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ENG 1121

Word Count: 422

Micro Activity # 9

1. *The Declaration of Independence* is made up of several sections. Read through and pay attention to the document's organization. Write a few sentences summing up the purpose of each section and the reason (or reasons) it was written (e.g. is it a call to action? an explanation? a proposal of a solution? something else?).

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. —That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, —”

It is illustrated that everyone should be equal and are given the basic rights of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness. One Furthermore, the government is ruled by the people or society where the political power is to be exercised.

2. What about this document is *or* is not persuasive in your view?

When it states, “Prudence, Indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes;”

This part was not persuasive as it was stated for an established government it will not be changed for light or transient causes. I believe the overall governmental structure is established but as we progress small changes can be more effective than larger changes.

3. Take a look at Randy Barnett's article in [*The Washington Post*](#). In it, he interprets several of the claims made in the *Declaration*, and he explains what these claims are saying in modern terms. Pick one or two of the claims that you feel relate to concerns, issues, or problems in American society today, and explain your choice (or choices).

One quote in Randy Barnett's article that caught my attention was "No government is perfect: all governments violate rights". In the 20th century we have seen many forms of injustices, one particular being Police brutality. This clear issue shows a government entity violating its rights and abusing its power.

Another quote that directly relates is "People have the right to take back power from the government". This directly relates in today's society because as election month approaches we the people are given the right to vote and choose who we want to govern for the next 4 years. This is a form of taking back power when we feel the greatest potential as a country is not being achieved.

