

No

Here are some reasons why someone might argue that Canada **should not** lower the voting age to 16.

16- and 17-year-olds lack requisite maturity

16- and 17-year-olds are not ready, knowledgeable, responsible, or mature enough to be given the vote. Many are still developing cognitive and emotional skills that are relevant to political analysis and decision-making. It is for this reason that we do not allow youth to make other big decisions until they reach 18, such as purchasing alcohol or getting married without parental consent.

16- and 17-year-olds lack real world experience

Experience living in the world, and in our particular political system is necessary for making an informed decision when voting. Experience comes with age. 16- and 17-year-olds lack sufficient real-world experience.

There are other forms of political participation more suitable for youth

Voting is only one form of political participation and power. There are other forms of expression and influence that should be considered for youth empowerment first, such as canvassing for political candidates, attending protests, using your platform to raise awareness, writing to your representatives, or attending a Town Hall meeting.

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