

Student's Name

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Course

Date

Derrida's Declaration of independence Summary

In the discussion, Derrida questions and answers who is considered to be the actual signer and the meaning of actual. *"Who signs, and with what so-called proper name, the declarative act which founds an institution?"* She asserts that the declaration founding an institution mandates the signer of the declaration to engage him or herself. She notes the signature serves to maintain a connection with the instituting declaration act, which represents the language and content of the writing (Derrida 8). According to the principle of the institution, the signing has to be independent of first-hand individuals who participated in the original creation, unlike in scientific texts; and the structure of the instituting language ought to maintain itself within the signature.

She uses the example of Jefferson, who was the draftsman of the Declaration and who, by right, composed the declaration but did not sign it. By drafting the declaration, Jefferson impersonated representatives who also represent people, by drafting what they wanted to say. This action granted the representatives of the US in General Congress to have the right of revisions, correcting, and ratifying the draft of the Declaration. Representatives do not sign on an individual basis because the right is divided and sign for others through delegation of proxies for signing. The declaration itself and signing in the name representing other shifts the signer to the represented people assure the intentional value of the signed context. The word "we" in the

declaration represents “in the name of the people.’ She also asserts that there is no signer by the right for the text of declaration which made the text to act as its own producer and guarantor of its signature (Derrida 10).

Americans declare themselves independent through signing in the name of laws of nature or God making the declaration to be constative utterances showing a vibrant act of faith and instance judgment. To dissolve political bands, the declaration assumes the powers of the earth through laws of Nature and God, which they are entitled to declare. The “are and ought to” link the constitution and prescription representing the fact and the right of the declaration (Derrida 11). She ends the letter by posing the second question of whether the statement, the founding process and the autonomy of who signs the authorizations are made.



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Work Cited

Derrida, Jacques. "Declarations of independence." *New Political Science* 7.1 (1986): 7-15.



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