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**GOVERNMENT ASSIGNMENT CHAPER 8 ( CITIZENS ROLES IN A DEMOCRACY)**

***Citizens or citizenship***

The term citizen has an inherently political meaning that impulses a certain type of relationship between the people and government .

Chapter 111, section 25:1(a) of the constitution of the Federal Rebublic of Nigeria defines citizenship as:

* Every person in Nigeria before the date of independence , either of white parents or of whose grandparents belongs or belonged to the community indigenous to Nigeria : provided that a person shall not become a citizen of Nigeria by virtue if neither his parents nor grandparents was born in Nigeria.
* Every person in Nigeria after the date of independence either of whose parents or either of whose grand parents is a citizen in Nigeria and;
* Every person born outside Nigeria either of whose parents is a citizen of Nigeria. Citizenship is divided into civil citizenship, political citizenship and sextual citizenship .

**Citizens rights**

Right is a privilege or prerogative conferred by law upon a person or a group .

**Democracy**

it been etymologically established that the word democracy is derived from the Greek word “demos” meaning people and “kratos” meaning rule, that is the rule of the people . Abraham Lincoln , former American president , defined democracy as the government of the people , by the people and for the people .

**features derived from the various definitions of democracy**

1. The fundamental rights of the citizens is guaranteed
2. Independent and impartial judiciary
3. Existence of the rule of law
4. Periodic election that is fair and far

**Duties and responsibilities of citizens in a democracy**

While the state provides rights and liberties , all citizens have duties to the state . citizens have duties to the state . citizens are therefore expected to perform the following responsibilities in a democracy.

1. A citizen in a democracy should have the duty to vote
2. A citizen should be willing to pay taxes, since without taxes to fund a democratic government there will be no democratic government .
3. A good citizen must have a duty to obey the law.
4. A good citizen must refrain from uttering destructive criticism but must be prepared to offer constructive alternatives to government places. He should not stir up racial or tribal or class shed between the state which may led to blood shed ,blood shed or chaos.
5. A good citizen must refrain from interference from the rights of other members of the community. He must not interfere with the properties of other persons. He should be honest in his personal dealings and hardworking . citizens must make their contributions to the advancement of the nation .
6. He or she must support public education in every way possible , through the payment of taxes , volunteer efforts. Public education the foundation of democracy , meant to educate children to responsible and knowledgeable participants in the democratic process.