

CONFLICT & MEMORY

CONTINUE THE STORY

MANY OF US WILL NEVER FIGHT IN A WAR OR BE INVOLVED IN THE DISCUSSIONS OF A PEACE TREATY.

Yet all of us have deep experiences in managing family and/or business conflicts. Some of us have even been persuaded to attend counseling, with the hopes of avoiding the casualties of ongoing disputes.

History is full of examples where if tradition holds true, societies will rise in battle against another. The reasons are many, but always with a cost of human capital. The battle for Ukraine in 2022 is no different. Russia claims that Ukraine should never have separated from Mother Russia. Yet, most recently, the people of Ukraine have lived in a peaceful existence for 30+ years, enjoying freedoms that were nonexistent prior to 1991. *Should the people of Ukraine be forced to live under a government that does not recognize freedoms for the people and the rule of law supported by the people?*

Here is what Ukraine is reminding all people of the world, that with unity and a desire to fight for one's freedoms, freedom becomes possible. **Freedom has a cost, but the rewards are many.**

Is it possible that our prosperity blinds our judgement and inhibits our ability recognize the source of all freedoms? Does our blindness prevent us from seeing those that have less?

Just the same as in our homes or communities, we might agree that bullies are not allowed. ***Is this a moral judgement or argument? Should our code of conduct be such that we call out a bully, no matter what they are doing?*** This principle is true when speaking about the actions of countries, as well state and city governments.

SHOULD WE CALL OUT A BULLY?

Washington state, as well as others, experienced this same condition as their governor chose to exercise his emergency powers for a longer duration than what the state constitution allowed. The legislature became a joint bully as they failed to reign in this abuse of power. The judiciary was equally responsible.

At the federal level, the same can be said as people began to ask questions during the Covid pandemic. Dr. Anthony Fauci allowed for policies to continue without good science to support the mandates issued. Perhaps worst of all was the disregard for constitutional rights, such as the free exercise to meet for religious purposes. Church services were cancelled, businesses closed, children were denied the opportunity to attend school, regardless of the science.

