

Submitter: LaNell Long  
On Behalf Of:  
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A lot of people like to mention the brain of the average young person isn't even fully formed until they reach about 25 years old. Yes, this is true. But voting decisions rely on cold cognition, and young adults perform amazingly with it. And if that's not convincing enough, So what you're saying is that you don't trust young people to make informed decisions, yet you trust them to serve in the military and pay taxes? The idea that young people aren't capable of making informed decisions is ageist and insulting. Many 16-year-olds are already politically active and engaged. Studies have shown that 16-year-olds have the ability to comprehend complex political issues and make informed decisions. Maybe it's time we start trusting them. If we're going to talk about brain development, let's not forget that some politicians in office have demonstrated a lack of maturity and critical thinking skills despite being well over 25. Denying young people the right to vote is a form of voter suppression and it goes against the principles of democracy. Everyone deserves a voice in the decisions that affect their lives.