

# PAGE 24 – CIVIC DUTY AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

1. Reflect upon and respond to the following quote:

**“The greatness of America lies not in being more enlightened than any other nation, but rather in her ability to repair her faults.”**

*-Alexis de Tocqueville*



## **Quick Facts:**

- Lived in the early to mid-1800s (1805-1859)
- French diplomat, historian, and political scientist
- Travelled the United States and Europe
- Best known for his works Democracy in America (1835) and The Old Regime and the Revolution (1856).



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## 2. Brainstorm Activity

*What does it mean to be an active citizen?*

List as many things you can do in order to be considered an active citizen (ex. voting, obtaining an education, etc.)



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## 3. Reflect on the following questions:

- a. In your opinion, what is a citizen's responsibility in terms of education? Is there a need for additional citizenship education beyond high school? Explain.
- b. In your opinion, are most citizens (*specifically teenagers and young adults*) fulfilling their responsibilities in today's society? Explain.
- c. Reviewing the list we've created, what would our society be like if citizens were not active and responsible? How would communities be impacted if citizens refused to fulfill their responsibilities? (For example, what effect might an uninformed voter have on the election process?)



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**Directions:** Answer the following questions while watching the video.

1. Discuss the “disjunction” between rights and responsibilities, as explained by Dr. Etzioni.
  
2. If you were a member of the audience, what would be one comment you would like to make to Dr. Etzioni?

