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WHY YOUNG PEOPLE MUST BE INTERESTED IN GOVERNMENT

by

Senator Mike Mansfield (D., Montana)

Today there is a great need for all young Americans to to learn about our country and our government. We, as a nation, face a threat to our way of life more challenging than any we have faced since the time of Washington and Jefferson. This challenge questions every principle that we hold sacred and that has served us well as we developed into a great nation. This challenge asks simply whether men can live in freedom in the modern world. There are people both inside and outside the country who do believe they can. It will be our young people who must answer this doubt.

That is why young people must study our system of government and our history and interest themselves in the current news. These studies are all a part of understanding the nation which young people today will govern tomorrow. If they work hard now, I have every faith that in the years ahead they will carry the torch of liberty so high that eventually its brightness will light all the nations of the world.