# **National Sojourners 2018 Essay Contest**

THIS "AUTHORIZED COVER SHEET" MUST BE COMPLETELY FILLED OUT FOR THE ESSAY TO BE A WINNER!!!

#### **Prizes**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	\$2000 Check and National Sojourners Plaque
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	\$1000 Check and National Sojourners Plaque
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	\$500 Check and National Sojourners Plaque

#### Theme - A More Perfect Union

**BACKGROUND:** The American experiment in self-government began in 1776, and continued through the development and ratification of the United States Constitution. Our country, led by a widely disparate group of individuals, was formed as a more perfect union. Each of these men and women brought to the table beliefs and theories of government that, taken separately, would have been a guarantee of failure. Yet somehow, these same beliefs and theories combined to serve as a basis for a government that has remained vital and relevant for more than 240 years.

Sir Winston Churchill once stated: "Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak, Courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen."

#### Question

What lessons have we learned from this experiment and how can we ensure that our "more perfect union" will continue to flourish for the next two hundred years?

#### **Rules & Essay Details**

Essay contest is open to students currently in the 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades, including home schooled students
Submit essay to your local National Sojourners Chapter using this "Authorized Cover Sheet," filled out clearly and completely
Each Chapter submits a maximum of 3 essays to National Sojourners Headquarters, received at National by Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### Mandatory - Essay must satisfy the following requirements to be winners - Mandatory

Must be typed, 300 – 500 words long, & include word count; Must cite & footnote facts/quotations & include bibliography

Must include student's name on first page of actual essay and on bibliography [for tracking purposes]

Must be received by your National Sojourners Chapter by December 15 and forwarded by Jan 15 to HQ to be selected a winner

## **Student Information - Must Be Filled Out Completely**

First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name:	
[Please use "nmi" for "no middle initial"]  Home Telephone Number [required for contact]:	Word Count - Mandatory:
Home Mailing Address:	
Home Address Continued:	Email:
Your School's Name:	Your Year in School [9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th]:
[1 <sup>st</sup> Chapter Hint: Fill Chapter Information out c	Must Be Filled Out Completely ompletely and neatly before copying form for local distribution.] ned above are followed, as an essay does not compete if it is not complete. Thanks.]
Chapter Point of Contact Name: Stacey McNeely, Secretary	7
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