

Teaching Civics In Our Classrooms

To be a responsible citizen one needs to know to how government is organized, the purpose of government, its delegated powers and it's limitations.

Today's American and Tennessean citizenry is very much lacking that knowledge.

It is incumbent upon schools, private or public to teach students about their local, state and national governments.

The corruption in today's governments is a direct result of citizens not knowing either the responsibilities of government or the limitations of government.

Some expect too much from government and feel it necessary to gift government officials with too much power. They leave government alone to do what those in government want to do - too often not doing what they had promised to do, which allowed them the grant of power they received. Ultimately, this power comes back to bite those very same citizens who thought it was a good idea to ask government officials to solve problems, many of which are a direct result of the actions taken by the government officials themselves.

Some citizens know so little about government, they believe that all government is inherently corrupt, and that they are powerless to change it. Therefore, they don't bother to vote or get involved with issues - feeling any action is fruitless. Sadly, there is a great deal of truth to their feelings of powerlessness, having recently observed the massive fraud committed in the 2020 election, and the general "out of touch" representation by those who claim to be true defenders of the republic..

The group of citizens who understand government are in the minority in today's America. They get discouraged by the corruption they see and feel. But, they are too often in the minority and unable to bring about a change; and when they do get involved, they often hand over their power to elected officials who are loathe to truly tackle existing problems.

There is no guarantee that understanding government and its history will eliminate corruption and help create a more fair and just society, but without that understanding there is no possibility of a good and fair government.

Knowing what is wrong, but not knowing whom to hold responsible and how to hold them responsible is a result of not understanding government.

We must mandate that all education be required to teach what used to be called Civics.

