

# **Student Essay on Choose or Lose**

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## Essay

"Get smart. Get involved. Get registered." MTV's "Choose or Lose" campaign encourages all able teens to vote in this year's presidential election. Their point? Teenagers can make a difference!

So, you are 18 and you can vote, but you can't stop there. In order to vote and vote well, you have to get informed! Does it really matter who Britney Spears or Tom Cruise think you should vote for? Eighteen-year-olds need to prove that we deserve the right to vote! We need to prove that we aren't just immature, uninformed kids.

While it remains important to take a stand on issues that are important to you, watching CNN debates and following the caucuses on the news may not be an option for our busy teenage lives. Hundreds of organizations have created clueless-teen-friendly websites with well-known celebrities endorsing voter registration and teenage involvement rather than specific candidates.

They are beginning to recognize that the issues important to the average teenager are drastically different from theirs, but that the presidential election is an issue that needs to be important to all Americans. Websites like [Rockthevote.com](http://Rockthevote.com) or [vote-smart.org](http://vote-smart.org) offer the candidates various platforms and important issues broken down in ways that we can all understand. These organizations are even providing quick and easy ways to register. Simply click the link on [MTV.com](http://MTV.com) or [Declareyourself.com](http://Declareyourself.com) and you can register to vote then and there.

It couldn't be any easier. Teenagers can make a difference in the election. MTV has teamed up with these organizations with a goal in mind: to get at least 20 million 18-24 year-olds to vote in the upcoming presidential election. Seem impossible? Last presidential election 18 million 18-24 year olds voted. In some states, the difference between the two candidates was only a few thousand. It doesn't seem possible that your individual vote can make any kind of difference in a nation this big, but it does. So, get involved! Learn about the issues and the candidates. Get registered! Next time you're chatting online, check out one of the many websites offering voter registration and take two minutes out of your day. Finally, vote! Let's prove how important our opinions and ideas are.