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# My Voice in American Democracy

Hi I am a sixth grade student and I will be explaining democracy in my own words, and how I can help democracy as a kid.

First, what is democracy? In America you can make your own decisions and you can vote for who you want your leader to be. In fact an example of democracy is like if your school had an election for student council. Everybody had a chance to run for student council, but decided not to. We got to vote for who we thought would be the best fit. That is an example of democracy. Democracy is the exact opposite of someone telling you what to do, when to do it, and how to do it. People in places like North Korea have a dictator to tell them what to do, when to do it, and how to do it.

Secondly, I am going to talk about how we as kids help and how we can help democracy. I help democracy by staying engaged. Being educated, watching the news, and paying attention to what is happening in the world and especially in America are ways I personally try to help democracy. I am still young, but if I stay educated I keep on using and growing this voice of mine. All children should use their voices in the ways I just listed.

Third, I will explain why young people should be grateful to live in America. They should be grateful because in America as I stated earlier "you can make your own choices." America is awesome. You can do your own thing. Since most kids are so young they probably haven't realized how lucky they are to live in America. Being engaged helps prepare you for your future. Democracy is something to be proud of. You should be able to walk around and say I can vote, I am a part of a democracy, and I'm proud of what I have helped create which is a free country; a country where I have many, many rights, and I am heard!

We as kids should appreciate all that veterans have done for us in their fight to protect our country's democracy. We only appreciate them one day a year and they still fight for us. Veterans protect and fight for us no matter what. My dad and his brother were both in the Marines. They both said that it was troubling and hard.

I hope I have educated you more about democracy than you already knew. I hope that by demonstrating my voice in American democracy, you realize how important young people really are to democracy.