

Rhetoric Analysis

Introduction

Discrimination and unfair colonial rule of the king of England against American people pushed the subjects to declare independence and fight for it. This declaration was written to the colonial government in England and the ruling King. The American people were also to read the declaration. The intension of the document was a position that United States people were ready and working towards their own independence. The document has an ethical appeal which justifies Jefferson as best placed to draft the document. Thomas had been in various regional and national positions which gave him knowledge and experience for representation. The document has many statements which validate the reason for demand for independence. Jefferson lists reasons for their demand for independence.

Ethos

Thomas Jefferson's "The declaration of independence was written in the year 1776." Thomas Jefferson was charged with the responsibility of drafting this declaration together with other statesmen like Abraham Lincoln. Thomas was best placed to draft this legislation because of his experience in governance in America. He was born in the year 1746 in Virginia. He started gaining exposure in national matters when elected to the colonial parliament in the year 1769. He represented Virginia in this parliament. He later became the minister to France and later secretary of state under President Washington. Jefferson even became the vice president in America under Jon Adams. His presence in regional and national governance places him in authority to write the declaration of independence.

Pathos

Thomas Jefferson uses emotional appeal in the illustration of commitment towards independence. The author confirms that the signatories of the declaration of independence “pledged their lives, fortunes and honor.” It is true that the signatories would have been killed had the colonial rule won the independence battle. The author appeals to the emotions by insisting that the Native Americans were free people who should actually not suffer. He says that “the prince is unfit to be a ruler of a free people.” The inclusion of the work free people works to energize Americans to rebel against the England colonial rule to gain their right to freedom. It is a sad fact that the colonial government exerted limitation to Native Americans yet America was their own land where they deserved to be free.

Logos

The author uses logical appeal in his defense for war against the colonial government. He says that “all men are created equal.” This means that the colonial government should not hold positions that work against the local dwellers. The author also explains that “people have a right to rebel against a government that does not have the interest of its subjects.” This position of England towards Americans just before the independence war was openly discriminative. The author exposes that many legislations that favored the Native Americans were rejected by the king in England. It is logical that discriminated people had a right to rise up and fight for their rights. Further evidence of discrimination is highlighted by the author against the king in England. The author further exposes that “the king has increased taxes on the people against their will.” It is logical that the United States of America remain free from any colonial rule especially

in their land. Jefferson's statement that the Americans have a right to war or peace shows the determination with which they want independence.

Conclusion

The declaration of independence states reasons for demand for independence. Jefferson details discrimination and failure of the colonial government to give ear to the Americans. The author uses logical appeal in giving many reasons as to why independence should be granted. Jefferson creates an aspect of live and death in the quest for independence. The signatories had pledged their life when approving the document.