

# Democracy

Australia is most often referred to as a representative democracy.

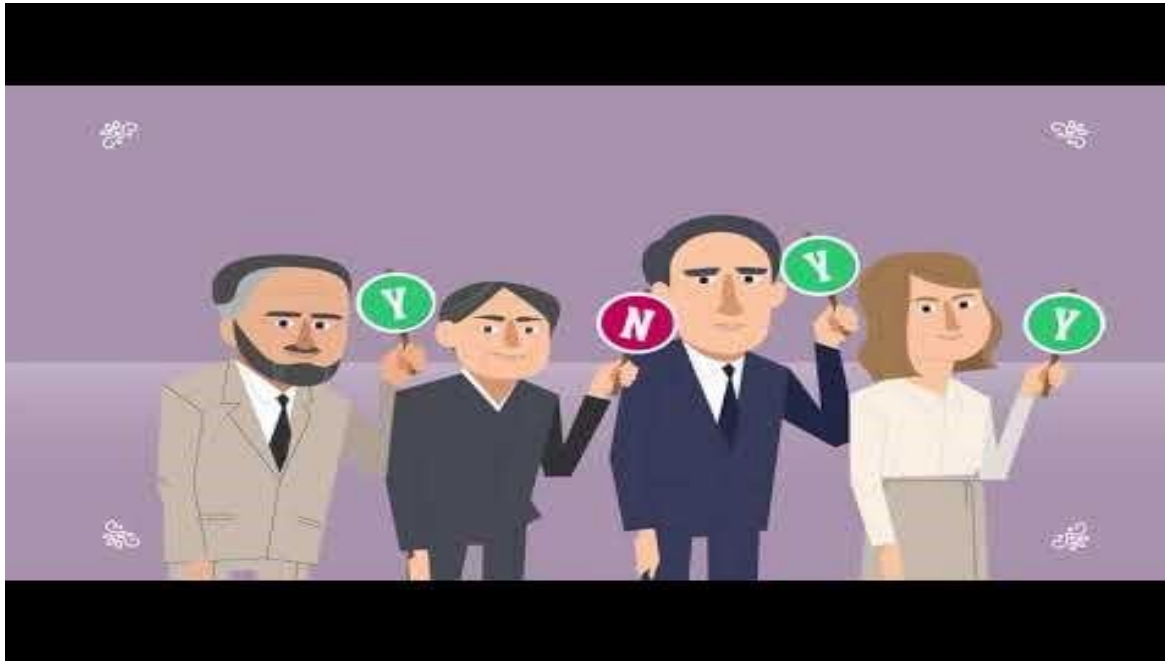
Simply, this means that eligible citizens participate equally and vote to elect representatives to govern on their behalf.

ACHCK061/62/63

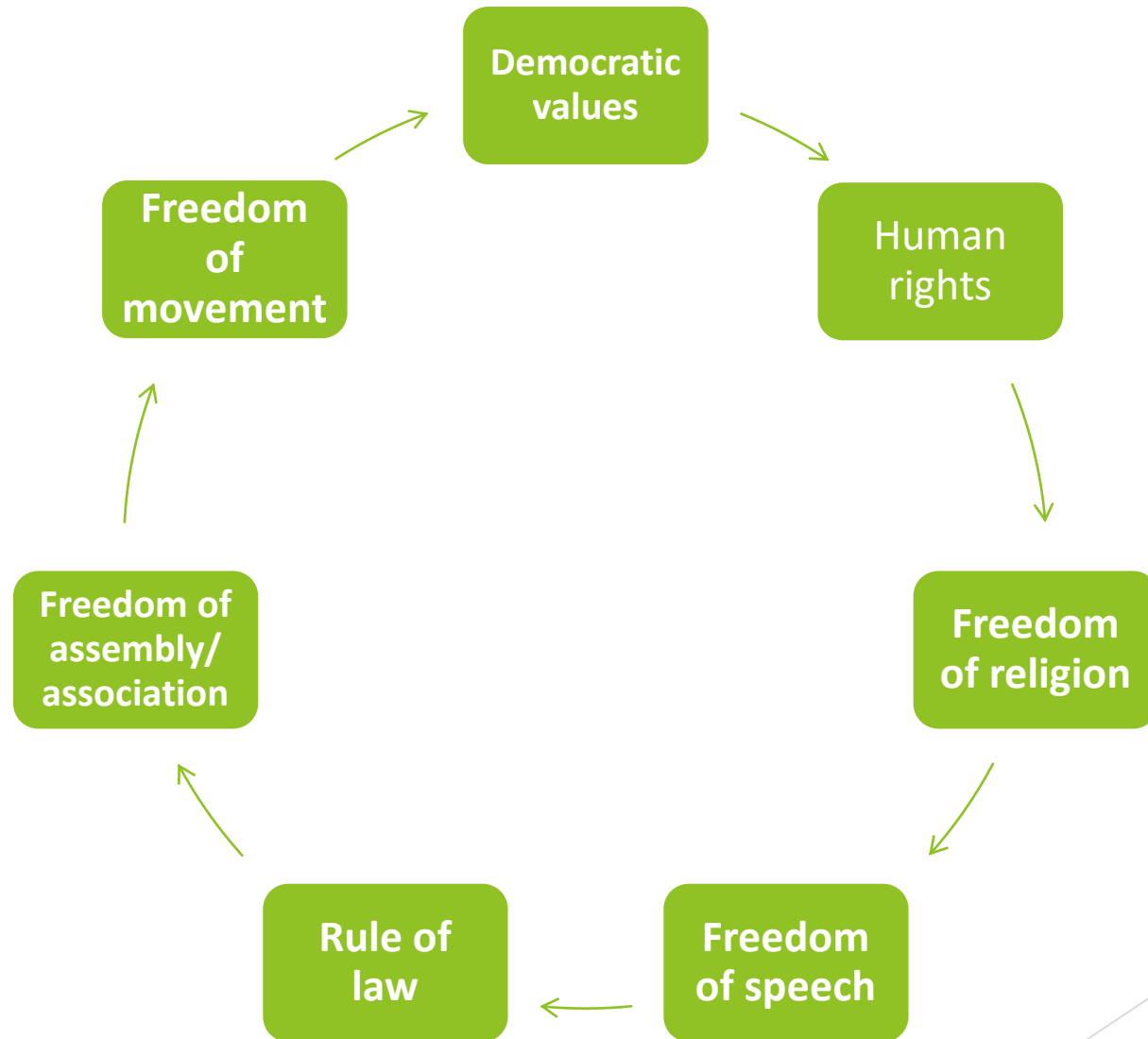


**Watch** this short clip from the Australian Human Rights Commission Youtube channel.....

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Eu6G5YrBt4>



# Values and freedoms of an Australian democracy



# Task:

Click on the link below – in consultation with your teacher, negotiate how much time you will need to allocate to complete these tasks.

[Task document](#)



# DEMOCRACY

government where all eligible citizens participate equally and vote to elect representatives

All citizens regardless of age can participate in democracy in different ways





# **Parliament the voice of the people**

**If citizens want to see change in their community they  
can campaign for change.**

**Protesting and using our freedom of assembly is one  
method, but there are ways people of all ages can  
campaign for change.**



- **Petitions**
- **Meet with your local Member of Parliament**
- **Lobby for change**

Investigate how to set up a petition so that it can be tabled in the parliament.

[Fourteenth Assembly petitions](#)

**Task: prepare the wording for a petition on a topic that you feel strongly about**



# Changing the law in the Northern Territory

Laws change because:

- Problem in current law – need an **amendment**
- **Pressure from the community – lobbying member, petitions, protests**
- **Government policy – a promise to do something usually made during an election campaign**



# Making a Law in the Northern Territory

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

### 1st READING

The bill (an idea for a new law) is introduced in to the Legislative Assembly.

### 2nd READING

Members debate and vote on the main idea of the bill.

### Consideration in detail

Members look closely at the bill, and may make changes.

### 3rd READING

Members vote on the final version of the bill.

### BILL PASSED

in the  
Legislative Assembly

## ADMINISTRATOR

### Assent

The Northern Territory Administrator signs the bill.

**BILL BECOMES A LAW  
FOR THE  
NORTHERN TERRITORY**



# The recap:

- ❖ democratic principles are the foundation of our way of life
- ❖ values and freedoms in Australia play a role in how we interact with each other and are key to the law making process in the Northern Territory

