

Name: _____

Date: _____

Social Studies Per: _____

The Declaration of Independence

Directions: The section of the Declaration of Independence below explains the purpose of government. As a group, read each part carefully and then write a translation in your own words in the space provided.

Translation

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute a new government..."

We believe it's obvious, that all men are created equal; that they are given by God certain rights that cannot be taken away; such as life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

To protect these rights, governments are created, getting their power from the people; if a government does not protect the people's rights, it is the right of the people to change or get rid of it and make a new government