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Why Is Voting Important to Me

 Martin Luther King Jr. once said, " Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about the things that matter." This quote resonated with me because currently there are many issues in America, and people do not know how to go about solving them, so they do nothing. I believe that the best way to solve these problems would be to vote. Voting can get the right people into office and the wrong people out of office. Voting is very crucial in the way American government can operate. The reason that I feel so strongly about voting is that it gives me a sense of purpose, better representation, and a chance to please my family.

 One reason that I believe that voting is important since I want to appropriately represent my family. I come from a family that has not always been " allowed" to exercise rights. As most people already know black females, like me, were not actually allowed to vote until around 1965. For my family that meant that my great grandmothers were the first generation of women that were able to vote. My family has always consisted of more females than males, therefore any progression for females meant a lot to them. My family means a lot to me and if there is anything that I could do to represent them and make them proud I want to do it. One way in which I will accomplish this is by exercising my right to vote.

 Furthermore, another reason that voting is important to me is that I want to be able to pick someone to represent me with my best interest at heart. In America, there are too many citizens for everyone person to get their opinions heard. Due to this, we as citizens must vote to put officials who will best represent us and our views. On June 26, 2017, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of same-sex marriages being treated the same way as traditional heterosexual marriages. The Supreme Court is made up of judges nominated by the president, but they must be approved by the senators. Senators that are elected by the people. So even though the people do not directly affect the Supreme Court or their verdict, they still do affect the way in which the Country is governed. If people would have voted for senators who are against things like same-sex marriage, then ultimately the Supreme Court would also be made up of people who are against same-sex marriages. Therefore, without proper representation, the voice of the people would not be heard.

 Finally, the last reason that I believe that voting is important is that it gives me a sense of purpose. When I vote I do not vote for the interests of just myself, but also for the younger people who cannot vote for themselves. In America, a citizen must be 18 years old to vote. This means that anyone younger than that cannot use their voice yet. When I vote I feel as though I should always keep in mind that I can make things better for the next generation. During the 20th Century, there were plenty of people who marched, boycotted, and stood their ground to improve the country for themselves and future generations. If people like Ruthie Bridges, Mary Church Terrell, and Thomas Mundy Peterson standing up and risking their lives to possibly progress the nation, I would not have been able to do things I have done. Things like graduate, go to college, or vote. They did their part in bettering America for others and I want to do the same by voting in the interest of not just me but also for the following generations.

 In conclusion, voting is important to me since it brings joy to my family, gives me an opportunity to have proper representation, and is my American right. Voting has not always an option. Even when it began to become an option it was not for everyone. Since people are given the privilege to vote there is no reason not to take the opportunity to showcase the progression in this country and its government. The government that gives its citizens like me a voice. The government that gives its citizens like me a chance to help others. A chance to really make a difference. Why not chose to vote?