

Independence Day Re-evaluation

As we celebrated the Fourth of July this week, I had to reevaluate what was the real meaning of the Fourth of July. As defined by Wikipedia “The Fourth of July commemorates the ratification of the Declaration of Independence by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, establishing the United States of America.” The Founding Fathers declared that Thirteen Colonies were no longer subject (and subordinate) to the monarch of Britain, King George III.

So, the United States being declared independent from Great Britain’s rule, was now united, free, and independent states.

John Adams wrote this to his wife Abigail:

The second day of July 1776 will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more.

In this 2024th year as we observe the actions of Donald Trump, former president, and the existing US Supreme Court, one might question how John Adams would write to his wife about today’s’ issues.....

As a nation we are preparing for the 2024 Presidential Election. In 124 days we will elect the next President of the United States, along with other pertinent races, local, state, and federal elections.

We have moved beyond the 1700’s yet we had leaders with more foresight back then than we have today. There are individuals today who would go back in time to when we were ruled by a monarchy, simply because they want to take and maintain power and control of the United States of America. People, we were under a monarch and waged the Revolutionary War to pull away from that monarchy, thus we are free today to vote, have freedom to speak our views, and be independent. Yet there are those who would seek to send us back in time, where none of those rights exist. People who would choose to go back to a time when women were not treated as equal, when individuals of color and diversity were “defined by the color of their skin and not the content of their character,” (MLK).

When a core group of Christian Nationalists believe they have full say of what men and women can do, read, be, have and how they should live, according to their take on the bible, not according to God’s word. Individuals who would pass laws to force the Ten Commandments to be hung in every class in certain public schools, when they and the man they support as President have broken and continue to break many of those ten commandments they want posted in schools.

There are some who state they are undecided and or are not political” or state “I may not vote at all.”

Even if you may believe that your ballot will not directly improve your own life, it can positively affect the lives of hundreds of thousands of others. Let me share a few reasons why the decision to vote for President Joe Biden should be clear and simple.

- o President Joe Biden is the only presidential candidate with a clean record and has always demonstrated a calm, respectful, knowledgeable leadership role.

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- He is the only presidential candidate with a plan for our future.
- He has a vast amount of experience as President, as a former Senator and a leader in the Democratic Party for more than half a century.

Chair's Appeal to Citizens to Vote!

- President Biden's history began with a law degree from University of Delaware and Syracuse Law School. At the Age of twenty-nine he was the youngest American ever elected to the US Senate.
- Another level of his experience: his knowledge of domestic and foreign affairs exceeds that of any other president.
- President Biden, in his first two and a half year term, was able to broker a non-partisan Infrastructure bill that has improved roads and bridges, enacted removal of lead pipes and expanded internet access.
- President Biden took swift action to get Americans vaccinated to help jumpstart an economic recovery and created more jobs than any other President has created in four years.
- President Biden reduced Insulin for Seniors to \$35 a month
- President Biden provided Relief for individuals with large and long-term loans for college.
- President Biden signed a meaningful gun safety bill.
- He strengthened US alliance with our allies and restored American leadership.
- He supports women's rights to have control of their bodies.
- He supports democracy and is not a dictator.

If none of these accomplishments sway you, let me share a statement that was shared with me by author Beverly Kendall:

We need to stop acting as if voting for Biden is some gift or favor to Joe Biden. Joe Biden will be fine if he does not win the presidency.

- It is women who will not be.
- It is visible minorities who will not be.
- It is the LGBTQ+ community who will not be.
- It is non-Christian religions that will not be.
- It is people with disabilities that will not be.
- It is unions that will not be.
- It is the middle class who will not be.
- It is the working poor who will not be.
- It is the health of the planet that will not be.

A twenty-three-year-old female from Los Angeles states we should all "Vote because it is a privilege to live in a democracy and a right that comes with being in one. Vote for the disenfranchised and marginalized, vote for empathy and justice, vote to better the status quo, vote to protect our democracy."

Every time we get up and live another day, we are dealing with politics: taxes on our homes, property and income, water and sewer, police protection, EMS services, having recreational services, schools and education for your children, grandchildren, neighbors, church members. Being able to afford a quality of life for you and your family, jobs in the Community. It is up to us to protect having those rights or by not voting allowing others to attempt to take that right away or limit that right severely.

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What is governed by politics? Everything that is an integral part of our lives. The county library, county auditor, clerk of court and register of deeds, county treasurer, tax collector, probate, and magistrate courts, building department, roads and bridges and the internet. All these things are governed by someone in politics. So, the next time you think to yourself, "I do not do politics," remember, you may be right. If you do not vote and participate in the democracy, politics is controlling you. Thus, you may as well be prepared for a dictatorship. A ruler or small group with absolute power over the people holds power, often through force. Donald Trump and the Republican party is setting the stage to Make America a country where a limited number of individuals are in control. Right now, those are the same people who believe they have the right to tell women, parents, and citizens what to do and how to do it. Those are the individuals who appoint individuals to the US Supreme Court who become tin soldiers following their leaders' orders.

Do not allow Donald Trump and the Republicans to continue to spread lies and make laws to control this United States of America. We are a country founded on Democracy, let us fight for that right to continue a Democratic Society.

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