

CooperativeAction.org

Guidelines for Issue Inclusion Analysis

CooperativeAction.org is:
A nonprofit organization that uses an interactive website
to facilitate participation among individuals
to solve commonly agreed upon issues through cooperative action.

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Section 1: Overview

Issues shall be researched and analyzed based on the criteria in the document. Issues shall then be excluded or included in the outcome of said research/analysis. Volunteers shall use this document as a guide when researching/analyzing issues. The board of directors shall vote to include, exclude, and change status of all issue of broad scope. Committees shall be formed to vote on local issues.

Notes to consider with this section

- Work to fix issues that most people agree need to be fixed

Open Questions

- What does “most people” mean in simple terms?
- How are the individual factors weighted?

Section 2: Statistical analysis of poll data from multiple sources

Poll data shall be collected from multiple sources and analyzed to determine if an issue will be included or excluded on the site. If possible, data from polls shall be collected from the polling company's website. The statistical analysis process/graded curve has yet to be determined.

Potential ideas for using poll data

Use a graded curve i.e. take comparable issues and make most agreed upon level an “A” and least an “F” some kind of set ratio to the whole i.e. if 50% agree but 30% don't, then maybe that is good enough; otherwise work with 2/3 majority; ratio of how group agrees: strongly somewhat, exclude neutral i.e. harris polls say 54 (agree) to 30 (disagree)

Open Questions

- What is the formula that is used to calculate the spectrum of data from a poll?
- How many polls are needed?
- What are the guidelines for the sources of these polls?
- How are varying poll questions weighted?
- How is poll data used to weed out the divisive/polarizing issues verses all issues;
- How much does it cost to access poll data?
- What is legalities are involved with referencing poll data? Do we need permission? Is there a fee involved? Answer: cite it; public info
- Would it be possible to contract poll with a professional polling company if needed?
- Would it be possible to run own polls through a volunteer polling via a broadband/VOIP/home computer system?

Section 3: Participant polls/suggestions issues via site

A system shall be implemented that allows website participants to vote on the issues they would like included and excluded. There shall also be a system to allow participants to

suggest issues for inclusion and exclusion.

Open Questions

- How much weight will a participant votes receive?
- How how are suggestion input into the system? Answer: People can contact each other via the site to build consensus on suggestions, remove duplicates, and make their collective vote heard.

Section 4: US Constitution

Issues included in this site shall be in line with the basic principles/spirit of the United States Constitution.

Open Questions

- Does this statement need to be more specific i.e. are there sections/points of the constitution that are not relevant?

Section 5: Relevancy

The relevancy of each issue shall be determined for inclusion as well as ranking within the site i.e. top 10 list of most relevant issues.

Potential ideas to determine relevancy

- use internet search to see popularity
- appearance in the news media
- are people talking about

Open Questions

- What criteria can be used to quantify “relevancy” in scientific terms?

Section 6: Overall benefit

Issues shall be included only if they have an overall benefit to society. In certain cases, changes instituted by policy, law, or corporate change may have a negative financial, and /or social impact in the short term. However, there must be a clear determination that addressing the issue at hand will bring about a positive benefit in the long term.

Open Questions

- What criteria can be used to quantify “overall benefit” in scientific terms?

Section 7: Trend

A determination of the trend of an issue should be made. In other words: Will more people agree or disagree on the issue in the future? For example, women's/civil rights movements where trending that direction long before there were laws guaranteeing said rights.

Open Questions

- What is the minimum time frame used to determine trend?
- How can we determine what polarized issues are likely to become agreed upon issues?

Section 8: Research for informational purposes only

Number of People: number of people the issue will impact

Geographic Scope: the scope of issue as relates to geography

Section 9: Exclusion of polarizing issues

Certain issues shall be excluded, but some excluded issues shall be placed in the excluded issues section for discussion.

Notes to consider with this section:

This is super important so that the organization is not used for negative purposes

Open Questions

- How does this organization make sure the issues chosen are “right” i.e. not polarizing, enough people agree?

Section 10: Success or failure of an issue

A determination shall be made if the efforts to address an issue are successful or not.

Section 11: Thank you notes

A determination shall be made as to how and when thank you notes should be given to politicians and/or corporations when they have addressed the issues.

Open Questions

- At what point does the organization thank corporations/politicians for their participation?
- How is that thank you given?