

Abraham Lincoln said, "My dream is of a place and a time where America will once again be seen as the last best hope of earth." Through this idea, Lincoln knew America's potential, and that goal can only be reached through the patriotism of American citizens. Patriotism is the quality of supporting the freedoms and values of one's country, and it is the foundation of the American nation. In his article "The True Meaning of Patriotism," Lawrence W. Reed explains his personal definition of patriotism and how it can apply to all Americans. He gives examples to support that patriotism is more than action; it is feeling, respect, and reverence for the ideals originated by America's founding fathers. Patriotism is also rooted in the words of the Declaration of Independence that provides the blueprint for the country and its society. Patriotism is also grounded in the support for America's active military as well as its veterans. To close, patriotism is the concept that defines each citizen's allegiance to this great nation.