

The PTTN Founding Members Agreement

As one of the 50 founding members of *Proof Through the Night*, and to help create an informed, critically-thinking and active American electorate, I agree to do the following within six months:

1. I will register to vote if I haven't.
2. I will vote in as many elections as I can.
3. I will begin to take in quality political news from at least three different points on the political spectrum for at least one hour a week. I will make this a habit. (For instance, liberal news, conservative news, and alternative or international news.—Many news websites can be found on our Political Knowledge webpage at ProofThroughTheNight.Org)
4. I will refresh my knowledge of the basics of the political process, if I've forgotten the basics, or never learned them. I will attempt to pass the online PTTN *Basics of Politics Test* [The test isn't created yet, but will be broken down into quizzes that shouldn't take longer than 15-20 minutes to do. The quizzes will also be set up to teach you and help you retain the knowledge from the questions you missed. We also already have our own Politics 101 materials online.]
5. I will refresh my knowledge of the basics of critical thinking. [For instance, learning the way to analyze an argument, and the way to spot distortion and deception techniques, such as logical fallacies and emotionally manipulative imagery.] I will attempt to pass the online PTTN *Basics of Critical Thinking Test*. [Again, the test hasn't been created yet, but I expect it will be ready within two months. Again, we will have instructional materials on critical thinking on the ProofThroughTheNight.Org website.]
6. Before each election, I will make a systematic effort to spend 1-2 hours reviewing the candidates and the issues. [One PTTN strategy is to invite a few family or friends to an informal "Study and Party" event. This just means having some food and drinks, and discussing and reviewing candidates together. Besides making it something of a pre-election ritual and habit, another advantage of the Party and Study event is that it can pave the way for inviting them to become PTTN participants.]
7. If I haven't already plugged into some advocacy groups that match my key interests and values, I will do so, in order to get timely email *action updates* that will remind me to do advocacy. (The great majority of advocacy groups will put you on their list for free.)
8. I will agree to do at least two hours of advocacy a month on issues of great concern to me. When my representatives are on vacation, I will spend the two hours doing background study on issues.

9. As part of my two hours a month, I will do some advocacy on at least one structural issue. (Structural issues affect the efficiency of the political process itself. Examples are campaign finance reform, and assuring that voting machine results cannot be corrupted. If people don't spend some time on structural issues, it's likely the political process will remain inefficient and be wasteful of our tax money.)

10. I will make at least one membership contribution to *Proof Through the Night*. (PTTN is a project of World Peace One, a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.) We are asking \$30. If need be, give it in three installments. [One of the first things that the money will do is pay for the programming needed to create the self-teaching online politic and critical-thinking tests.]

11. Once I have established these new political habits (regular quality news intake, regular advocacy, and critical thinking)—and assuming I find my PTTN involvement worthwhile—I will make a concerted effort to invite and support at least two people to become members. [In other words, if you don't think that your involvement has made a significant difference, then you can consider this agreement nonbinding.] I will attempt to invite these two or more people as soon as possible, knowing that if the amount of participation doubles every six months, we will reach two-thirds of the electorate within one decade. [Thus your participation may help produce a turning point in American history: a regularly informed, critically-thinking and active American electorate!]

12. Twice a year, I will respond to a survey by email regarding my level of participation. I know that if I am a serious participant that my efforts, combined with the efforts of others, will help inspire people.

13. I will read the *PTTN Strategy Document* (or watch the PTTN Strategy videos) to learn of the more than 40 high-leverage strategies we have to help create an upgraded American electorate. (This will help you feel confident that your participation will make a real difference!)

Signature

____/____/____
Date

Print name

Street Address

Your email address (or phone number)

City, State and Zip Code

Please send a copy, along with your membership contribution, payable to *World Peace One*, to PTTN, 5135 Dearborn St., Pittsburgh PA 15224.

“Freedom is not free.”—attributed to Martin Luther King,