

# [In that the slogan "old enough to](https://assignbuster.com/in-that-the-slogan-old-enough-to/)

In 1942, duringWorld War II, under President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Congress passed loweringthe draft age to eighteen in order to increase the number of men eligible tofight in war. However, at the time of war, as of the 1787 when the AmericanConstitution was ratified, voting requirements were left to the individualstates to determine the voting age which still remained twenty-one. It was dueto President Roosevelt’s actions that the slogan “ old enough to fight, oldenough to vote,” was first heard and later adopted by young college activistduring the Vietnam War in attempt to extend the voting age. The phrase came aboutdue to the fact that the men, and families of the men being drafted, felt asthough it was unconstitutional and unjust to be forced, by law, to abide to adraft proposed by a government that they did not even have to luxury to vote onwhether or not they support or not. It was this slogan and movement that, in1942, prompted one of eleven of Congressmen Jennings Randolph (D- WV) proposalsto an amendment that would allow for those fighting in World War II between theage of eighteen and twenty-one the right to vote.

His purposes for the proposalwas that he believed that the young men fighting in World War II, as well asall other young citizens across the country, “ posses a great conscience, areperplexed by the injustices in the world and are anxious to rectify those ill”(Randolph). President Dwight D. Eisenhower and President Lyndon B. Johnsonsupported the cause and the beliefs of Congressmen Jennings were picked up amongstcitizens across the country and the battle to extend the voting age began.