

# The Cost Of Freedom

## Introduction

The cost of freedom isn't cheap; it's shock and awe aggression, it's proud of it's country right or wrong, it's unquestioning -- it follows orders, from the president, to the governor, to the local cop, while giving orders to the rest of the world -- dominating, hard-bitten, hard-nosed, decisive. Those who value freedom are much more likely to understand that the Cost of Freedom is eternal vigilance and occasional bloodshed, and that's just the way it is.

## Freedom

Freedom is so precious to humanity, it must be because we as the human race have spent most of our existence trying to achieve it or preserve it. Freedom and its guarantees are only as real as the people who exercise the rights. Freedom is very expensive for that mom or dad who now hangs a gold star in their window, because their son or daughter. Freedom is the dream and the right of every person in every nation in every age.

## Cost

Ramsey Clark has this to say about Cost of Freedom: "Cost of Freedom is a powerful cry for peace—the only state in which freedom is possible. What cost are we willing to pay in order to insure that freedom through peace, not war, is accomplished in our lifetime. Another cost of freedom is understanding that folks in our society are free to say what they want, they're free to do what they want for the most part, as long as it doesn't violate a law or impede someone else's freedom, and folks are free to think and act differently than we do.

## War

The 1930's taught us a clear lesson: aggressive conduct, if allowed to go unchecked and unchallenged, ultimately leads to war. General Douglas MacArthur, a man who finds few peers as he walks the corridors of history, once said, "The soldier, above all other people, prays for peace, for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war. No matter the reason why or how we got there, Iraq is NOW just one of many fronts on the war with Islamic extremists. If we are to win the "War on Terror" the first step is to restore Freedom and the Constitution.

## Peace

Peace is the work of justice indirectly, in so far as justice removes the obstacles to peace; but it is the work of charity (love) directly, since charity, according to its very notion, causes peace. John Kennedy pointed out that "Those who make peaceful revolution impossible will make violent revolution inevitable. If men can develop weapons that are so terrifying as to make the thought of global war include almost a sentence for suicide, you would think that man's intelligence and his comprehension... would include also his ability to find a peaceful solution. Despite all that we know, we still see war as the arbiter of peace and justice.

## Americans

The cost of freedom is always high, but Americans have always paid it. To live in a free society is to bear the responsibility for for our own actions, and to recognize that as a nation, as a unified body of people, we are responsible for the assurance that all Americans can live as free citizens. We as Americans can proudly say the Declaration of Independence, signed in 1776, gave birth to the ideals of freedom that others around the world only dream about. For centuries, Americans have defended the benefits of freedom on which our nation was founded and will continue to do what is needed to keep America free.

## Conclusion

The cost of freedom is high but the loss of freedom is higher. The Cost of Freedom is a work dedicated to people everywhere who work for peace, freedom, civil rights and for social and economic justice.

## About the Author

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