

Citizenship: A Very Short Introduction
By Richard Bellamy

Interest in citizenship has never been higher. But what does it mean to be a citizen in a modern, complex community? Richard Bellamy approaches the subject of citizenship from a political perspective and, in clear and accessible language, addresses the complexities behind this highly topical issue.

Questions for thought and discussion

- In what ways, is being a good citizen different from being a good neighbour or simply a good person?
- Can commercial corporations be citizens (as in 'corporate citizenship')?
- Is voting the most important feature of citizenship?
- Are the rights of citizenship any different to human rights? If so, should they be?
- Do citizens have duties as well as rights? If so, what are they?
- Do you think immigrants should have to take a citizenship test? If so, what sorts of questions should such a test ask?
- Must citizens speak the same language and share the same values? Or is multicultural citizenship possible?
- Do you think citizenship should be taught in schools? If so, what topics ought the curriculum to cover?
- Should the voting age be lowered to 16? Or ought it to be raised to 40? Should pensioners be allowed to vote?
- Can there be global citizenship? If so, how does it differ from national citizenship?

Other books by Richard Bellamy:

(co-editor with Alex Warleigh), *Citizenship and Governance in the European Union*, (London: Continuum, 2001, 2nd ed. 2005)

(co-editor with Dario Castiglione and Emilio Santoro), *Lineages of European Citizenship: Rights, Belonging and Participation in Eleven Nation States*, (Palgrave, 2004)

(co-editor with D. Castiglione and J. Shaw), *Making European Citizens: Civic Inclusion in a Transnational Context* (Palgrave, 2006)

R. Bellamy and A. Palumbo (eds), *Citizenship, International Library of Essays in Political Theory and Public Policy*, (Ashgate, 2010)

Further reading

R Beiner, (ed.), *Theorizing Citizenship*, (SUNY Press, 1995)

E. F. Isin and B. S. Turner (eds), *Handbook of Citizenship Studies*, (Sage, 2003)