

Why Is Participating in Democracy Essential? **Examining the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments**

Think about the situation of African-Americans before the ratification (approval) of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments and their ability to have a voice in the government. With that in mind, please do the following:

PART 1

1. Read the Reconstruction Amendments reading.
2. With that information, consider your thoughts on the following question, “Why is participating in democracy essential?”
3. Post your answer to the question on the discussion board; incorporate quotes and/or info from the reading in your response as well other connections you can make.
 - a. Please make this post no later than 6:30-7:00 PM, if possible.

PART 2

1. Return to the Discussion Board about 30-60 minutes after your post.
2. Read through a couple of the posts by your classmates.
3. Pick two to respond to; a response can be...
 - a. adding to a classmate’s thoughts by connecting to it with some new ideas of your own
 - b. a very specific compliment on why you liked what your classmate posted/how it helps you think more deeply about this topic or understand something better
 - c. a respectful disagreement about your classmate’s stance with specific reasons for your opposite feelings
 - d. a follow-up to someone who responded to your first post (use the above options when responding back)