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## ***Political Socialization Essay:***

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To understand your political ideology, you must look toward your family first and then other aspects of your life.

Write an essay that answers the essential question and discusses at least three factors that have influenced your political socialization.

Use your habits of mind. Make references, connections, give examples etc. Be obvious in your use of the habits of mind and use them frequently.

Possible Essay Outline:

- I. Intro
  - A. give background on what political socialization is as an idea
  - B. Answer the EQ
- II. First factor
  - A. Give an example
- III. Second factor
  - A. Give an example
- IV. Third Factor
  - A. Give an example
- V. Conclusion
  - A. State the significance of the EQ

**Essential question:** Which factors have played the greatest role in your personal political socialization?

**Directions:** Write an essay which explores these areas of your political socialization. Answer each question as paragraph in essay form. Give examples from your life. You might not have examples, if not say so and give a reason.

**Family:** Is your family conservative, liberal , libertarian, moderate on social and economic issues. What is the earliest political event you remember? What can you say about political discussions at home? Does your family vote? Why or Why not? Ask your parents these questions and quote them, give the answers for yourself as well.

**Religion:** How do your religious beliefs influence your choice of party? What do you hear about politics at church? If you go to church ask someone there. If you don't go to church state why religion has a big influence on others but not on you.

**Gender:** How does your gender affect for whom you would vote? If gender doesn't influence your ideology, explain why.

**Schooling:** Generally, but not always, the more schooling you have the more liberal you are. Does the affect take place with people you know? How has school affected your political ideology?

**Race/ethnicity:** How does your race or ethnicity affect your political ideology? What does the huge Hispanic vote mean to elections in the USA? If you are Hispanic, how does it affect your ideology,? What are Hispanic organizations looking for?

**Region of the Country :** This might not have an affect on you, but generally the southwest is more conservative that the coasts. Ask your parents "Why would region affect ideology? "What economic factors may come into play in region and political ideology?"