

# Civil Society and Self-Governance

## Guiding Question

How does the Constitution outline and support a civil society and self-governance?

## Objectives

- I can explain how the U.S. Constitution allows citizens to self-govern and supports a civil society.

Directions: Complete the organizer while you watch the video.

Prompt	Answer
How does Dr. Condoleezza Rice explain self-governance?	
According to Dr. Rice, what does it take to disagree better?	
Explain how the Constitution helps hold the nation together. Use Dr. Rice’s explanation to help.	
What is civil society, what is good about it, and how can we revitalize it?	
What advice for leadership from Bill of Rights Institute President Dr. David Bobb and former Secretary of State Dr. Rice’s conversation can you apply to the roles you hold? Give two examples.	

After watching the complete video, answer the following questions.

1. How do you see self-governance in your life? Explain your role in these examples.
2. How can you practice “disagreeing better” in your day-to-day life?
3. Dr. David Bobb and Dr. Condoleezza Rice discussed America as an extraordinary experiment. How do you think the experiment is going, and what can you do to help move it in the direction you would like to see?

# Constitution and Unity

## Guiding Question

How can the Constitution help bring divided people together in a more perfect union?

## Objectives

- I can explain how the structure of the U.S. Constitution helps to unify citizens.

Directions: Complete the organizer while you watch the video.

Prompt	Answer
What role does federalism play in promoting unity among Americans?	
How can Congress help to unite citizens?	
How can the president and Supreme Court help to unite citizens?	president-  Supreme Court-
How can elections and political parties help to unite citizens?	

After watching the complete video, answer the following questions.

1. Which branch of the government, established by the Constitution, allows for the most unity? Explain.
2. What ideas would you suggest to political parties to be more unifying?
3. How can citizens act together even when they do not think alike? Why is that important in a republic?
4. What does unity look like?

# Free Press and Democratic Government

## Guiding Question

- What is the role of a free press in a democratic society?

## Objectives

- I can assess the importance of a free press from a real-world example.

Question	Answer
Why did Eric Meyer decide to go into newspaper publishing rather than law school? What event during his time working at his college newspaper shaped this decision?	
In your own words, describe what the police did when raiding Meyer's home and office.	
Why is it important that people on all sides of the political spectrum showed support for Meyer? Why is it important for our country to agree on certain principles?	
What do you think is the role of the media in a self-governing community?	
Based on Meyer's account, why is it important for a press to operate without government interference?	

# Jefferson, Democracy, and Our Complicated Legacy

## Guiding Question

What is Thomas Jefferson's impact and legacy on our self-governing country?

## Objectives

- I can assess the role Thomas Jefferson played in the creation of our constitutional republic.
- I can analyze what the Founding Era teaches us about civil discourse in the modern day.

Directions: Complete the organizer while you watch the video

Question	Answer
What is the role of a biography in portraying a historical figure accurately?	
In your own words, explain how Thomas Jefferson was a "person of profound paradox."	
How did the process of the drafting of the Declaration of Independence demonstrate the role of debate and compromise in the Founding Era? What was Jefferson's role in this process?	
Summarize Jane Kamensky's view on the value of asking the current generation what they want for the next generation.	
How did the mode of communication in the Founding Era help contribute to more civil conversations? How does this compare and contrast with modern modes of communication?	

# Civics on the Street

## Guiding Question

How is the Bill of Rights and its interpretation important for American citizens on a regular basis?

## Objectives

- I can explain how the interpretation of the Bill of Rights impacts the lives of citizens.

Directions: Complete the organizer while you watch the video.	
Prompt	Answer
Consider the Supreme Court examples given. How have these judicial branch interpretations of the Bill of Rights affected your day-to-day life?	
How can the work of grassroots movements, special interest groups, and lobbyists remind us that protecting and interpreting the Bill of Rights is not limited to the three branches?	
Which day-to-day effects of the Bill of Rights examples given stand out the most to you? Explain.	
What is Dr. Rozell's perspective on the role of civil disagreement in society?	
Summarize Dr. Rozell's argument for the value of civics education.	

After watching the complete video, answer the following questions.

- In your own words, how does the Bill of Rights ensure civil disagreement can continue to strengthen the nation?
- In your own words, do you see the Bill of Rights impact on your life changing as you get older? Explain.