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ASSIGNMENT

A TWO-PAGE SUMMARY ON CHAPTER EIGHT- CITIZENS ROLES IN A DEMOCRACY.

Sovereignty resides in and flows from the people in a democracy. They have a collective right to choose their governmental,political and electoral systems as part of self-determination.These precepts and embodied in the universal Declaration of human rights and in modern constitutions the world over. They capture the foundation for the famous formulation that democratic government is “of the people ,by the people and for the people.” In essense , they mean just that : governments belong to the people; governmental processes belong to the people and elections belong to the people.

Barriers to citizens participation are multiple in every country. They are both subtle and obvious, small and formidable, and based on numerous factors. For full citizenship to be achieved ,we must remove these barriers ,whether they are based on gender ,race ,ethnicity ,religion ,age and another status .If not universal and equal suffrage is essentially denied, and government credibility is undetermined.

CITIZEN/ CITIZENSHIP

The term citizenship has an inherently political meaning that implies a certain type of meaning between relationship between the people and government.Citizenship have a set rights and responsibilities ,including the right to participate in decisions that affect public welfare. Citizenship of a state may be acquired either by birth or by naturalization.A man becomes a citizen of a particular state if his parents are citizens of that state or if he is born within the territory of that state.

Citizens Rights

Individual’s rights and liberties are the groundwork of the state since it exists to enable men to live and develop fully . These rights are not absolute since they are limited by the rights of other citizens in the state. Important civil rights accorded to Nigerian citizens in the constitution include: the right to life,work,freedom of religion, right to education , right of association and right to freedom of speech ,writing and publication among others.

Democracy:it has been etymology established that the word democracy is derived from a greek word “demos meaning people and kratos meaning rule, that is ‘Rule by the people’

Duties and Responsibilities of citizens in a democracy

While the state provides rights and liberties ,all citizens have duties to the state. Democratic citizens recognize that they not only have rights they have responsibilities.

In conclusion ,Democracy is a system of government ,where the citizens directly elect the government by voting. It is also defined as a system of government by the people ,of the people and for the people. Democracy is considered as the best form of government in the modern era as it allows citizens to exercise and enjoy many rights and also gives them responsibilities at the same time.