

EDITORIAL: IT'S TIME TO CARE

Hey Arapahoe. It's time to care. The midterm elections are on November 6th, a mere 7 days from now.

Government is uninteresting, frustrating, and good information is not easily accessible. In summary, politics sucks. But the issues and people on Colorado's ballot will affect our state forever. The extent to which we safeguard or open up our vulnerable spaces to fracking, whether we allow slavery as a form of punishment, and

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whether our school, district, and state will continue to fall behind in funding are all on the ballot in 2018.

Living a non-political existence is a form of privilege. Many of us can turn our attention away from the outside world because our high social status means that most issues do not touch our lives. In this way, caring, even just paying attention to government is an act of compassion:

compassion towards those less fortunate than ourselves, and compassion towards our own futures, which will inevitably be touched by issues such as climate change and the federal deficit.

However, in a lot of ways, most of which are invisible now, government already touches our lives everyday. The quantity of resources dedicated to mental health and the ways in which they are used are determined at the state level. For example, House Bill 18-1177 would've lowered the age of consent to therapy to 12 years old and provided suicide prevention training to adults who work regularly with kids. We're not saying that anything necessarily could've or would've been prevented, but our school knows all too well that we have to do something differently. We have to make the changes we can because too many people are carrying the weight of grief and loss.

So Arapahoe, it's time to care. Because government touches us in a myriad of ways, and the system is only going to work for us if we participate. If you can vote, vote. If not, get educated and volunteer; any campaign would love to have you. Encourage everyone around you to turn in their ballots. Because if you don't, the people who do cast ballots, often older generations, make the decisions and they can be disconnected from the world we are experiencing.

THE HERALD
editorial

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