

“WHAT SO PROUDLY WE HAIL”

Part A: Personal Beliefs—For each of the statements below, consider your beliefs and experiences and respond accordingly. Do you agree or disagree with the statement? Why? Try to be specific and/or offer examples to support your opinion.

1. In an ideal society, everyone is equal.
2. The government knows what is best for us.
3. Our society has become far too politically correct; we should not have to worry about publicly offending someone with our own beliefs.
4. It is important to do what is right, no matter what.
5. For society as a whole to function well, people must be willing to give up some personal freedoms.

Part B: The Workings of an Ideal Society—For this part, you will work in a small group to create a utopian society and define how it will work and how it will look. A utopia is a society in which the government, laws, and social conditions are perfect. Essentially, everyone is happy. So with that in mind...

1. What are some methods the government might use to ensure that everyone is “equal”? Consider different strengths and weaknesses people can have. _____

2. How would wealth be distributed?

3. Would everyone be expected to attend all levels of school? What should schools do or not do to ensure that students receive equal opportunities, treatment, and educational access? _____

4. How would the government function? How would law and order be maintained, if necessary?

5. What would be some of the typical expectations of community members? _____

6. Finally, consider our current society and one or two things about it that really bother you, and you wish could be changed. What are those things and how would your utopian society "correct" them? _____
