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efficacy.

Moreover, the authors found that there was a positive relationship between discussion of basic civic education concepts and students' civic knowledge (measured by their ability to correctly identify the governor and answer a series of basic questions about the electoral process).

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Discussion of hotly contested issues seems to encourage students' interest in the topics. The researchers found that discussion of issues such as the war in Iraq, the Patriot Act, civil rights, and homeland security positively predicted students' concern about the unjust treatment of others. They hypothesize that "controversy invites deliberation thereby providing students with a forum to voice their opinions and, potentially, spark their interests." According to Syvertsen and colleagues, "One of the more surprising findings was that discussion of international issues like America's role in the world over the course of the semester made students more likely to express concerns about their economic future."

Finally, the authors suggest using caution when interpreting the results of their analyses. According to Syvertsen et al., "It is important to keep in mind the relatively short interval of time between the two times of measurement. Further, in terms of generalizability, it is important to note that these data were collected during a semester when a national election campaign was taking place. Thus, it is unclear whether these same results can be generalized to other semesters (with or without an election)." *

REPORT RELEASE: NOVEMBER 7, 2007

CIRCLE, in partnership with the Charles Kettering Foundation, cordially invites you to attend the upcoming release of a new report about college student civic engagement entitled:

"MILLENNIALS TALK POLITICS: A STUDY OF COLLEGE STUDENT POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT."

The event will take place on November 7th and will include a briefing on the report findings as well as several panel discussions. It will be held at The University of California, Washington Center (<http://www.ucdc.edu/>) in Washington DC.

*For more information about the event or to RSVP, please contact Dionne Williams at dwillia8@umd.edu. **RSVP required.***

The report revisits the 1993 study "College Students Talk Politics" by Richard C. Harwood and John A. Creighton of the Harwood Group. There are notable differences in the research findings between the 2007 and 1993 reports.