

# What is Non-Violent Civic Action?

There have been many examples of ordinary citizens who used non-violent civic action to better their community, workplace, and country. The right to vote, a minimum wage, an eight-hour workday, prohibitions against child labor, and safeguards for physical safety at the workplace emerged because of concerned citizens.

Citizens involved in nonviolent civic action do not challenge their opponents by using violence or the threat of violence, which are often the tools of repressive authorities. Methods of nonviolent civic action include acts of peaceful opposition or persuasion (protest marches, letter-writing campaigns), acts or campaigns of noncooperation (boycotts, strikes), and rejection of authority (refusal to accept government actions, disobedience or non-compliance).

People use nonviolent civic action to achieve political, economic, social, and environmental advances around the world. More recently, it has been described as “**people power.**”



## Research & Prezi.com

1. Find a historically significant person or a normal citizen who has used non-violent civic action to create change and help his or her community.
2. Using prezi.com you will create a presentation to teach the class about this person.
3. Your presentation should include **biographical information** such as birth date, hometown, and family background.
4. Provide examples of **news articles**, interviews, and **social media outlets** (twitter/ facebook/ youtube) that have promoted this person's actions and cause.
5. Make sure you give **important details** and **highlights** about the methods this person used to generate change.
6. You need to answer who, what, where, when, and why.



### Presentation Checklist

- The presentation uses strong, effective visuals
- Presents well thought out and insightful information and ideas
- Has a strong, clear, unified focus and purpose
- Voice has a high degree of clarity and effectiveness
- Uses grammar and sentence structure with a high degree of accuracy
- Presentation is highly organized and provides a logical analysis