

Take a moment and remember what a huge price so many who came before us paid for our freedom. I love world history, and I love freedom and the only way I know to honor those brave souls who fought to give us the freedom we enjoy today is to be grateful and be willing to fight for and protect what they gave us.

Millions have given their lives to fight for freedom worldwide. Whenever a doctor insists we need unity in our profession, I first ask them if we share the same values. I ask them about their politics to determine if their beliefs are congruent with their philosophy. If there is contradiction or compromise then I know it will interfere with my ability to promote worldwide wellness by promoting the correction of vertebral subluxations.

The concept of a chiropractor threatens our freedom and our chiropractic practice objective. We want to fulfill BJ's vision of a world free of dis-ease by correcting vertebral subluxations in every man, woman and child throughout the world..

If you share my vision you need to take a stand with your colleagues from dozens of countries and declare your chiropractic independence now, before it is too late. Let's learn from chiropractic and world history and have the courage to confront those who would rob us of our freedom and our dignity.

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence? Five signers were captured by the British as traitors and tortured. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army, another had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War. They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

What kind of men were they? Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well educated. But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.

Thomas McKean was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.

Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year, he lived in forests and caves, returning only to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later, he died from exhaustion and a broken heart.

Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates. Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild-eyed, rabble-rousing ruffians. They were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more.

Standing tall, straight, and unwaivering, they pledged: "For the support of this declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of the divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

They gave all Americans a free and independent America. Many take these liberties for granted. Please don't do that, take a few minutes and silently thank these patriots. Then take a few more and silently thank the chiropractic pioneers who fought for your right to practice. Is this too much to ask for the huge price they paid for us?