



# A CAUSE GREATER THAN SELF

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JUNE 25, 2008



**The patriot must not just accept, but in his or her own way *protect* the ideals that gave birth to our country.** To stand against injustice and for the rights of all and not just one's own interests.

The patriot honors the duties, the loyalties, the inspirations and the habits of mind that bind us together as Americans. We are the heirs and caretakers of freedom – a blessing preserved with the blood of heroes down through the ages.

... Love of country is another way of saying love of your fellow countrymen – a truth I learned a long time ago in a country very different from ours. Patriotism is another way of saying service to a cause greater than self-interest.

If you find faults with our country, make it a better one. If you are disappointed with the mistakes of government, join its ranks and work to correct them. I hope more Americans would consider enlisting in our armed forces. I hope more would consider running for public office or working in federal, state and local governments. But there are many public causes where your service can make our country a stronger, better one than we inherited.

The good citizen and patriot knows happiness is greater than comfort, more sublime than pleasure. The cynical and indifferent know not what they miss. For their mistake is an impediment not only to our progress as a civilization but to their happiness as individuals.

