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### The weight of the words 'Duty, Honor, Country'

The most vital words that delineate the United States of America are 'duty', 'honor', and 'country'. Such vocabulary seems simple; however, what message do those words convey? The origin of how the words surrounded such a strong country arises from a title of a speech by Douglas MacArthur, an army general, to the cadets of the U.S. Military Academy. His speech taught the audience how to live successfully resilient and how to exist as an officer and a true citizen by leading soldiers. MacArthur exclaims, "those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be," when speaking in regards to 'duty, honor, country'. Therefore, in regards to being a true citizen, duty is the obligation one must do, honor is the attribute attached to American blood, and country is the cohort of people living for the United States.

When the word 'duty' is uttered, some may think of 'chore' or 'job'. However, the meaning is deeper. Duty is a prideful responsibility that comes with living in the land of the free. That obligation is important because the idea of serving for the United States has been lost in significance. Decades ago, joining the military was a motivated, expected path in life for younger men. Unfortunately, that vision has become tethered, as fewer people are joining the military and instead choosing a sedentary life. Recruitment demographics from the Selective Service System and the National Priorities Project show that induction statistics are rapidly declining, as 230,991 citizens were enlisted into the military in 1965; while 68,915 were recruited in 2011. This decrease is a quintessential example of why duty is so important today. The magnitude lies within the fact that the United States society has a role to play in keeping the country's livelihood

stagnant. Without those of the country performing their duty to maintain equilibrium, the land will crumble.

Moreover, the trait that comes with fulfilling the duty of citizenship is honor. Being honorable includes sentiments of pride, perseverance, and honesty. That is what it feels like to love and honor one's country. The significance of such a flood of these emotions is visible throughout hundreds of people who put their lives on the line to make their home a stronger force. My father likes to describe how he and his fellow sailors were honored to serve their country; his best friend in the service lost his life by fixing a naval boat and he would say previously how he was proud to be able to add any ounce of helpfulness to the military. That man is the model for honor and its gravity as territories could not be sustainable without willing, loyal fighters. Additionally, a majority of distinction comes from average citizens, not just soldiers. When one has pride in his or her nation, the state will have everlasting strength within its followers and the individual will feel protected in return.

With all aspects of nationality stated, a country is made. The kingdom is composed of subjects filled with unity who make it a full nation. Once a sense of honor combined with the action of duty is presented throughout a population, a country is born. The importance of such growth stems from harmony and energy. Patriotism leads to binding people's character together through common fondness and creating a more established homeland. An example of this is seen in the United States on the fourth of July; families gather together, wear symbolic colors, throw parties, and celebrate their nation's freedom. Without becoming and feeling like a country, people struggle to understand how to celebrate themselves and each other.

As a whole, the phrase, 'Duty, Honor, Country' forms a representative movement for nationalism and dominance. When dissected, duty is what individuals must seek to do, honor is a

sense of pride that comes from performing one's duty, and country is the mix of unity that seeps from strength and honor. Especially in America, the words bloom red, white, and blue buds that describe what it means to love one's home.