

Memorial Day

Do you celebrate the solemn holiday Memorial Day or do you just see it as a fun three day weekend, that marks the start of summer? Well if you just see it as a fun three day weekend, you will change your mind after reading this essay. I think that all Americans should celebrate Memorial Day because it honors the many sacrifices made for our country, it shows the healing of a broken nation, as well as a caring country.

First of all, Americans should celebrate Memorial Day because of the many sacrifices it represents that were made for our country. Memorial Day honors the soldiers who went through the bloody war. Those soldiers went into the war knowing that they might not come back alive. That takes real bravery... Also, what makes things even more important to honor all soldiers is that the ones who never came back alive after the war have not all yet been identified. This is why I think that it's important to honor all soldiers, identified or not because even if you don't know who they are you should remember every single soldier. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier greatly recognizes this, and its ceremonies are so important to everyone. I remember when I went to the Arlington Cemetery back in 2015, I was so proud to live in such a great nation, and I felt good honoring the unidentified soldiers.

Another reason why Americans should celebrate Memorial Day is because it is the holiday that combined our separated nation. The holiday started with Decoration Day, made by General, John A. Logan, in Waterloo, New York. It was May 30, 1868 when many war orphans, mourners, and widows put wreaths and flowers on fallen soldiers graves, for Decoration Day. At the end of the century the holiday was named Memorial Day. But that was when things were starting to change, for the worse... The citizens in the southern states refused to honor a holiday that represented who they just fought against in the civil war, the union armies. Southern states made their own "Memorial Days", some of which still exist today. Then World War One happened. Over 130,000 men were killed, that was devastating for everyone, so at the moment the United States then realized they are united as one. After that war the U.S. started celebrating Memorial Day together, as a united country, like it should have been all along.

Lastly, all Americans should honor Memorial Day because of the kindness and compassion put into it. On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech to thousands of people to honor of their loved ones. After that kind speech 5,000 people decorated the graves of 20,000 dead soldiers graves to honor them for their service. The citizens of the U.S. felt sympathy for the families who lost their loved ones, and they wanted to comfort the many families who suffered from the bloody wars. The kindness and compassion of the many U.S. citizens in the 19th century is amazing, and their sympathy and warm hearts have left a huge impact on Memorial Day today.

In conclusion, I think that all Americans should celebrate Memorial Day because it honors many lost soldiers, brought a country back together, and it shows the kindness of a country. If it were not for the amazing ideas of John A. Logan we would not of had the amazing holiday Decoration Day, which later became Memorial Day. The solemn day is a time of remembrance. Every single American should honor Memorial Day, it is an important time for every single person to thank the fallen soldiers who gave us our freedom... Thank you to all Veterans.