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**Fan the 4 Flames of Freedom**

**By Paul Siegel**

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On September 11, 2001, 4 freedom-hating zealots tried to snuff out the 4 freedoms that are the foundation of, not only the U.S., but of all freedom-loving countries around the Globe. The terrorists hijacked 4 airplanes and crashed them into 3 of their 4 planned targets: the Pentagon and the 2 financial towers in New York. This attack shocked the U.S. and shocked the world. It produced death and destruction, anger and misery, defiance and calls for revenge.

Although some military strikes may be needed, the best way to fight terrorism is by stoking and fanning the 4 flames of freedom everywhere.

The 4 Freedoms are Attacked

Why was the U.S. attacked? Because the U.S. is the leader of the free world. It stands for ideas which are contrary to what radical terrorists believe. They consider the U.S. to be the devil that must be obliterated. What are the ideas the U.S. stands for? It stands for, it burns, the 4 flames of freedom:

1 – FREEDOM OF SPEECH – The terrorists hate the idea of free speech. Free speech implies disrespect for authority. Free speech means you can utter blasphemies. Free speech means you can be subversive.

To freedom-loving countries, however, free speech is our strength. By criticizing authority we reduce corruption. By allowing people to speak freely about religion, we keep our spiritual environment strong. By allowing people to speak their mind, we

learn to get along better with each other.

2 – FREEDOM OF RELIGION – The terrorists probably hate this freedom most of all. According to them there is only one religion and everyone in the world must agree with them and practice this religion the way THEY see it. They do not practice Islam, but a corrupted form of Islam. Islam does not advocate killing people whose beliefs are different from yours. Like the other big religions, it favors peaceful communication.

In the U.S. and other freedom-loving countries, members of all the major religions live together in harmony. Each person practices

his or her religion as he or she sees fit. Like freedom of speech, freedom of religion builds true communities.

3 – FREEDOM OF SELF-GOVERNMENT (DEMOCRACY) – Terrorists are unqualifiably against democracy. They believe that "spiritual" leaders deserve a greater voice than others. The average citizen should do as he is told.

We, in the free world, relish our democracy. It means that everyone has rights as well as responsibilities. We argue constantly about the best way to do things. But, as a result, when we do make a decision, we support it. We realize, especially at a time like this, that we are all in this together. Democracy gives us unity.

4 – FREEDOM OF INDIVIDUAL OPPORTUNITY – Terrorists do not understand this concept. They believe one should subordinate oneself to the group and to one's god. Thus they eagerly become martyrs.

Freedom-loving countries, especially the U.S., thrive on individual opportunity for all. This concept has led to the growth of great corporations and to many rich citizens. Even the very poor in freedom-loving countries live better than many in poor countries that harbor terrorists.

#### Our Response

How should the U.S. and other freedom-loving countries respond to the attack? Many see the start of a war. But no country has declared war. A network of terrorists is responsible for the atrocity. Some call what happened

evil and that we should eliminate evil. This scares me. Who defines what is evil? The terrorists have defined the U.S. as evil and look what it has led to.

## Fan the 4 Flames of Freedom

We are not fighting another country. Some military strikes may be needed to show the terrorists we mean business. But this fight will not be won by military means. Neither should we fight evil with another crusade. We are fighting a monstrous attack on our way of life. Therefore, we must:

> Stoke the 4 Flames of Freedom locally

> Fan the 4 flames of freedom throughout the Globe

Stoke the 4 Flames of Freedom

There are those who say we must sacrifice some of our freedoms to fight these terrorists. I say, if we do this the terrorists will have won. Instead of reducing our freedoms, we should nourish them. Instead of snuffing out the 4 flames of freedom, let us light them brighter. Stoke them and make them stronger:

1 – FREE SPEECH – You need to give up some privacy, some say. We need freer use of wiretaps,

others say. In a war there must be a limit to free speech. My reply: If you limit free speech, what is the purpose of the fight? You do not fight by surrendering the most cherished freedom. Not only must we keep free speech alive, we must make it stronger.

2 – FREE RELIGION – Some say, let us use religious and ethnic profiling to keep tabs on possible terrorists. Others, even now, are attacking Muslims. We must fight the terrorists by allowing everyone to practice his own religion or lack of religion. We must not smother one of our strengths and thereby help the terrorists in their fight against us.

3 – SELF GOVERNMENT – In times of crisis, political leaders tend to be more secretive, more authoritarian, less open to criticism, less democratic. We must avoid these misdirected approaches. If anything, we must be more open and inclusive, more eager for discussion, understanding and resolution of problems.

4 – INDIVIDUAL OPPORTUNITY – Make sure there is opportunity for everyone. This is tough in the current bad economic situation. The airlines are getting a helping hand from government. How about the people who have lost their jobs? Perhaps this is a good time to rebuild the infrastructure – public buildings, roads, utilities, bridges, schools, the environment – to supply work to those who need it.

Fan the 4 Flames of Freedom Throughout the World

Not only the U.S., but all freedom-loving countries are under attack by the terrorists. An excellent strategy for winning this fight is to increase the number of countries on our side. In other words, let us do what we can

n to bring as many countries into the freedom-loving part of the world. We know how to do this and we should do it – the freedom way, not the military way:

1 – FREE SPEECH – We take free speech for granted. But there are many places around the Globe where people know only what authorities allow them to know. In an age where we have so many sophisticated means for spreading news and information, this situation is outrageous. Our antagonists spread propaganda. We must spread true information. Information will beat propaganda every time.

2 – FREE RELIGION – We believe in this. But why keep this freedom to ourselves? Through our actions, through the media, through diplomacy, through business contacts, and through any other means, let us show the world the value of religious liberty.

3 – SELF GOVERNMENT – Democracy has been making inroads in many countries before the attack occurred. Let us not let up in fanning this flame. Let us try in every way possible to bring about democratic changes everywhere.

4 – INDIVIDUAL OPPORTUNITY – Here is where business people can contribute the most. Instead of focusing on business opportunities in the U.S. and other rich countries, we must search

for opportunities in poor countries. True, citizens of rich countries have more money to spend. But they are getting tired of pursuing the latest "new thing." Poor countries represent an untapped market. Help them get on their feet and they will become loyal customers. And you will help fan the flame of individual opportunity, and thus, help win the fight against terrorism.

Paul –the soarING– Siegel is a provocative Internet speaker and author of HELPFULNESS MARKETNG, an ebook stressing learning, cooperation and community. Learn about it at <http://www.learningfountain.com/>. Subscribe to newsletter, LearningFOUNT, by sending blank email to: <mailto:LearningFOUNT-subscribe@topica.com>.

## **How You Can Color Fireplace Flames**

**By MalaMaal.com**

How You Can Color Fireplace Flames

If you enjoy sitting around your fireplace and watching colorful flames dance, you'll be happy to know you can color your own flames quite cheaply. Basically, there are three methods of coloring fireplace flames. You can soak the logs in an alcohol solution which contains certain chemicals. Or you can

## Fan the 4 Flames of Freedom

soak the logs in a water solution containing certain chemicals and then dry them. And finally, you can just throw certain chemicals into the flames. The various chemicals or salts required for certain colors of flames are as follows: potassium sulphate ( 3 parts) and potassium nitrate (1 part) for violet flames

strontium chloride for red flames calcium chloride for blue flames

magnesium sulphate (Epson Salts) for white flames

baronsalts (borax) for yellowish–green flames

copper sulphate (blue vitrol) for green flames

sodium chloride (table salt) for yellow flames

You may also treat pinecones, coarse sawdust or cork waste and throw them into the fireplace to color the fire. They are far easier to treat and take less time to dry. Here are two methods for treating bases such as coarse sawdust, pinecones and cork waste.

Best for sawdust – Dissolve the chemical in water. Stir in your base. When the solution is completely absorbed, spread the base out in a thin layer to dry.

Best for cork–based chips – Add 1 pint of liquid glue to 7 parts of water. Crush the chemical to a fine powder and add 1 pound of the powder to each gallon of glue–water. Put into the liquid as much of the sawdust, cork waste or pinecones that it will take, stirring and adding more base until all the liquid has been absorbed. Spread out on a rack to dry.

It is better to treat separate portions of your base with the solution of a single chemical than to treat the base in a single mixture of various chemicals. After drying the separately treated portions of sawdust or cork waste, you can then mix them together in order to achieve distinctly colored flames.

There is no fixed proportion of chemicals to be used to a given amount of water. As much of the powdered chemical should be mixed with water as will dissolve, until you have a saturated solution. The only exception is ordinary table salt (sodium chloride), in which case you should use 1/2 ounce of salt to each pint of water.

Coarse hardwood sawdust is better than pine or other softwood sawdust as a base. Cork waste also makes an excellent base.

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