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“As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the United States’ Constitution, discuss the importance of a citizen’s right to vote to Americans and aspiring Americans.”

Our country has had a long and perilous history, but we have prevailed through all the hardships we have faced and become a better country. The most significant and unique factor of our government that has proved to work tremendously well is citizens and future citizens being able to vote for our leaders, instead of passing the leadership down through a single family.

When I think of our country’s democracy, three major parts come into mind. These three parts play a big role in separating our democracy from a monarchy, oligarchy, or any other form of government. When we have the right to vote for leaders, we get a choice for who we think would be best for our country that we don’t need to share with anyone. We also give everyone who is in our country and over eighteen a chance to decide our country’s future, no matter the race or gender. Even with the pandemic happening currently, America has used mail-in voting to ensure that everyone gets a vote, showing that it is truly the people who decide what happens in the country.

Back in older times, whoever ruled countries was typically decided by how much military power or wealth they had, and it didn’t matter whether or not the people of the country hated that leader. Now in America, citizens get a voice that is heard by the government and only the government, no matter what. Earlier this week, I had someone come to my family’s house and ask who we were voting for in the upcoming election, and since you don’t need to tell anyone but the government who you are voting for, we refused to talk with her. That just goes to show how

our leaders respect our privacy by doing everything to keep our ballot private. My mother and father will be voting for separate candidates, and that also shows that each individual gets a vote, not just one household. For example, if my brother who is eighteen wants to vote for one party, but everyone else in my family that can vote wants to vote for the other, they can each vote for whoever they would like to because they each get their own votes.

When we first started this country after the Revolutionary War, we only gave the right to vote to white males. Now that our country has gone through many protests and changes, every single adult can vote, no matter who they are. Back when I was little, I thought it was strange that only certain people could vote, but now I understand that was normal back in the day. Because we used to be so discriminatory, our country has made sure that everyone gets a chance to decide the country's future to make up for the past. One historical event that shows that protesting really works is the Women's Suffrage Movement of 1913, during which many women protested to have the right to vote. Eventually, they did get the right to vote through the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution.

In this current day and age with the global pandemic that is happening, it has been hard to reopen pretty much anything. From schools to restaurants, each have had to take many precautions to avoid spreading the virus. With the upcoming election, I feel that our government has done a great job at making the voting process as safe as possible with giving people the choice to come to places to vote or the mail-in their votes, utilizing the postal system. I think that if the government had not done the mail-in voting, there would have been a lot less voters

coming to the polls, that just goes to show that the real leaders of our country are the people. Because the government is making sure that as many people as possible get their vote in, that shows that they are serious about hearing everyone's voice.

I believe with all of my heart that Americans, no matter who or what they are, absolutely need the right to vote, and that our country has done everything in its power to ensure that. Voting has proved itself as one of the most efficient forms of government for three major reasons, and these reasons are that we get a choice to determine who are leaders are with respect to our privacy, we give everyone and anyone a chance to decide our country's future as long as they are Americans or aspiring Americans, and besides these two, there is also the fact that the government has made sure that people will still vote, even with the current pandemic. It inspires me that our country has improved this much since it was just another colony that belonged to the kingdom of Great Britain.