

## **Global Youth Prefer Activism In Increasing Numbers According to New Orb Media Reporting**

*Generation gap continues to widen, perceived government corruption dissuades younger voters*

(Washington, DC | September 5, 2018)— New Orb Media Inc. [reporting and data analysis](#) finds young people are choosing street protests and informal organizing over political parties and traditional engagement. Continued lower voting turnout diminishes their impact in elections with 4 - 11 percent not casting ballots.

According to Orb Media's analysis of nearly one million responses from 128 countries, this engagement dichotomy has led to a widening generation gap. Individuals under 40 are 14 percent more likely to participate in informal politics than citizens over 40. Global participation ranges have shifted from between 1 - 5 percent in the early 2000s, to 9 - 17 percent today. Individuals over 40 continue to participate in traditional political parties and vote in greater numbers.



Photo Credit: Orb Media

Perceptions of government corruption are amplifying young people's disengagement with voting as those who believe their government is corrupt are between 7 - 15 percent less likely to vote than those of the same age group who believe their government is not corrupt. For those over 40, government corruption perception has only a slight negative effect on voting behaviors.

The line between formal and informal has always been permeable. The street and the internet can't help but influence policy. What this means for governments around the world and this generation as it ages remains to be seen.

Orb Media is pleased to partner with members of the Orb Media Network (OMN), a group of global agenda-setting media which collaborate to simultaneously publish stories together that catalyze global dialogue on critical issues, focusing the attention of government, industry, researchers, civil society, and the public.

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### **About Orb Media**

Orb Media is a nonprofit journalism organization that reports on issues that matter to billions of people around the globe. We publish our work simultaneously with a global network of leading media organizations to catalyze global public dialogue to generate citizen-driven change. Fusing original research, data analysis, on-the-ground reporting, and an engaged public, Orb Media produces agenda-setting stories about the challenges we face together as one world. [Orbmedia.org/youth](http://Orbmedia.org/youth).

**Photo Caption:** A rally for Zimbabwe's leading presidential challenger, Nelson Chamisa, age 40, in rural Bindura, a stronghold of the ruling ZANU-PF party. "What I can safely tell you is that Chamisa got the youth vote," Kindness Paradza, a ruling party member of parliament, said.  
Photo Credit: Orb Media

### **For Media:**

Lara Kline, [larak@orbmedia.org](mailto:larak@orbmedia.org).

Images/Video: Asset list available upon request.

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