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2. Would you participate in a march, sit-in, or another form of political protest? Why or why not?

We are a dynamic generation. Some people call this dangerous; maybe that's true. But because we are not silent, because we stand for what we believe in, someday, we will make changes; that's dangerous if you're stuck in a different time with different ideals. But I am living in the present, and I see improvements for society. As a teenager, I am accused of being shallow, of being unaware of the way the world works. And although I have only lived in this world for 15 years instead of 45, so tasks like taxes and budgeting may disinterest me, there are things I do understand. I know that I face global warming, misogyny, and the threats of school shootings and sexual assault. People I know are threatened by racism and homophobia. Some of these concerns were unknown to my parents when they were my age. They had their own issues to stand up against. These are my fights, and I *will* fight for them. Participating in sit-ins, walk outs, marches, and other protests is the most accessible form of protest against issues for me, as someone who cannot vote (and is often seen as naive). Students like me can stand together against things that we consider intolerable, in a peaceful, reachable way. There is no need for money or influence we do not have. Protesting in this form is not only empowering because of the knowledge that you are showing in support of or against an issue, but because of the people surrounding you. Marches, sit-ins and walk-outs are all group forms of protest. They are unified, and the people around you, who believe in your fight with you, empower you to speak a little louder, make a little more effort to *be heard*. The possibility that you could be doing the same for them is the most gratifying part of the experience. That person next to you has the power to change the world. Some critics may claim that we, as young people, are powerless.

Participating in political protest proves that we are not powerless, as we won't allow ourselves to be. I have joined sit-ins, walk outs, marches both in my school and nationwide. I have walked-out to protest the constant threat of school shootings. I have sat-in for survivors of sexual assault. I have listened to the stories of transgender students. I have marched for women. I will continue to do this and more, for as long as I am able, and I will always encourage others to be a part of our fight for change.