

## **Essay 4**

Democracy requires civics, civility, and collaboration in order to function properly. These three ideas keep our country from losing freedom. They help government run smoothly and efficiently. Civics, civility, and collaboration are the cornerstones of a great democracy.

Civics is the study of the rights and duties of citizens and how government works. Voting is one important part of civics. It is important that citizens participate in the voting process. This is how people can make their voices heard. Voting can help make a difference in people's communities. Democracy and freedom depend on people doing their civic duty and voting. If people didn't vote nothing positive would ever get done.

Civility is getting along with others. People in government and in communities should be kind and civil to each other in order to get things done in the community. If people are always fighting and name calling nothing positive can get done. It is important to be courteous to keep our democracy running. Civility can help create positive changes.

Collaboration means working together. It is important in democracy for people to work together. If Sterling Heights wants a new park, several different people in government would have to work together to make that happen. Citizens might have to vote to secure the funds to build the park. The mayor might have to approve the park. The mayor, the citizens, and the Park department would have to collaborate to make the new park a reality.

Working together, using your right to vote, and being kind can help make sure democracy continues work. When civics, civility, and collaboration are present, then democracy can stand strong.

They can also get away from stressful situations and have someone that is a part of their team as a listening ear or as a guide with helping hands. When collaboration truly works, it benefits all.

In conclusion, civics, civility, and collaboration are the foundation in which we can build a strong community.