

“It is the duty of the patriot to protect his country from its government.”

— Thomas Paine (1737-1809)

Clearly, the time has come for all true Americans to stand up to the injustices that have been dealt to our country. We can no longer watch passively as an unholy alliance of politicians and corporations continues to dismantle our basic freedoms. The time for revolution is now.

“Revolution is not something fixed in ideology, nor is it something fashioned to a particular decade. It is a perpetual process embedded in the human spirit.”

— Abbie Hoffman (1936-1989)

So what does revolution look like? Does it mean taking up arms? Not necessarily. There is a time for fighting, yes. But it is far nobler (and harder) to live for a cause than to die for it. If freedom is a cause you are willing to die for, you should be willing to live for it too.

What does that mean?

It means struggling in every action you take to achieve liberation for yourself and others.

Maybe it requires that you carry out acts of civil disobedience, as did Gandhi or Martin Luther King or the American revolutionaries who took part in the Boston Tea Party.

Or maybe it is about choosing a lifestyle that serves your highest good. Turn off the television, quit your job if it doesn't satisfy you heart's desire, renounce the path of materialism and consumerism.

Refuse to pay taxes. Dance in the streets. Raise your voice. Speak truth to power.

Choose to live more simply, so that your choices do not limit the freedom of others.

And above all else remember to be eternally vigilant! Freedom is free — but only if you fight for it.

“In a capitalist society, the most revolutionary act you can commit is to be poor and happy!” — Egg Syntax (1972-)

“It is the duty of the patriot to protect his country from its government.”

— Thomas Paine (1737-1809)

Clearly, the time has come for all true Americans to stand up to the injustices that have been dealt to our country. We can no longer watch passively as an unholy alliance of politicians and corporations continues to dismantle our basic freedoms. The time for revolution is now.

“Revolution is not something fixed in ideology, nor is it something fashioned to a particular decade. It is a perpetual process embedded in the human spirit.”

— Abbie Hoffman (1936-1989)

So what does revolution look like? Does it mean taking up arms? Not necessarily. There is a time for fighting, yes. But it is far nobler (and harder) to live for a cause than to die for it. If freedom is a cause you are willing to die for, you should be willing to live for it too.

What does that mean?

It means struggling in every action you take to achieve liberation for yourself and others.

Maybe it requires that you carry out acts of civil disobedience, as did Gandhi or Martin Luther King or the American revolutionaries who took part in the Boston Tea Party.

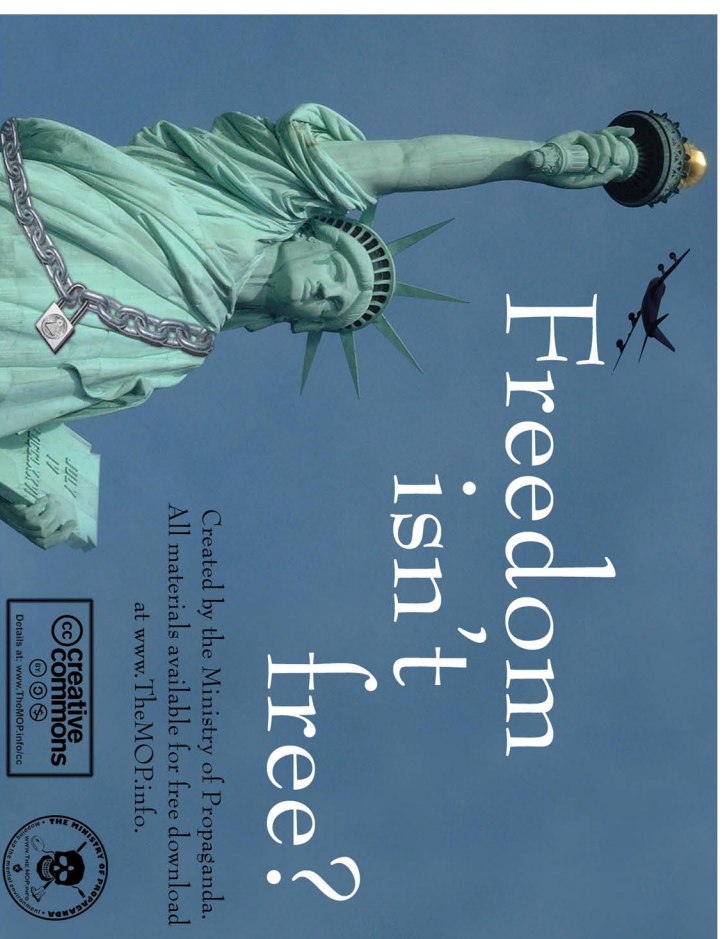
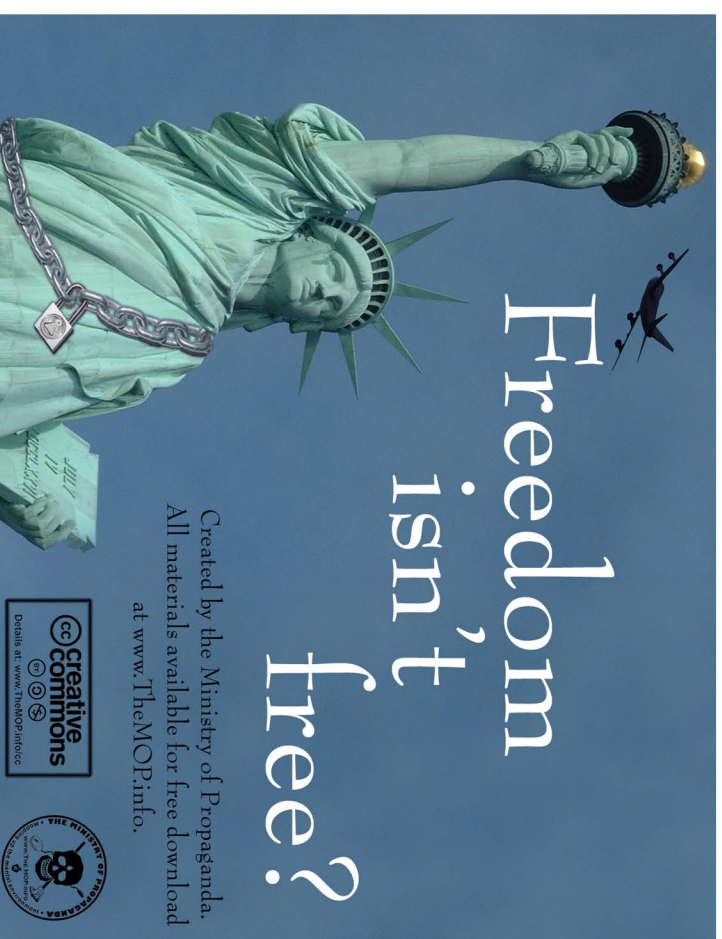
Or maybe it is about choosing a lifestyle that serves your highest good. Turn off the television, quit your job if it doesn't satisfy you heart's desire, renounce the path of materialism and consumerism.

Refuse to pay taxes. Dance in the streets. Raise your voice. Speak truth to power.

Choose to live more simply, so that your choices do not limit the freedom of others.

And above all else remember to be eternally vigilant! Freedom is free — but only if you fight for it.

“In a capitalist society, the most revolutionary act you can commit is to be poor and happy!” — Egg Syntax (1972-)



“Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.” — Wendell Phillips (1811-1884)

A common adage these days is “Freedom isn’t free.” But what is the price of freedom? What is your liberty worth to you? What are you willing to sacrifice for it? Would you lay down your life for your freedom? What about for someone else’s?

Our Founding Fathers understood the price that liberty requires. They risked everything for liberty — theirs and our own. Today, it is time for us to pay them back for their sacrifices.

“[I]f the King can model the constitution at will... his government is a pure despotism.” — Thomas Jefferson to James Madison, 1788

Today, we find ourselves in a situation that would seem hauntingly familiar to great Americans like Thomas Jefferson and James Madison. The colonists were ruled by a tyrant king named George who did not heed the basic rights outlined in the Magna Carta (the British Bill of Rights). They suffered the yoke of a government that imposed excessive taxes on the poor to fund its wars of aggression, while giving subsidies and vast charters to the international trading companies, whose protection was the primary function of the British Navy.

“They that can give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety.” — Ben Franklin, (1706-1790)

In our time, the administration of President George W. Bush has abused and violated numerous tenets of the Bill of Rights. His agents have imprisoned people — even U.S. citizens — without trial, charges, habeas corpus, or access to lawyers. They have covertly listened to millions of Americans’ phone calls, investigated our financial transactions and spied on us without the oversight of courts *specifically created by Congress for that purpose*. They have carried out torture of prisoners, used chemical weapons such as white phosphorous on civilian populations, and lied to the public in justifying their invasion of Iraq.

In other words, they have violated the basic rights our Founding Fathers gave their lives to protect.

“Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.” — Wendell Phillips (1811-1884)

A common adage these days is “Freedom isn’t free.” But what is the price of freedom? What is your liberty worth to you? What are you willing to sacrifice for it? Would you lay down your life for your freedom? What about for someone else’s?

Our Founding Fathers understood the price that liberty requires. They risked everything for liberty — theirs and our own. Today, it is time for us to pay them back for their sacrifices.

“[I]f the King can model the constitution at will... his government is a pure despotism.” — Thomas Jefferson to James Madison, 1788

Today, we find ourselves in a situation that would seem hauntingly familiar to great Americans like Thomas Jefferson and James Madison. The colonists were ruled by a tyrant king named George who did not heed the basic rights outlined in the Magna Carta (the British Bill of Rights). They suffered the yoke of a government that imposed excessive taxes on the poor to fund its wars of aggression, while giving subsidies and vast charters to the international trading companies, whose protection was the primary function of the British Navy.

“They that can give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety.” — Ben Franklin, (1706-1790)

In our time, the administration of President George W. Bush has abused and violated numerous tenets of the Bill of Rights. His agents have imprisoned people — even U.S. citizens — without trial, charges, habeas corpus, or access to lawyers. They have covertly listened to millions of Americans’ phone calls, investigated our financial transactions and spied on us without the oversight of courts *specifically created by Congress for that purpose*. They have carried out torture of prisoners, used chemical weapons such as white phosphorous on civilian populations, and lied to the public in justifying their invasion of Iraq.

In other words, they have violated the basic rights our Founding Fathers gave their lives to protect.

“Government is not reason; it is not eloquent; it is force. Like fire, it is a dangerous servant and a fearful master.” — George Washington (1732-1799)

Many people mistakenly believe that the role of government is to ensure our freedom. This belief is an important means by which governments keep populations pacified. But the truth is, governments do not have the ability to give freedom — they can only take it away. The primary function of governments is to maintain social structures and to ensure that those who hold power continue to do so. This is most often achieved through war. And while war can be a means of throwing off an oppressive government, more often, it is used as a means of taking away someone else’s freedom.

Governments are founded on the use of force. Violence, by its very definition, is a form of repression and should therefore only be used as a last resort. Whether it is the \$554 billion spent thus far on occupying Iraq or the billions of dollars spent each year to fight the so-called “war on drugs,” the federal government devotes massive amounts of money and energy to *limiting* freedom — not defending it.

“Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch. Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote!”

— Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

One of the ways that the State keeps people from rising up against it is by providing the illusion of freedom. Freedom is replaced by a form of pseudo-democracy that asks, “Which puppet do you want to be the next CEO of America Inc.?” The puppet on the left or the puppet on the right?”

Even if we are to suppose that our votes are tabulated in a fair manner — a big leap of faith in itself — it is a mistake to confuse this with freedom. Democracy requires real participation, not just a ten-minute exercise in civics every four years.

Furthermore, our choices are limited by the effects of spending large amounts of time in a television- and media-induced trance. Having 200 satellite TV channels to pitch you every kind of product your forty-hour-per-week job can buy may look like freedom, but it’s not.

“Government is not reason; it is not eloquent; it is force. Like fire, it is a dangerous servant and a fearful master.” — George Washington (1732-1799)

Many people mistakenly believe that the role of government is to ensure our freedom. This belief is an important means by which governments keep populations pacified. But the truth is, governments do not have the ability to give freedom — they can only take it away. The primary function of governments is to maintain social structures and to ensure that those who hold power continue to do so. This is most often achieved through war. And while war can be a means of throwing off an oppressive government, more often, it is used as a means of taking away someone else’s freedom.

Governments are founded on the use of force. Violence, by its very definition, is a form of repression and should therefore only be used as a last resort. Whether it is the \$554 billion spent thus far on occupying Iraq or the billions of dollars spent each year to fight the so-called “war on drugs,” the federal government devotes massive amounts of money and energy to *limiting* freedom — not defending it.

“Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch. Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote!”

— Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

One of the ways that the State keeps people from rising up against it is by providing the illusion of freedom. Freedom is replaced by a form of pseudo-democracy that asks, “Which puppet do you want to be the next CEO of America Inc.?” The puppet on the left or the puppet on the right?”

Even if we are to suppose that our votes are tabulated in a fair manner — a big leap of faith in itself — it is a mistake to confuse this with freedom. Democracy requires real participation, not just a ten-minute exercise in civics every four years.

Furthermore, our choices are limited by the effects of spending large amounts of time in a television- and media-induced trance. Having 200 satellite TV channels to pitch you every kind of product your forty-hour-per-week job can buy may look like freedom, but it’s not.