Clarifying Civic Virtue

Questions 1 and 2 are also on the Defining Civic Virtue handout you completed earlier. Now that you have completed and discussed the What is Virtue? readings, write your revised responses to those questions, as well as full responses to the additional questions.

1. After further reading and discussion, what do you now believe “civic virtue” means?

2. Compare your response to Question 1 to your response to the same question on the Defining Civic Virtue handout.

   Did your response change at all after having read and discussed the articles?

   Yes / No (Circle one)

   If you did revise your answer: What, in the reading and discussion, caused you to revise your response?

   If you did not revise your answer: Why did you not change your response?

   Even if you did not change your response, what points (in the reading, the discussion, or both) did you find compelling and worth considering?

3. Think about principles in the U.S. Constitution such as consent of the governed, separation of powers, and limited government. What assumptions did the Founders seem to be making about human nature? Why might those principles have required civic virtue among citizens and elected leaders?