

HOW IS CIVICS IMPORTANT TO SOCIETY?

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Civics is the science that refers to the rights and responsibility of citizens. It tells how a country is governed. It speaks of the limits into which the country is divided like the state, district, municipalities and village limits. It describes the power of the units in their relationship. It gives an insight into the working of the constitution.

Democracy, according to Lincoln, is a government of the people, by the people, for the people. People elect their representatives through whom the government is run. If they want an able, efficient government they must elect wisely and in order to elect they must know whom they are electing, whether they will be able to deliver the goods or whether they will be able to give a good government. Since the representatives are elected through elections where the citizen exercises his franchise which is a worthy possession & birth, he must know its sacredness. In order to exercise wisely he must also know how elections are being conducted, for there are many ways of election a representative. Theoretically at least any citizen can aspire to the highest elected office in the country. That is why the study of civics is important in a democracy.

Beside the part the citizen plays in the governing of the country, the citizen has other civic responsibilities, for Ex, he must keep his surrounding clean, get himself and members of his family vaccinated against small pox, report to the proper authorities whenever there is an outbreak or epidemics. He must also know the laws governing.

Though, there are also duties of citizenship that does exert yourself to become great political leader, although you can familiar with the basis principles of civics, you will be a better examine politicians position. As a result, you will not only be helping but also that of your fellow citizens.

Human development is possible only in a state. It is for this reason, Aristotle said that man is a political animal. Society and individuals are complimentary to each other because there can be no society without individuals and individuals cannot live without society. It is difficult to say when exactly man and society came into existence. Millions of creatures live on this planet and

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Man is one among them. Man is also a social animal social life involves living together. Man cannot live alone, social life is the instinct of humankind. Man when he was living in forest like other animals, was afraid of the wild animals. He wanted to protect himself from the wild surroundings. Hence he chose to live in a group. To protect himself from danger to life and hunger, man may have wished to live in a group. This group was later called society.

Further we come across Aristotle's statement that man is an intelligent creature who to live in society. Further he said 'a man who refuses to live in society is either 'God or Devil'. This enables us to understand the importance of society. Living in a society, we get protection and life is made happy. By living in community, man's various needs are fulfilled.

Society came into existence for the happiness of mankind. It is to achieve this happiness that society has evolved a number of customs. Generally language, social customs and other things are helpful for the development of man in a society. Society helps man to live a peaceful and regulated community life. It is the community which encourages co-operation and tolerance among men. This kind of society has a number of associations and these are necessary to promote the growth and development of an individual.

Society consists of the following units a. Family b. School c. Villages & towns d. Nations e. world. The essential and the lowest unit of a society is family. There is happiness in a family and it is for this reason alone we call our house a sweet home. All the limits of society exist only for the well being of man. State & Government are formed for the purpose of protection of life and property. Production of essential commodities and division of labour supplies of mutual needs. Promotion of civic life and individual development or progress. Family is the smallest unit of society and it is the most fundamental & necessary unit for the growth and progress of the society. Groups of families form a society.

- Personal responsibilities such as taking care of one's self, supporting one's family, and caring for, nurturing and educating one's children,

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accepting responsibility for the consequences of one's action, adhering to moral principles, considering the rights and interests of others, and behaving in a civil manner.

- Civic responsibilities such as obeying the law, being informed and attentive to public issues, assuming leadership when appropriate, paying taxes, voting, serving as a junior or in the armed forces, monitoring the adherence of political leaders and governmental agencies to constitutional principles and taking appropriate action if that adherence is lacking and performing public service.

In school, the children move in groups and this group living broadens the outlook of children. Education is necessary for the development of society and individuals. There is a proverb which says 'as the father, so the son', similarly 'as the school, so the society'. Hence in building up of society, the role of the school is very important, education is necessary to promote the democratic system. Children learn the values of discipline, service, simplicity, leadership and co-operating etc from what is taught in school.

School is a temple of learning. It should be always kept clean. School is the kingdom of children. So every student of the school should actively participate in extra curricular activities. They should go to their towns, villages and take up social service whenever there is an opportunity. Those of 'each one teach one' even after completing schooling, one should behave in a manner. Further it inculcates qualities of good citizenship.

A citizen should actively participate in the activities of institution like family, town / village school and nation. He should try to know his rights and duties as a citizen. Rights are meant for the common good and everyone has a duty towards the society and state. All rights are to be exercised, keeping in mind the welfare of others. We should pay taxes, protect the nation during emergency and help each other in

achieving the common goal. The study of civics is necessary as it helps us to be good citizen. It is only through good citizenship that development is possible in society.

Thus, civics is important because it teaches us how to behave in a high society and also teaches us about government and citizenship duties and values.