

Core Democratic Values



beliefs and principles
that unite all Americans

These are only a few, there are 18 total CDVs.



Individual Rights

basic rights and
freedoms not created
by the government



Freedom of Religion



right to practice faith or
have certain beliefs

Common Good



Giving up personal time or money to benefit society



Justice

to be treated fairly by our laws



Rule of Law



all people must obey all
laws

Truth



government has a duty
to be trustworthy and
honest

Life



all people have the right
to live

Pursuit of Happiness



right to obtain
happiness as long as it
doesn't hurt others



Equality

all people have equal
rights and equal
opportunities



Diversity

accepting variety in
cultures, ethnicity,
races, and lifestyle, etc.



Federalism



power shared between
state and federal
governments

Popular Sovereignty



people hold the power
in our country through
voting

Civilian Control of the Military



Civilians control the
military to preserve
democracy

Representative Government

Citizens elect
representatives to
represent their views/
beliefs in congress