Handout H: Response to the Declaration of Independence

Directions: Read and consider the following excerpt from the Declaration of Independence.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. —That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

Prompt: What are the most important ideals, principles, or virtues expressed in the Declaration of Independence and to what extent does America today meet the promise of those ideals?

Begin your response on this page, and use extra paper as needed.

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