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## **Debates Help Voters See "Above the Clamor" of Election Coverage**

### *League Of Women Voters Provides Tips For Getting The Most Out Of Presidential Debates*

**Washington, DC** - The League of Women Voters today released helpful tips for media and voters on watching and analyzing the upcoming presidential and vice-presidential debates.

"We are at last reaching the home stretch of an election season marked by unprecedented length, intensity, and civic excitement," said national League president Mary G. Wilson. "As we move into these final weeks, it is absolutely critical for the media and community leaders to encourage voters to watch the presidential and vice-presidential debates, and consider these five tips for getting the most out of their experience."

#### **TOP FIVE TIPS FOR DEBATE WATCHERS**

1. **Think Ahead**-Before the debate, ask yourself which issues are most important to you, and jot down what you'd like to learn from each of the candidates.
2. **Are They Answering the Question?** *Pay attention to how the candidates answer the questions. Are they specific? Sincere? Knowledgeable?*
3. **Keep Track of Topics**-*Are the candidates being asked about your priority issues? Are the questions fair and pertinent?*
4. **Talk it out!** -*Afterwards, talk about the debate with your friends & family. Did the debate sway your decision? Did you learn something new about the candidates' positions?*
5. **VOTE on November 4<sup>th</sup>**. *It is your best opportunity to make your voice heard and help shape the issues that affect all of us! VISIT [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) to prepare yourself.*

*\*\*Find much more on our "[Debates 101](#)" page; including fun tips for hosting [debate-watching parties](#), all at [www.LWV.org](http://www.LWV.org)\*\**

"Debates are the final chance for candidates to rise above the clamor of attack ads, endless punditry and analysis, and engage in thoughtful debate about the competing challenges of reforming our education, healthcare, and environmental protection systems, strengthening our economy, and determining our place in the world," Wilson concluded. "They are also the best opportunity for voters to see, first-hand, how each candidate responds to the tough issues facing the next tenant of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue."

*The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership in the League is open to men and women of all ages.*

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