

## Appendix: Interview structure

### Interview guidelines

In bold you can find the question asked to the adolescents. Other questions are examples of follow-up questions.

#### 1. Introduction:

**- can you tell me something about yourself: where you live, with whom, what your hobbies are, etc.?**

#### 2. Case 1:

##### *Text for adolescents*

Because some classes are cancelled your class will not have any lessons between 10 and 14.30 hrs. Some students want to reschedule the class from 14.30 to 10.00 hrs. They ask the teacher of that class and he says: "For me it is okay to reschedule the class but you as a class have to come to a decision about it."

Nearly all students want to reschedule the class. Three students do not want to reschedule the class. What do you think has to happen?

##### *Questions related to text*

**- can you please tell me what you think has to be done?**

- does it matter for what reason those three students object?

- does it matter if more students would object? One third, almost one half?

- some other people regard voting/finding agreement/having it their own way as also important, how do you think about this?

#### 3. Case 2:

##### *Text for adolescents*

Here are some societal groups:

- nationalists: they want all migrants removed from the Netherlands
- illegal people: they are not allowed to stay in the Netherlands but will not leave
- religious fundamentalists: they want all rules in the Netherlands to be in line with their religious texts (such as obligatory religious clothing, no public activities on the religious rest day)
- fundamentalist atheists: they want all religious symbols to be removed from society (the public sphere)
- lobby group of paedosexuals: they want to change the law so that sexual contact with adolescents from the age of twelve is not illegal anymore.

**Are there any groups that you find obnoxious?**

**- Do you think that, if this group would constitute a simple majority, they should be able to come to a decision?**

- some people say that they should be able to come to a decision because they are in the majority.

How do you feel about this? What do you think is more important?

- some people say that they should not be able to make a decision about the freedom of others.

How do you feel about this? What do you think is more important?

4. Democracy

- **What do you think democracy means?**

- **Do you think it is something positive, neutral or negative?**

5. Fourteen statements:

- **Can you respond to these statements and motivate your choice?**

It would be best if our country was ruled by God's will
At work, democracy doesn't count. The boss decides.
When coming to a decision it is important to find agreement even though it takes more time.
When coming to a decision it is important that the most votes count.
Only very smart people should be able to become politicians.
Politicians should not listen to ordinary people but make the decisions themselves.
We need strong leaders who tell us what to do.
Politicians mainly talk with each other without doing something for the country
Politicians do not care about people like me and my family.
Politicians are primarily focused on their private interests.
If I wanted I could become a politician.
I only trust people with the same background and culture as I have.
Boys and men are better at making decisions than girls and women.