Patriotism

─────────── Definition ───────────

Love for one's ancestry, culture or homeland is the root meaning of patriotism. Derived from the Greek kputrios ("of one's fathers") or patris (one's fatherland") the Oxford English Dictionary defines a patriot as "one who disinterestedly or self-sacrificingly exerts himself to promote the well-being of his country." A patriot is "one who maintains and defends his country's freedom or rights."

─────────── Meaning ───────────

While we tend to think of a patriot as a person who puts his country first in opposition to another country, originally the term meant one who supported the rights of "country" or "land" against the King and his court. In other words, a patriot stood for the rights of local self-government and was opposed to tyrannical rule - even by his own king. Thus, true patriotism is the impulse to defend one's land, country or way of life against unjust governmental oppression.

> Patriotism is not blind trust in anything our leaders tell us or do.
> Patriotism is not simply showing up to vote.
> Patriotism is not just waving the flag.

The essence of patriotism requires that one loves his country with a fervor that supersedes his or her personal well-being and when the forces of evil attack our Constitution and Bill of Rights, those individuals become outraged and gather their friends, relatives, and neighbors to rally against the injustices against our precious form of democracy.

To be truly patriotic, you MUST get involved. Government must be limited to protecting the peace and preserving our liberties and doing so through the consent of the governed. You cannot idly sit by and let others dictate to you what is best for our country and yourself.

> "Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must undergo the fatigue of supporting it."
> - Thomas Paine

America! What a great place to live.

Thanks, Semper Fi, and Stay Safe !