



# INDEPENDENCE DAY 2020

## PATRIOTISM IS NOT DEAD

**My Fellow Americans,**

We made it. It's here. Independence Day 2020. 244 years ago today, on July 4th, 1776, a handful of brave men and women, some well-educated, all successful and responsible, who loved their fellow man, who forged out a new nation from the harsh wilderness, braving great peril and even death from the harsh environment, from extreme weather, wild animals, threats of peril from bellicose bands of violent savages and outlaws, pestilence and disease!

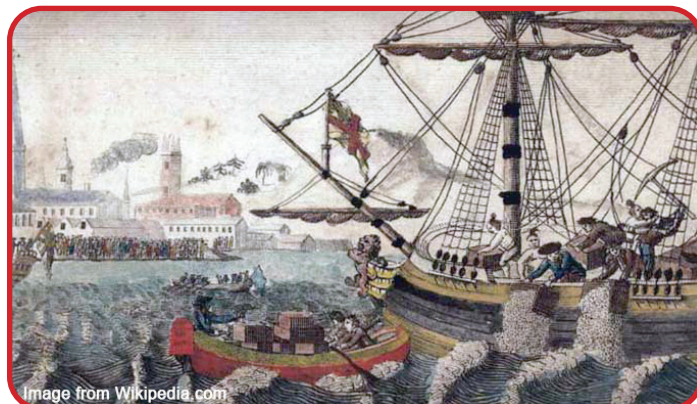
They could deal with all those threats and they did so successfully. What they would not tolerate was oppression from a far-away ruling authority named George III, who was the King of England and felt that the citizens of the New World were his subjects and toiled for and at his pleasure.

The leaders of the Colonists had had enough and listed the Grievances they had against the crown that despite their complaints, had failed to be addressed. King George's rule of the Colonies included occupation by an oppressive and draconian standing military force (The Regulars), who routinely broke into private homes and took whatever they wanted in the name of the crown. The King also ordered that trade be cut off to the Colonies, barred citizens from a fair and speedy trial, imposed unfair taxes without representation and 23 more grievances enumerated in a document that defined America and established it as a free and sovereign nation called the Declaration of Independence, which ushered in the Revolutionary War.



You see, the Colonists had governors, magistrates, mayors and all forms of a functional government, but The Crown would not allow them to govern and shackled them with repressive regulations with no vehicle for protest of injustices or to express their dissent for the tyrannical rule they were under. Governors could not make laws to protect the public good and if they did, The King would suspend them. He dissolved representative houses of the people and refuted the rights of the people. All these repressive actions infuriated the colonists, yet they felt powerless to do anything to remedy their grievances. The crowning blow, so to speak, was when the Crown imposed a tax on tea of 3 pennies a pound under the Stamp Act (in 1765).

As most of you know this was the action that caused the Boston Tea Party to take place. What most of you didn't know is the first man to die during the Tea Party and thus the first to die in the American Revolution was Crispus Attucks, who was an American Stevedore of African and Native American



descent. Proof that in times of crisis, good men from all walks of life come together to fight for the common good of all people.

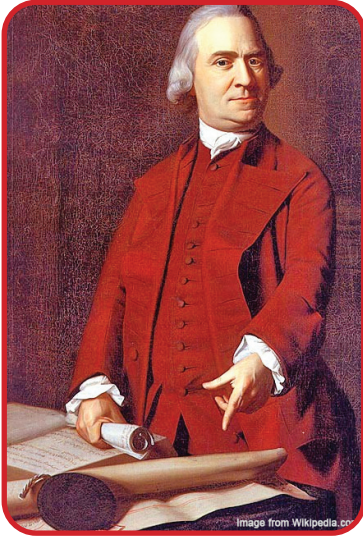
Despite their frustrations, only 3% (some argue that number is 10% - in either case a small percentage) of the Colonial population felt strongly enough about these injustices to risk everything and speak up and fight for what they



# 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY

believed in. So what did the other 97% of the Colonists do? Sadly, they lived in fear and allowed a repressive force under the direction of King George III to continue abusing them and depriving them of their individual freedoms. They actually defended the “enemy” on the grounds that if we resist them, it will only get worse. Samuel Adams, American Statesman and one of America’s Founding Fathers said *“If ye love wealth better than liberty, the tranquility of servitude better than the animating contest of freedom, go home from us in peace. We ask not your counsels or arms. Crouch down and*

*lick the hands which feed you.”* He understood that there was a price to pay for Liberty and Freedom and a part of that price was comfort and security for a time to earn and protect what you have.



The peer pressure must have been overwhelming! Despite this fact, many brave men and women risked all, even unto death, to fight for the principles they believed in; The principals that formed the Greatest Nation in the History of the World, that we still enjoy today.

We are not perfect; nobody is. We have made mistakes in our rich history, but we learned from them and became better. We have erected statues and memorials of our victories and our failures. This is a good thing, because we always need to remember what happened in the past so we can be better in the future. Some would have us remove statues and monuments, destroy books and movies like Tom Sawyer and Gone with the Wind because of the “objectionable” content within them. But they are a record of our history and what we as a young nation lived through and defined us as who we are today. Booker T. Washington, an African-American Educator and advisor to Presidents said *“Success is to be measured not so much*

*by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome.”* If we don’t acknowledge those obstacles, how will our future generations learn from our experiences?

Today, we face similar threats to our Freedom and Liberty clothed in the guise of social justice. What is Social Justice? In my view, it is forfeiting the rights and privileges of one group for the desires of another. In a world of hashtags and narratives, being a hardworking, middle-classed, patriotic American is something you should be repentant about.



The thing about freedom and liberty though is you must be tolerant of other people’s freedom and liberty as long as it’s legal and not infringing on others if you want it for yourself. You may not approve of or even like what others do with theirs, but that is the price you pay to enjoy your own. Thomas Sowell, social theorist and one of the greatest thinkers of our time, often sees the reality of life and articulates it very clearly. He said *“Much of the social history of the Western world, over the past three decades, has been a history of replacing what worked with what sounded good.”* We mustn’t allow this to happen; We need to stick with what works.

Our schools today have taught our youth that America is and always was a terrible country who built their success on the backs of multitudes of innocents. They are taught that people like George Washington, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson were evil, self-centered Slave owners whom we should be ashamed of, not revere as American Heroes. Joseph Stalin, the revolutionary Marxist who



killed 10 million Jews in the Bolshevik Revolution said ***"Education is a weapon whose effects depend on who holds it in his hands and at whom it is aimed."*** I believe the fruits of those effects in America today paint an obvious picture of whose hands hold that weapon.

I for one do not buy into the narrative that America is evil. I don't believe we have a problem with systematic racism or injustice in America, except in the nightly news, fueled by social justice warriors and race baiters, all of whom profit from it. If you go into America, all throughout this great land, you do not see the ugly face they portray in the evening news whatsoever. Americans are a charitable and accepting lot of people, who for the most part love their neighbors, give of their time, talent and treasure for charitable causes, Love The Lord with all their heart, mind, soul and strength. They Stand for the National Anthem, many have proudly served in the Military defending freedom at home and abroad and judge people as Martin Luther King dreamed of - by the content of their character and not the color of their skin.



Americans rally together to fight injustice and always offer a helping hand to the less fortunate. Not because the government tells them or forces them to do, but because it's the right thing to do; the selfless thing to do. I agree with what Mark Levin said ***"What the Founding Fathers created in the Constitution is the most magnificent government on the face of the Earth, and the reason is this: because it was intended to preserve the American society and the American spirit, not to transform it or destroy it."*** America does not need to be transformed; it needs to be protected from those who seek to destroy it from within.



Everyone has an opportunity to live a great life in America. It just takes a lot of hard work, denying oneself for an extended period of time to achieve your goals and to treat others better than yourself. Our Constitution states that we have the inalienable rights (God given) of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. Pursuit doesn't mean guarantee; you have to pursue it. If you work at it long and hard enough, it can be yours.

The problem in our country is not our broken society; it's our broken selves. The battle we face is in our own sinful souls and we have to defeat our own selfish desires to become a better people. We have a relatively decent society and I would submit we lead the class in the whole world for the goodness of our population. America is NOT Evil!

We each have a battle waging in our heads. We have the brain of an animal and the mind of a human. Our brain tells us to take whatever we want to gain satisfaction. Our brain is our Libido, our appetite, our ego, our biases and our self-image. Our mind tells us that we are God's children and need to be responsible and care for one another. Our mind is where you find love, charity, hope, faith, tolerance, kindness, empathy, forgiveness and humility. The Battle in our head is the most important battle of our lives. If we can defeat the animal by using the mind that God planted within us, we win as a society. If the animal wins, we lose. The path to success in this can be found in Proverbs 3:5-6 ***"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."***

# IN GOD WE TRUST

The Strength of America is not our Government; It's our non-governmental institutions. Our churches, mosques and synagogues, The Rotary Club, The Elks, The Bowling and Softball Teams, Little League and Pop Warner, The Book Club, Soroptimists and organizations like Samaritan's Purse and World Vision. This is the backbone of America and it's Amazing. We belong to these organizations because we do love our neighbors as ourselves. We don't do it for personal recognition, we do it because it's the right thing to do. We stand up for what we believe in, but we respect others who disagree.

We are a family called America. Just like a family, we argue, we sometimes yell at each other and even call each other names, but in the process, we build each other's character and are better for it. But if someone rises against us, we stand together and defend each other, even unto death, and the whole world knows it.

Unfortunately, today America is fighting a battle on our own soil. It's a battle of Good vs. Evil. There are forces and people who would love to see us fail and fall in line with a globalist vision, where we would again be ruled by leaders from foreign soil that would take our Constitutional rights, our freedoms and our wealth and put us under their thumb. They are attempting this by controlling what we hear in the media, by enlisting soldiers in their battle, rewarding them with personal wealth and power and hollow promises for temporal rewards. They attempt to silence our First Amendment Right of Free Speech and publicly "shame" those with whom they disagree. They have attacked our youth and



are trying to brainwash them in believing their falsehoods, they are calling good evil and evil good. They seek to keep us from coming together for worship and encourage us to live for ourselves and our own personal pleasures of irresponsible living without consequences for our actions. But I have news for them. They tried that 244 years ago and it didn't end well for them. If they continue on their course, it won't end well this time either.

We are Americans and we come in every color, every race and every creed. Our forefathers and many new naturalized Americans came here to escape repression, injustice and tyranny to live a better life, to pursue happiness, the American Dream and to be treated equally as a part of the American family. We have protected this freedom at home and abroad at the cost of countless American Lives and I for one am Proud to be an American, where at least I know I'm Free!

Happy Independence Day from Peabody Engineering. When you spend time with your family and barbeque your hot dogs or Brisket and eat watermelon (or whatever you choose to eat) remember that this Great Land is Full of patriots, who Love this country and all of their neighbors, white, black, brown, red or yellow, regardless of what some out of touch Hollywood liberal or Talking head tells you. **God Bless America! We are STILL One Nation Under God.**

