

# THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



## # 1225 Quotations on the Topic of Independence

However one has come to citizenship in the United States, whether through birth, The Organic Act, or the naturalization process — they are a part of a project that countless millions want to run to, rather than run away from. It's all because of the word "independence." I'm Jerry Roberts, and that's the topic for today, next on The Extra Point.

Independence is today's focus, let's get into it. Let's start at the beginning of this experiment known as the United States of America.

Mark Edward Lender, a professor of history, said: "As the American colonies declared their independence from the British empire, they already knew that declaring independence was one thing, securing it was another."

Telling the governing body, the British, that "We think we want to go out on our own, thank you very much for the help to this point — now get out!", was the easy part. Fighting them for it wasn't so easy.

Since then, the issues of independence and freedom have been under fire in world wars, and in the past 60 years from within, against people who would end all of it to establish a different form of government. This is the battle we're in today, and the end result is, frankly, uncertain.

People talk about diversity in terms of race and gender. Malcolm Forbes, the founder of Forbes magazine said: "Diversity is the art of thinking independently, together."

Coco Chanel, the outspoken fashion designer, said "The most courageous act is still to think for yourself...aloud."

Gospel singer Mahalia Jackson once said this: "It's easy to be independent when you've got money. But to be independent when you haven't got a thing — that's the Lord's test."

Today, America is coldly divided into mostly

two camps, conservatives and liberals. People throw rocks at each other daily over social media, which serves them info to support their specific biases. The two sides look at each other with fear and disdain. They need the words of journalist Sydney J. Harris, who said: "The truest test of independent judgment is being able to dislike someone who admires us, and to admire someone who dislikes us."

A lot is said about the Constitution and the first amendment. Philosopher Soren Kierkegaard had this: "People demand freedom of speech as a compensation for the freedom of thought — which they seldom use."

Both sides need to consider the words of President John F. Kennedy, who proclaimed: "The constitution of the United States stresses not independence but interdependence, not the individual liberty of one but the indivisible liberty of all."

Liberals and conservatives would realize that they agree with the other side probably 98% of the time, if they could ever get over their distrust of one another, and fully understand that we're all being played by the same people.

We should hear what President Franklin Delano Roosevelt said: "Liberty requires opportunity to make a living...a living which gives a man not only enough to live by, but something to live for."

That's not just your family, but the future of your family, and mine, and the person next to you. A future of free and independent life for all.

That's the Extra Point. Be responsible and make something good happen today. For 93.3 and the Ray Gibson Show, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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