**The Declaration of Independence**

**Connecting the Founding Principles**

**Your Name** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Your task for this assessment is to demonstrate your understanding of the founding principles reflected in the Declaration of Independence and a modern scenario. Complete the following steps:

**1. Choose one modern scenario to analyze, scenario A, B, or C.**

Your chosen scenario: A

Your local council approves a new rule after many community meetings and citizen comments. The rule states that all new building permit applications require an "environmental impact study." The purpose is to ensure that the building plans will prevent unnecessary harm to local residents, wildlife, and plant life.

**2. Respond in complete paragraphs to the following questions:**

* Which founding principles does your scenario connect to? Explain using details from the scenario and two of the founding principles.

Democracy: The decision to implement the new rule was made after numerous community meetings and citizen comments, exemplifying democratic governance where policies are shaped by public participation and consensus.

Equality: Requiring all new building projects to undergo an environmental impact study ensures that every development is subject to the same standards, promoting fairness and equal treatment under the law.

* How does the Declaration of Independence reflect these same **two**principles? Explain using details from the lesson.

The Declaration of Independence embodies these principles:

Democracy:

The Declaration of Independence echoes this principle by asserting the right of people to have a voice in their government. The Declaration states that a government should derive its power from the consent of the governed, and this scenario exemplifies that. Similar to the Declaration’s foundation of democratic ideals, the local council implemented the rule through community forums and discussions, enabling citizens to participate directly in the governing process.

Equality:

The Declaration also reflects equality, a principle highlighted by its statement that "all men are created equal." This rule requires all developers, regardless of influence, to conduct an environmental impact study, ensuring that no one receives preferential treatment. This adherence to uniform standards illustrates the Declaration’s call for equality, where every person is afforded equal consideration under the law.

**3.** **Include a modern photograph that represents one of the founding principles in action today. Explain how what is happening in the photograph reflects this principle. Use complete sentences.**The photograph provided shows a community meeting led by the Melbourne Police Department's Community Relations Council. In this setting, residents engage with law enforcement, address community issues, and work together to find solutions. This image exemplifies democracy in action by offering a public forum for citizens to participate actively in local governance, fostering transparency and collaboration between the community and its leaders.

<https://tse3.mm.bing.net/th?id=OIP.V7TFJyE9qwKA_x2qVibmiAHaJk&w=474&h=474&c=7>

Citation:

"Melbourne Police Community Relations Council Meeting." City of Melbourne, FL, City of Melbourne, [Insert publication date, if available], <https://tse3.mm.bing.net/th?id=OIP.V7TFJyE9qwKA_x2qVibmiAHaJk&w=474&h=474&c=7>].