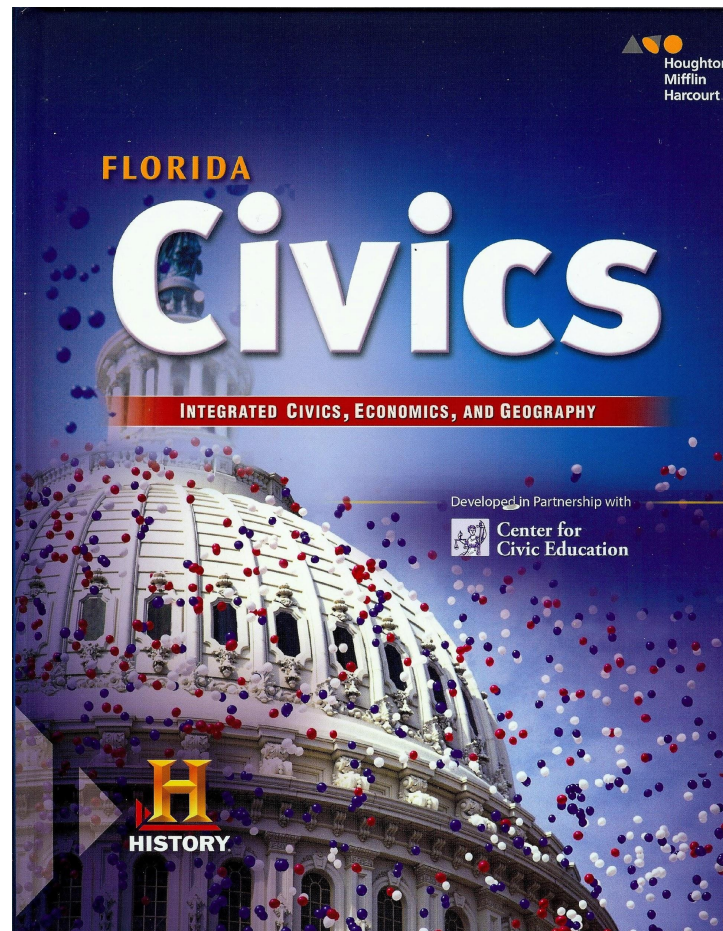


# Civics EoCA Review

## *Declaration of Independence*



**DECLARATION  
OF  
INDEPENDENCE**



## Founding Fathers

Term used to describe political leaders who participated in the creation of the United States of America.

*(Specifically the signing of the Declaration of Independence)*





IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.  
A DECLARATION  
BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
IN GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

WHEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.

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, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Form in such Manner, as to them shall seem best, so that they shall secure the Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shown, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than they are willing to change them by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Oppressions, pursuing invariably the same Object, assumes a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the Patient Sufferance of these Colonies, and such is now the Severity which constrains them to alter their former System of Government. The History of the present King of Great Britain is a History of repeated Injuries and Oppressions, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and just Relief, unless he signed in their Opposition all his Affairs should be obstructed, and when it refused, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the Accommodation of these Colonies, which they would enact, and to assent to them, and to execute the same.

He has called together Legitimate Parliaments infrequently, and distant from the Deposition of their public Business, for the sole Purpose of rendering them ineffectual to the Business.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly Firmness his Invasions on the Rights of the People.

He has refused for a long Time, when such Assemblies, to call others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean Time exposed to all the Dangers of Anarchy, Insurrection, and Civil Wars within.

He has endeavored to excite the Population of these States, for their Unlawful Abolition of the Laws for the Regulation of Commerce, and to put them in a State of Insurrection, and to stir up the same to the Deposition of their lawful Legislatures, and to the Adoption of new and dangerous Measures.

## Declaration of Independence

Statement of American ideals -role of government is to protect their natural rights (life, liberty, pursuit of happiness) - adopted July 4, 1776.



## THE DECLARATION of INDEPENDENCE

In Congress, July 4, 1776. The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen United States of America,

### [Preamble]

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which **impel** them to the separation.

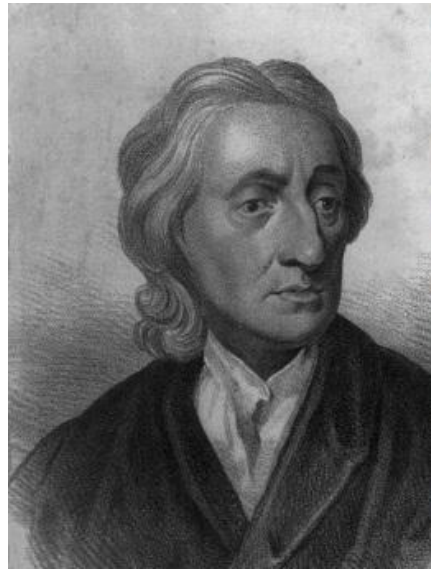
### [Declaration of Natural Rights]

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,

That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and

**Within the Declaration of Independence, Jefferson discusses Natural rights and a philosophy of government explaining John Locke's ideas about "Natural Law" and the "Social Contract".**



**"All mankind...  
being all equal and  
independent, no  
one ought to harm  
another in his life,  
health, liberty or  
possessions."**

**John Locke**

## **Natural Law**

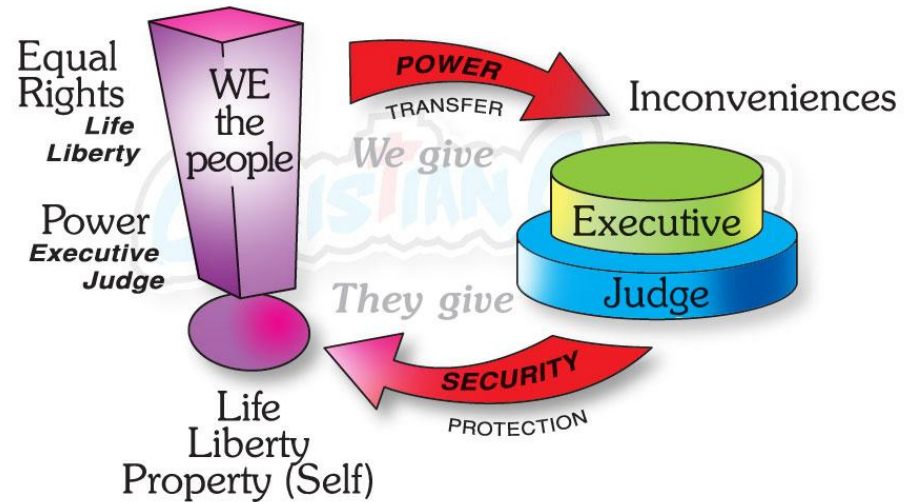
**God given rights**

**“Life, liberty (freedom), & property”.**

***Think John Locke***

# Locke's Social Contract

"...civil government is the proper remedy for the inconveniencies of the state of nature..."



## Social Contract

**Agreement between the people and their government.**

**People agree to give up some freedom and obey the laws ..... in return .....**

**Government agrees to protect their rights (life, liberty, & property)**





# THE DECLARATION of INDEPENDENCE

**Social Contract** is expressed in the Declaration of Independence

*Whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it.*

# THE DECLARATION of INDEPENDENCE

## [List of Grievances]

Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

**Grievance** : a formal complaint about a problem.

*Such as the list of grievances in the Declaration of Independence.*

# THE DECLARATION of INDEPENDENCE

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would **relinquish** the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right **inestimable** to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their Public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

In the list of grievances, **He** refers to  
**George III King of England.**

# THE DECLARATION of INDEPENDENCE

For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences:

**In the list of grievances, **For** refers to Parliament, the law making body in England.**





Taxation without representation  
is tyranny.

~ James Otis

**Taxation without representation** is one of the principal grievances listed in the Declaration of Independence.

**CIVICS EOC EXAM**

**ARE YOU READY**

