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Citizenship Essay

2/26/24

The technical definition of citizenship is the position or status of being a citizen of a particular country. It is a legal status that connects a person and the geographical area that they belong to. Or is it really? To me, citizenship is much more than just that. It is something that has been handed to us by the people before us and we will hand on to our successors. Not only is it full of responsibilities but also many rights and liberties.

Citizenship in the past has directly affected the lives of people today, including you and me. As a citizen of the United States of America, the American revolutionary war comes to mind as an example. As we know, American colonists fought for the freedom to decide what their citizenship would look like. Their circumstances of citizenship changes because they decided to make a change for themselves. This impacts the lives of modern day people every single day because of the rights that we gain with our citizenship in America. This also applies to all of the nations of the world. As the countries came about so did the idea of citizenship and how it would relate to its citizens. In America, I feel that citizens are a huge part of our country's culture. I find that pride for our country has a lot to do with how citizenship applies to citizens in America. That being said, there have also been a lot of changes in how we view citizenship as not only a legality, but a spirit. This part of our culture may have blossomed from immigration and how it has been a huge part of American history. It has also shaped what citizenship means to countless people and nations as a whole. In fact, immigrants have helped shape and define the country that we know today. Immigration has brought many advantages and responsibilities alike in the context of citizenship in America and other places all around the world. Our rights and

responsibilities in the context of citizenship have been molded and shaped by the people before us. Each and every person is affected by this, be it a positive or even a negative effect. This is how, in the past, citizenship has changed the world; while at the same time changing the lives of the average citizen.

In modern day times, citizenship is a very important factor for the common person. In extreme cases, it can mean what rights you have or don't have. The responsibilities of citizenship are one of the most important aspects of citizenship. It brings us rights but as citizens we are the ones who have to protect those rights. Everyone should have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Citizenship at the community level matters most because the values of the average person is what makes up the values of that state. And the values of each of the states is what makes up the integrity of our nation. Likewise, the values of our nation and the nations we share this earth with is what makes up our human morals on a global level. I like to think of it this way because this conveys that every person has the ability to be significant. This includes the willingness of every citizen to be held to account when it comes to the responsibilities of citizenship, as well as indulging in the benefits that are possible. Personally, I believe that these responsibilities we have as citizens include but are not limited to defending the constitution, being knowledgeable and informed, participation in the democratic process, obeying all laws, respect towards others rights and beliefs, and serving your country in some way. Even if that service is on a jury or your tax forms. As stated before, it is also our responsibility to make sure the sacrifices we make as citizens are used in an equitable way in our country. Some of these things are duties, things that we must do as citizens. However, I think that in order to progress as a nation the bar should be raised to the utmost level in order to improve in the future.

The future of citizenship relies solely on the citizenship of today. It is an ever changing standard and it is up to citizens today to determine what citizens tomorrow will look like. If our citizenship can inspire legitimacy, investments, and socialization then the future has every ability to become a better and more improved time compared to now. On the community level, this means doing things to make a strong support system. A thriving community will greatly support a foundation for a good culture involving citizenship. Establishing this kind of culture in American citizenship may even in turn influence other cultures of citizenship in the world. This positive outlook can start in one community and eventually impact the entire world. Even if a positive change starts small it can still make an impact. I also believe that citizenship is unique in that it doesn't always have to be in the context of legality. Really, your citizenship is who you are as a person and what you believe in. In summary the future of citizenship can be directly influenced by culture in the webs of communities world wide to make a positive heritage globally. The future of the world lies in the hands of how we as people conduct our citizenship, and it is our duty to protect those principals and ethics.

For me personally, citizenship has always and will always affect me in one way or another. I am blessed to be able to consider citizenship something of freedom, culture, exploration, strength, and pride. I am also blessed to have the rights and opportunities that come along with my citizenship. All of the factors of citizenship previously mentioned affect me now as well as my future. In fact, I think that as I become older and I become eligible to vote and take part in other kinds of responsibilities, I will find new ways to make a positive impact on my community and my world. I find the notion that citizenship is ever changing to be inspiring, because that means we can make it to be something that is meaningful to the people who inhabit

it. Clearly, citizenship in the past, present and future has the power to change the structure of everyday lives, communities, nations, and the structures of the entire world.