups in attendance



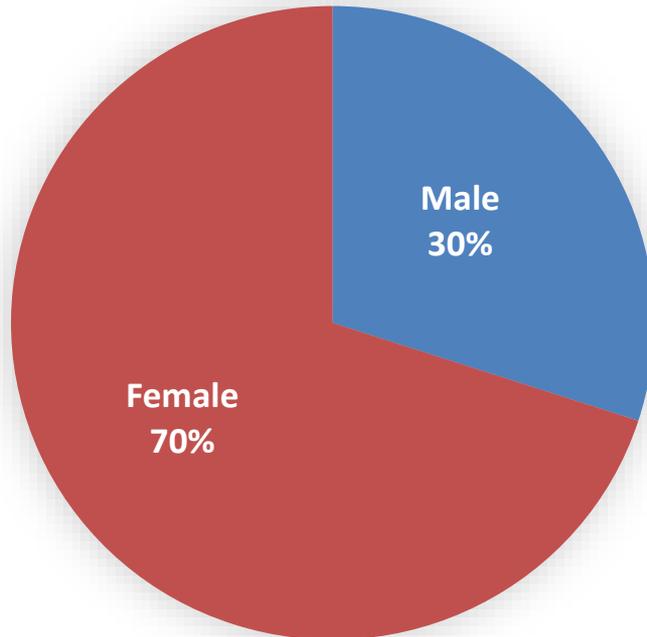
Q1. Which of the following organizations or schools are you affiliated with? *Please select all that apply.*

Base size n= 69

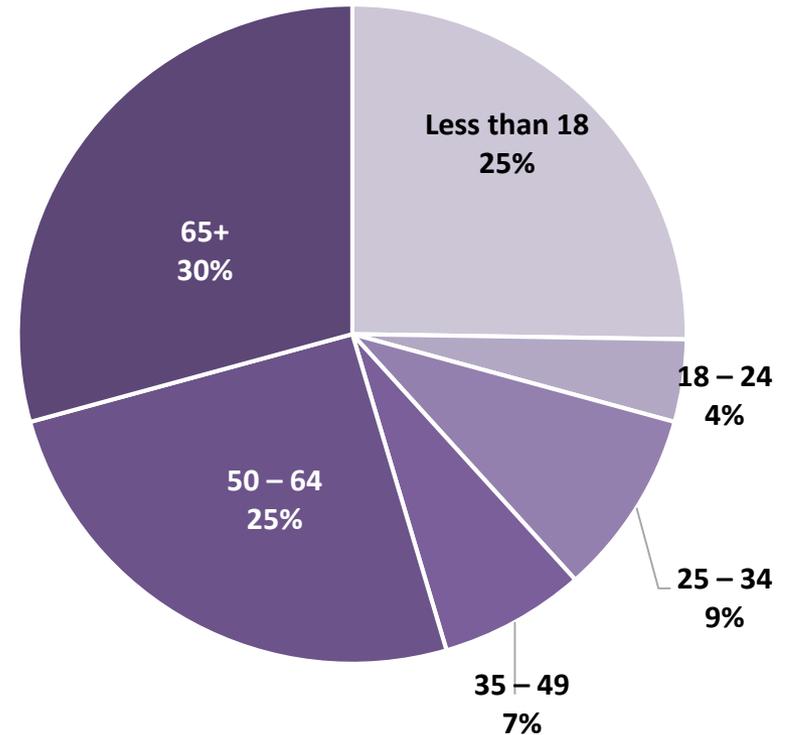
Demographics – Gender and Age

- ▶ Participation was split about 2/3 female and 1/3 male
- ▶ Most of the participants were either 50+ (55%) or under 25 (29%)
(Students accounted for 44% of the audience but many did not answer the age cohort question)

Gender



Age



Q13. Please indicate your gender.

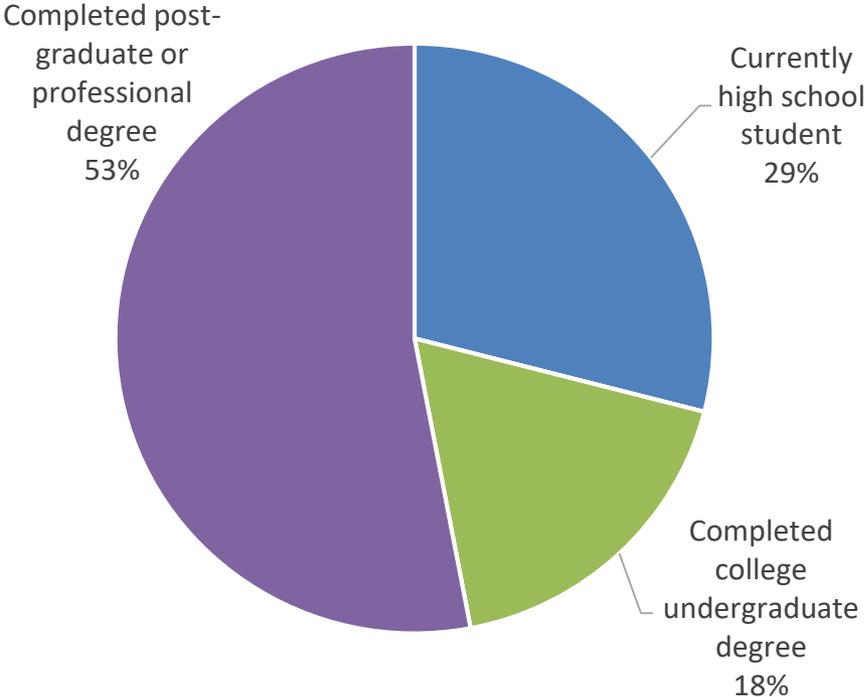
Q14. Please indicate your age range.

Base size n= 68

Demographics – Education

- ▶ 53% of the participants had completed post graduate or professional degrees

Educational Attainment



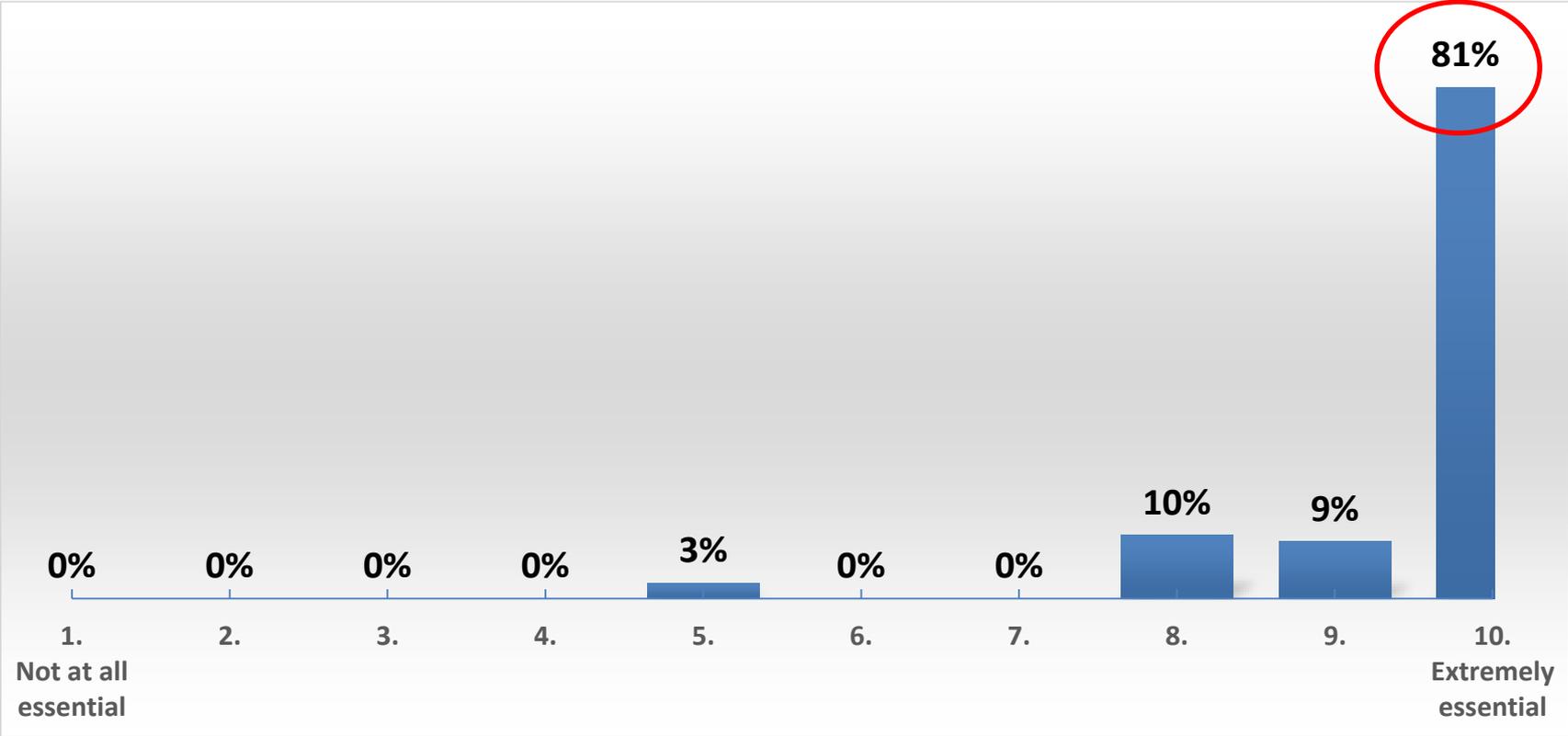
Q15. Please indicate your highest level of educational attainment
(Students accounted for 44% of the audience, but many did not answer the educational attainment question)

Base size n= 68

DESIRE TO LIVE IN A DEMOCRACY

Importance of Democratic Governance

▶ A democratically-run government is clearly essential to the participants



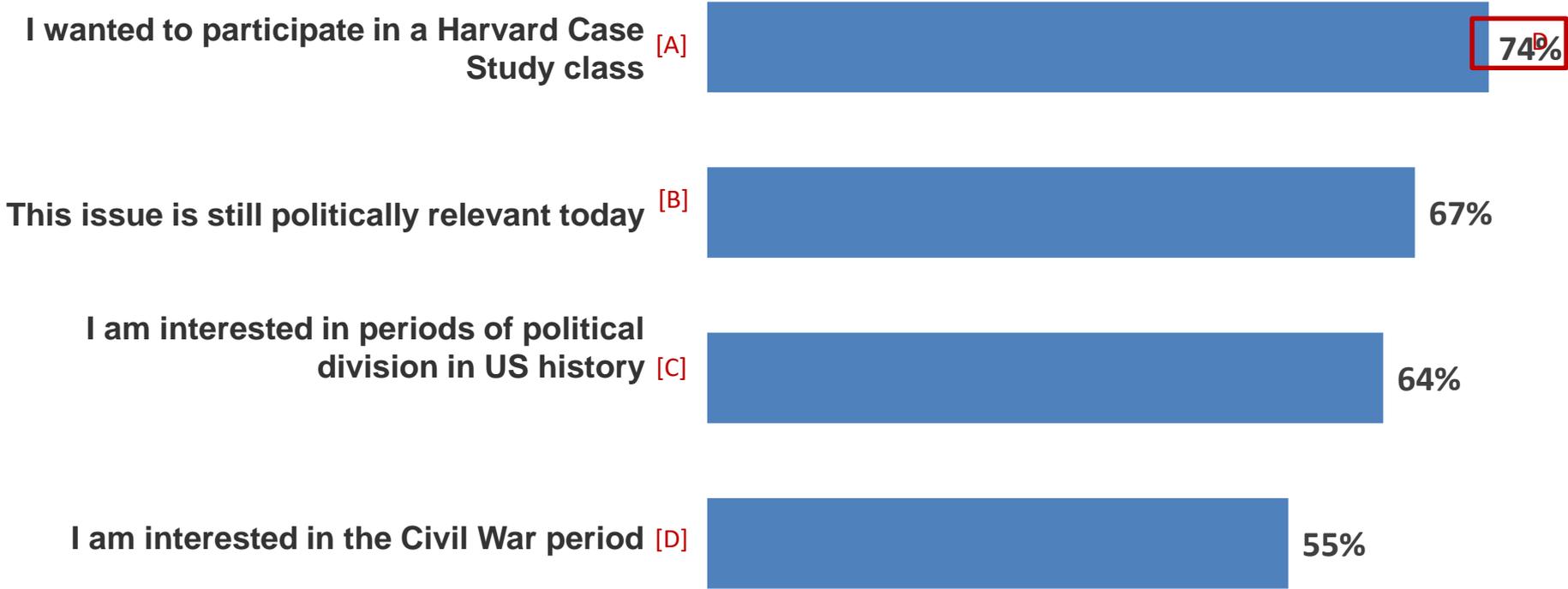
Q9. How essential is it for you to live in a country that is governed democratically?

Base size n= 69

MOTIVATION TO ATTEND

Motivation to Attend

- Attendees were motivated mostly by a desire to participate in a Harvard case study class



Q3. What motivated you to attend this event? Please select all that apply.

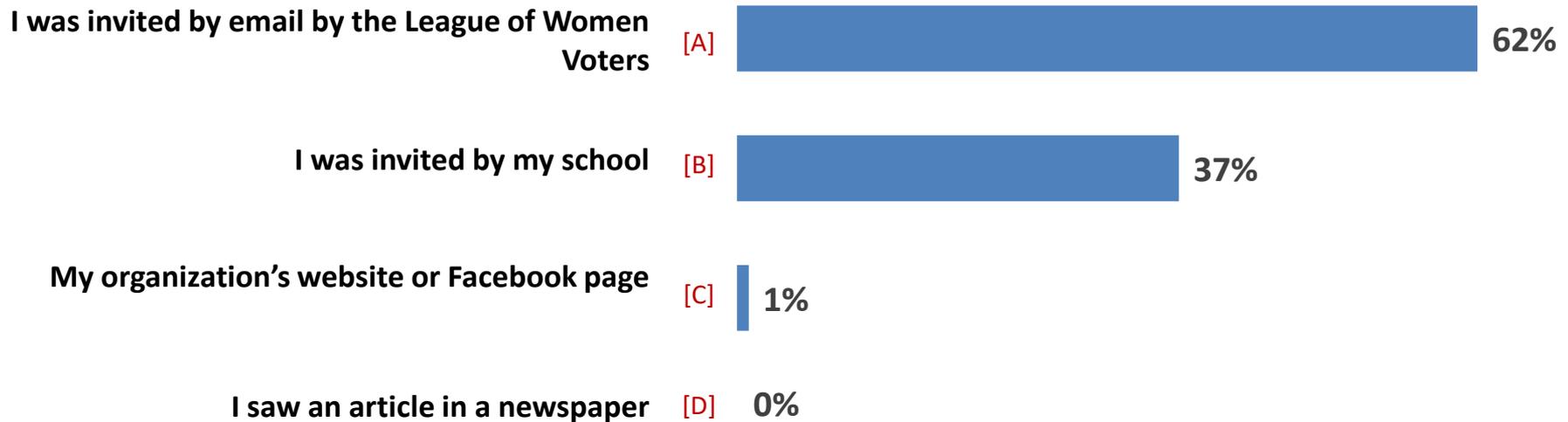
Base size n= 69

Letters indicate a significant higher difference at the 90% confidence level, but with the small base size, results should be considered indicative rather than absolute

EVENT EVALUATION

Source(s) of Information about Event

- ▶ The majority of participants were invited by the organization they are affiliated with



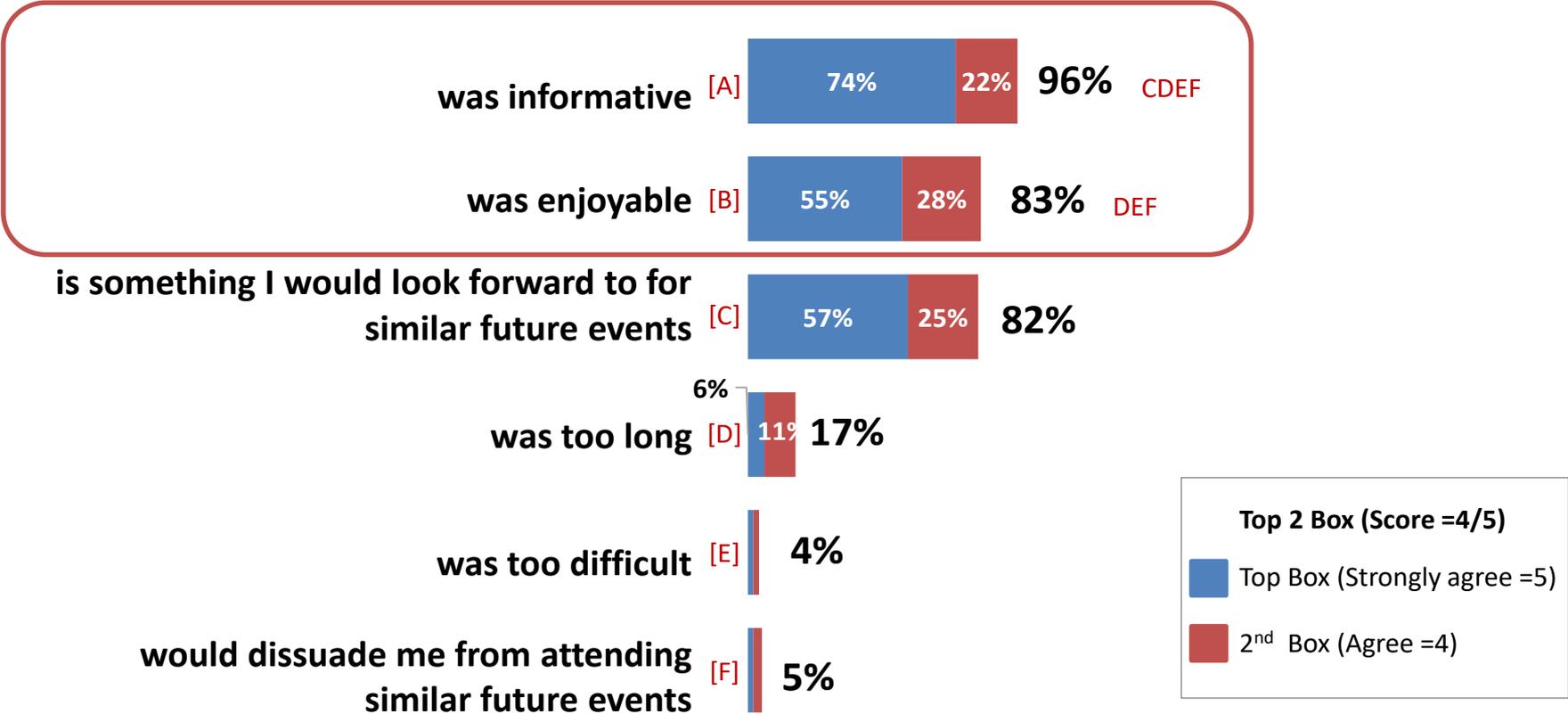
Q2. How did you first hear about this event? *Please select all that apply and fill in details as required.*

Base size n= 68

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Evaluation of The Pre-Reading Assignment

► Participants found the pre-reading assignment **informative** and **enjoyable**



Q4. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the pre-reading assignment? The pre-reading assignment...
Please select one response for each and do not leave any row blank. Strongly disagree to Strongly agree.

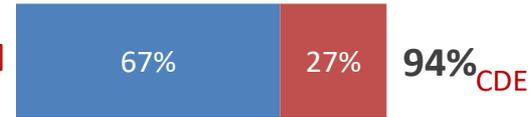
Base size n=65

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Evaluation of The Case Study

- ▶ Participants regarded the case study method very positively, and would **recommend** the approach be used by other teaching groups

I would attend future events like this one, which are focused on different issues in US politics and history [A]



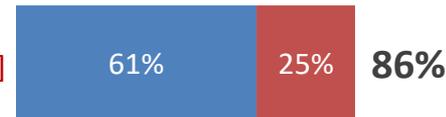
I enjoyed the case study method of teaching [B]



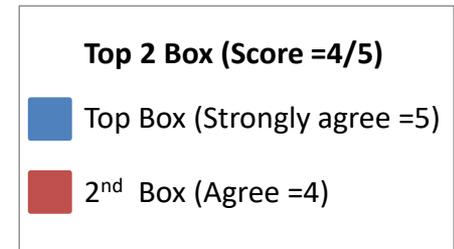
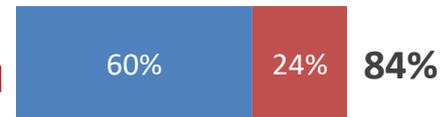
I would recommend that this approach be used by other teachers, schools and civic groups [C]



I learned something new [D]



I would recommend this event to a friend [E]



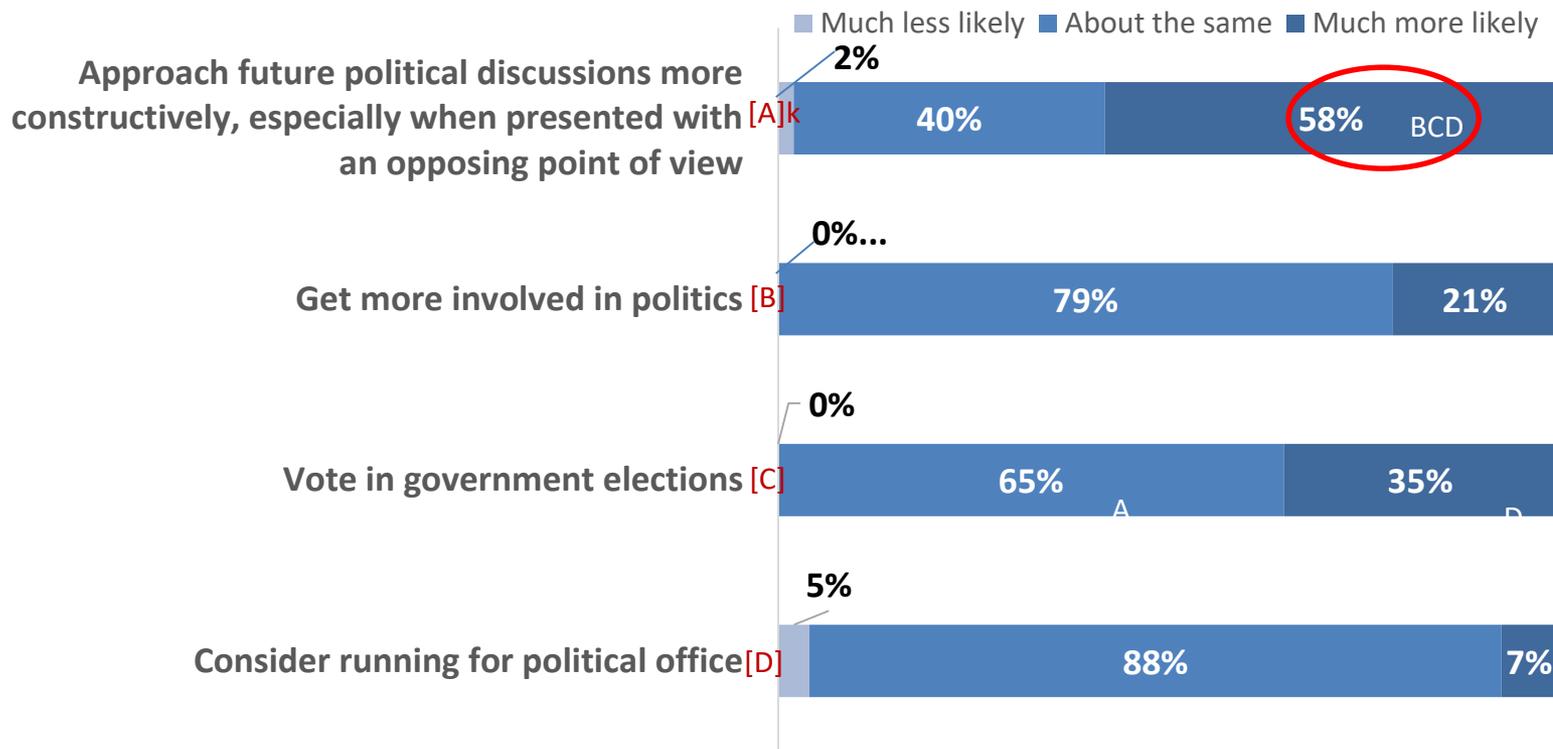
Q5. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about tonight's case study? Please select one response for each and do not leave any row blank. Strongly disagree to Strongly agree.

Base size n= 67

Letters indicate a significant higher difference at the 90% confidence level, but with the small base size, results should be considered indicative rather than absolute

As a Result of Participation, Likelihood to...

- ▶ Almost 60% of the participants said they would be much more likely to approach future political discussions more constructively, especially when presented with an opposing point of view
 - 35% would be much more likely to vote, and
 - 21% would be much more likely to get involved in politics



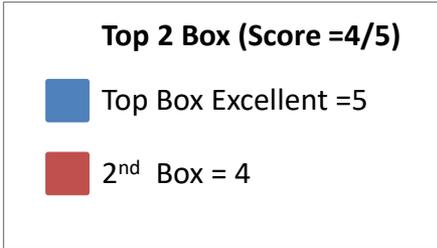
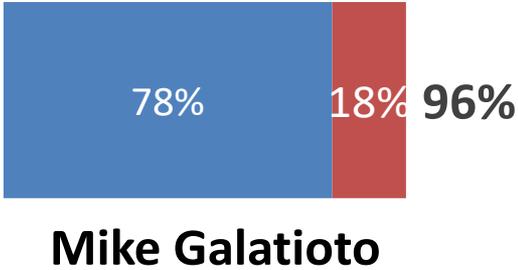
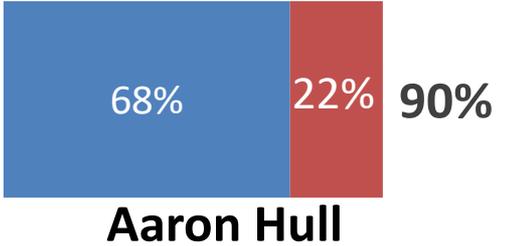
Q6. Based on your attendance at this event, rate your likelihood of doing the following: *Please select one response for each and do not leave any row blank.*

Base size n= 68

Letters indicate a significant higher difference at the 90% confidence level, but with the small base size, results should be considered indicative rather than absolute

Evaluation of Moderators

► Both moderators were highly rated



Q7. How would you rate each of the moderators' facilitation of the discussion? Please select one response for each and do not leave any row blank. Fair to Excellent. Base size n= 69

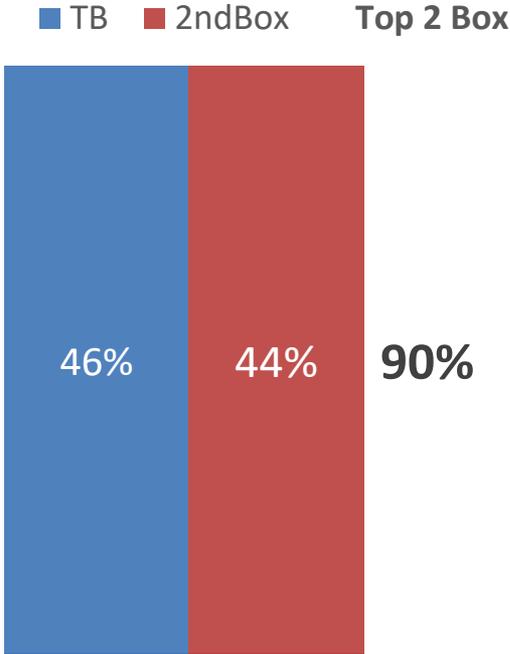
Letters indicate a significant higher difference at the 90% confidence level, but with the small base size, results should be considered indicative rather than absolute.

Evaluation of Venue

► The **venue**, Room 900 at Greenwich High School, was also very well rated



Room 900, GHS



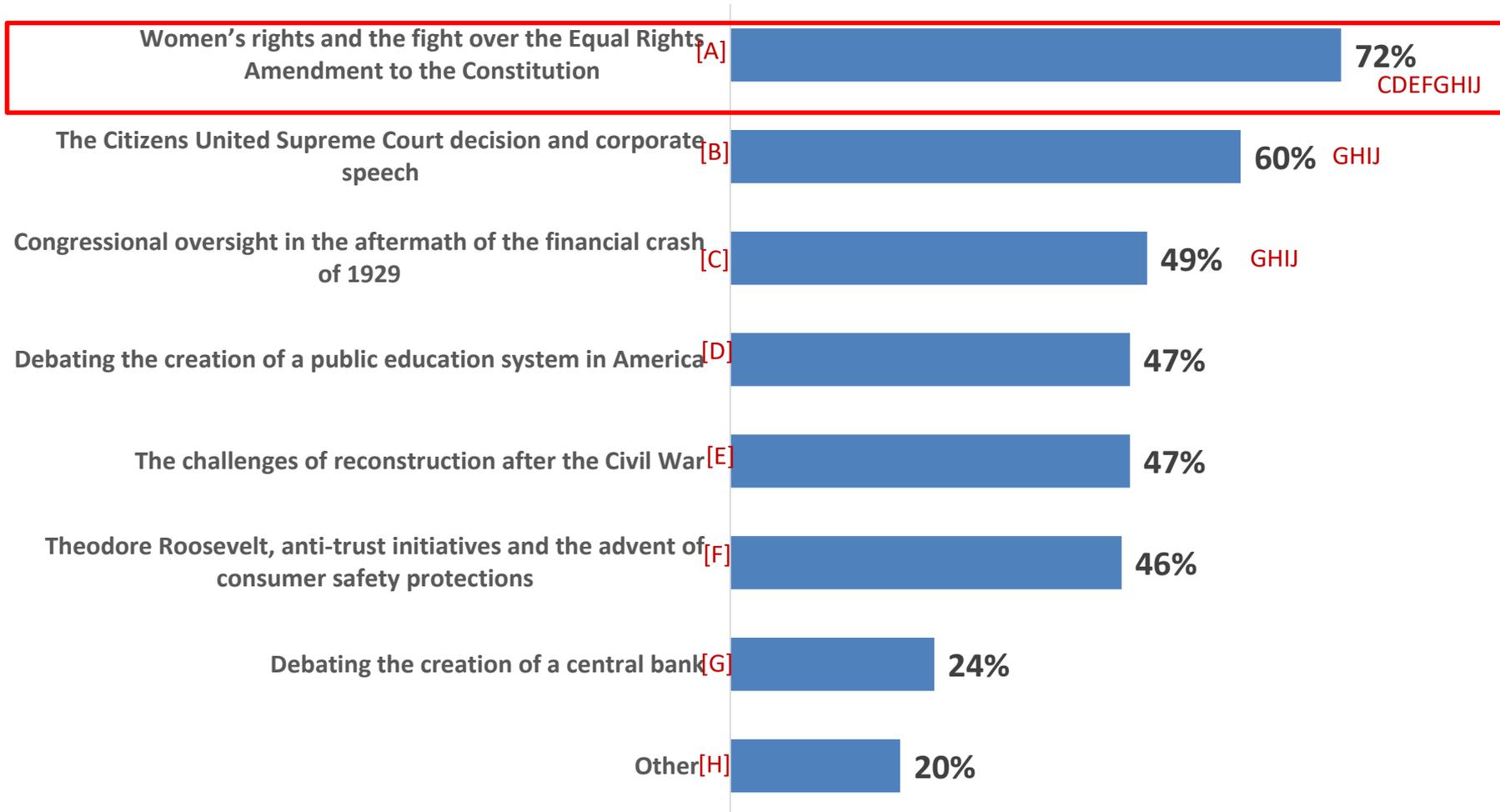
Q8. How would you rate the venue, Room 900 at Greenwich High School? Please select one response for each and do not leave any row blank. Poor to Excellent.

Base size n= 68

INTEREST IN FUTURE EVENTS & GENERAL FEEDBACK

Topics of Interest for Future Case Discussion Programs

- ▶ There was the most interest in the case about women’s political rights and the ERA for our next community case discussion



Q10. What other issue(s) would you like to see discussed in future case study programs? Please check all that apply.

Base size n= 68

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Comments/Suggestions - Verbatims

I think the ending should make more effort to connect to the present.

Sometimes the questions asked were a bit unclear, but overall this was a very thought provoking discussion. I would suggest that the moderators keep the discussion more focused on the reading (sometimes, the conversation would go off on tangents.)

Wonderful and thoughtful event

Excellent presentation

It was great though a smaller group might have moved the discussion further

Broken chair

Overall really good experience. Wonder if smaller groups would allow more people to participate

Instructors made excellent points but both called on same contributors and was difficult to hear some responses

Visibility and sound in venue were an issue

Wonderful way of learning and teachers leading it were great

Excellent program

I really enjoyed the different ages of the people in the room,.

I thought this could be a suggestion that GHS is considering using the case study method

I really enjoyed the approach on this specific case

Try to get others involved

Wonderful, thank you

Have these more regularly (1/month!) Civics classes for adults.

Excellent event, as usual. Perhaps have students sit in front and encourage more student participation. Maybe a microphone to pass around to participants.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Program Committee Member

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