We the Future Contest

It is ironic that through three centuries the same thoughts were expressed By Thomas Jefferson in 1779 , a woman who lived in the south in 1840, and Ronald Reagan in the twentieth century. Thomas Jefferson made these predictions : "The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who are not willing to work". America was created for those who built our great nation. Our children should be taught that the future can only be maintained by working diligently to learn and follow what our forefathers deemed correct. The southern woman wrote to her children:" I shell expect my children and their children and their descendance to passionately resent any interference with their with their liberty, Never to conform just to conform. To carry on the ideals of our country in the future and to fight for them just as diligently as our puritan and revolutionary forefathers." According to Ronald Reagan " Our children need to be taught to work and look to the future for their freedom and not just a handout from our government which cannot continue to take care of those who will not work ."These statements follow the same themes that have made our nation strong.

The men who wrote the constitution put together the shortest constitution of any other country. It encompasses the rights of all Americans. I think it has been abused and interpreted not at all like our founding fathers intended it to be.

It is in the best interest of our nation that our children be taught the meaning of this constitution and also the history that has gone before their time. I think this has been sadly neglected in our schools today. They should learn of past mistakes that have occurred and know it is up to rectify these mistakes in the future.

The schools should not have the only duty of teaching these truths. It is up to the parents to instill in their children the sacrifices that have been made by all the ones who have come before them. They have made it possible in the freedom we have that other countries . Thomas

Jefferson also said "The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of our patriots." This has been proven time and time again. We have fought and died countless times from Lexington in the Revolutionary War, two World Wars one which was fought to end all wars but we know this did not happen, Vietnam , Korea, Iraq, and Iran. We were humbled at Valley Forge, Pearl Harbor and Corregidor. However we endured through the War Between the States and held our nation together instead of being divided. We cherish our freedom and will bow to no tyrants.

Hopefully we can instill these beliefs in the children so they will have ~~and~~ the understanding and feelings of pride in our United States of America. To respect our flag and recite the Pledge of Allegiance in reverence and pride. Our flag has been burned, shot at, tread upon, and even now some are refusing to stand for the Star Spangled Banner. It still will be flown high through the good times and the bad times.

Let our children know all these truths are to be honored if we are to continue to enjoy the freedom we have been granted. We have persevered in the past and we will continue to in the future. This will only happen if it is passed on to other generations. It is up to our generation to see that generations to come will feel the pride and knowledge of their past and keep these facts foremost in their lives. It is necessary that we pursue our life, liberty and pursuit of happiness.

These thoughts have endured through three centuries and we must insure that we pass it on to all who come after us. It is up to us to see that our country will endure for centuries to come.