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VFW Essay

26 October 2018

Why My Vote Matters

Voting is a right that was written into the United States Constitution for the white male and has since been amended to include African American males and then women. The founding fathers thought that voting was an important way to better our government and therefore our country. There has been significant changes since the forming of the United States government including the number of political parties, the number of amendments, the number of laws, the number of hot button issues, and generally everything else. Even with all the changes voting has remained and has enabled all of the changes in one way or another like voting for the senators who vote on bills or directly voting on bills. Every vote matters, even mine, on a large scale, on a small scale and personally.

The United States has a large scale election that takes place every four years, otherwise known as the presidential election. My vote matters to my political party in the primary election to choose which person goes on to the next round of the election. It is important to vote at this level so that I have a chance to impact the outcome of who is going to represent me and my party. In the general election my vote directly impacts the popular vote of my district so that the majority winner gets the district vote. It is important for me to vote because if everyone abstains from voting, then my vote will be weighted heavily in the election.

Voting for State Senate and State House of Representatives is relatively small scale compared to Federal elections. The geographic area and the amount of people voting is significantly less causing my vote to have a higher impact on the outcome. There are thirty-three state senators in the state of Tennessee, meaning there are thirty-three definitive districts with different candidates. With the districts with multiple candidates, it is important for me to vote for the person I think will do the best job. There are ninety-nine Tennessee House of Representative districts and with it being spread out it is important that I vote, putting in my input and affecting the final count. For both the Tennessee State Senate and Tennessee State House of Representatives my vote matters in deciding who represents me.

On a personal scale I am very decisive in what I feel and being angry at the outcome is something that I don't want to happen. One way to avoid the feeling is suppression, by not voting I am not giving myself a reason to feel anything for the outcome, but suppressing any emotion is not healthy. The way to avoid suppressing those emotions is to vote. By voting, I am putting effort into affecting the outcome. Even if the people I voted for do not get elected I will not feel as bad because I know I gave it my best shot.

No matter where the election is taking place, voting on a large nationwide scale, voting on a small local scale, and voting for personal reasons, my vote matters.