



Team Ethics

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In his poem “locura” Andres Montoya questions the role of a citizen as a passive spectator and confronts us to take responsibility and action for our world, our communities and the type of society we want to build:

“and where, raza, are our heroes?
the heroes of aztlán?

what became of the great nation we were going to build?
where did all the warriors go with their sharpened knives
and loaded rifles?”

Montoya calls for a metaphorical raise to arms, not as a violent uprising against the structures of power but as part of the integral role of a citizen’s responsibility to hold politicians accountable to the democratic process of building a more egalitarian nation.

Team Ethics, in the spirit of rebellion, will raise important question on the ethics of responsible citizenship: Will you just sit there and wonder what has happened to our great society or will you raise the voice within you beckoning for change? Will you hope that your vote will be enough to impact your community and the larger world or is a civic engagement in public debate and the spheres of political power a necessary follow-up to the vote? Do you know yourself enough to recognize your biases and how they will affect your vote? What individual issues matter to you and how will you hold politicians accountable beyond the vote?

Our approach is to help voters define the civic responsibilities that citizenship entails and to broaden an understanding that citizenship bestows the responsibility of individual and collective engagement in the political process of building a democratic nation. Our intentions is to—through the use of scholarly research and historical evidence—prod voters to know themselves and their biases and how these affect their actions in the process of casting a vote. Our hope is that through this process the audience will get to know themselves, to consider the ethics of a responsible voter and to become a more engaged citizen in the public debate and the collective action that keeps a democracy healthy.