

Find Your Voice

Why sit back like a coward when major issues are infiltrating your community? It is extremely important to be involved in your community because, you can solve some really difficult problems, you may have some say in what goes on, and you can help your friends or neighbors. No one wants problems like crime infestation or the increase of pollution to fester and grow until they have overrun the neighborhood, the community, and even your city. Unfortunately, that is exactly what is going to happen unless citizens take a stand and get mixed up in the mess. There are times to keep your nose clean and stay out of it, and then there are times to get involved. It is plain and simple. If you want things to change, you have to get involved. You can't expect these battles to fight themselves.

You can be at the forefront in the crusade against all the problems in your neighborhood by doing small but effective jobs in your region. You can improve the pollution by cleaning up trash with your neighbors, switching to better light bulbs, and reducing the amount of electricity you use. You could also start a neighborhood watch group for crime prevention. In addition, a letter to congress telling of problems in the area will not hurt. They can't help you, or anyone else for that matter without being made aware of the current situation. That is their job, and it could be done a whole lot better if they have someone to be their "eyes and ears" in your locale. Best of all, after you help out and fix some predicaments, you will be able to honestly say, "I made a difference."

Once you get involved, you'll become a familiar face amongst the committees and groups. People will begin to trust you after you have proven yourself worthy. Your ideas will be heard more, and they might even be tested. You will gain more authority and you will be able to voice your opinions. Problems that you think are most urgent might be solved first. However, if you don't intervene, your voice will remain mute forever.

If you have neighbors in your community that complain of their problems, you can help them. You can be their voice if they need one. You can mend problems you did not even know about by listening to your friends and their ideas. Your neighbors can offer feedback regarding the improvements and setbacks. This can help you and other officials fix the dilemmas quicker with fewer complications.

Interfering is not always bad, and sometimes, you can solve some of the problems, gain minute amounts of authority, and stand up for your neighbors. In times like these when we have so many issues to deal with and correct, we can't be a society of gutless, weak-willed cowards. People have to rise from the crowds of people and be our voices when we fail to be our own. Why can't you be that person? Find your voice, and stand out!