

Why are values such as trust, freedom, honesty and respect so important for a democracy?



By Georgia Blake

In a democracy it is important to have certain life skills and values such as freedom, honesty and respect.

Freedom is important to have in a democracy because that's what democracy is based on. Without it, who knows how chaotic Australia could be. Like in Afghanistan, they have unhappy citizens, wars, and it's basically just a big riot. Freedom allows choice to every one in Australia. Australia is a free country. That's probably why people from the other parts of the world want to come live here.

Trust is a part of democracy we use trust all the time for example we vote using trust. Here in Australia we vote for how we think should be prime minister, not how else thinks should be prime minister. We can trust our citizens and government. Some times people in other country's like Italy get bribed by the mafia to do something and if they don't the mafia will threaten to kill their family. That's why trust is valued so much in Australia.

We have respect in Australia and in our democracy so when people like Chinese, Vietnamese and Muslims come here most Australians will respect them. In Australia we respect our prime minister, government and immigrants. Respect is valued in Australia we need it for a well working democracy just like freedom and trust.

Honesty is important if we didn't have any honesty in Australia people would lie and in the end get themselves in to lots and lots of trouble.

We use honesty in voting. You can't lie in democracy otherwise you will end up going to jail. When voting we write on a piece of paper who we think should become prime minister, then someone collects all the papers and counts them *but* if there was no honesty the person who counts the votes could rig the election. That's one of the bad things that could happen if we didn't have an honest democracy. Here in Australia our police force is not corrupted and are hard working people, whereas in some other countries people can bribe their police force and their police will not do their job accurately. We value honesty so much here and we are lucky that most Australians are honest and good people.