

Answering Question #1

1. Which one of the following is most important to preserve freedom in America?
 - a. A strong standing military
 - b. Understanding history and the Constitution
 - c. Good leaders in Washington DC
 - d. Laws to protect the public from crooks and thieves

All of the answers above play a part in preserving our freedoms, but understanding our history and our Constitution is most important. Besides being the only one of the four that is based in the people, not government, it provides the knowledge base from which we discern whether the leaders in Washington are actually good or not, whether the laws they pass are good or not, and whether or not they are managing the military properly.

George Mason, who is known as the father of the Bill of Rights, was referring to understanding our history and the Constitution when he said, "If free people do not examine their liberties and how they were obtained, they risk losing these rights." ¹ James Madison, the 4th President of the United States and often considered the father of the Constitution, said, "A well-instructed people alone can be permanently free." ²

The position held by these and many other key founders of our nation is clear. If we the people do not have some level of understanding regarding the content of the most basic governing documents of our nation and the liberties they protect, we risk losing our rights. Consider the following quote by Thomas Jefferson, which emphasizes how important it is for us to understand our government and how it is supposed to function.

"I know of no safe depository of the ultimate powers of society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them, but to inform their discretion by education. This is the true corrective of abuses of constitutional power." ³

Please continue reading this booklet. If imparted to enough of our fellow citizens, just the small amount of knowledge presented in this booklet can restore the power to make intelligent choices regarding government and correct many of the abuses that have done damage to our Constitution and our liberty.