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In the Middle: Why I honor the American Flag

By VICTOR CONTRERAS 6 hrs ago



Victor Contreras

Most people think the American flag is just like any other ordinary flag, but I see it from a whole different point of view. To me, our flag is very important for my life; it has helped me through the toughest times, and it has given me the confidence to try and make an impact in America. The flag is significant to my parents, so we honor the flag as much as we can through our lives.

One reason why I honor the American flag is because it represents freedom.

Freedom is significant to me because my dad strived for freedom. Back when he was younger, he set out on an exhausting journey to try and reach the land of opportunity. Despite all of his challenges and difficulties, he made it to America. The freedom that he achieved gave him the opportunity to get a job, have a wife and raise a family. I honor the flag as much as my dad does because my dad is thankful for the freedom that he has.

Another reason why I honor the American flag is because it represents perseverance to my family and me. I always think about the gruesome wars of the past, and about each man and woman who has sacrificed their lives for our nation. I think about what drives them to do this. I learned that it is perseverance that encouraged them to move on. So if I ever feel like I can't do anything, I look to the flag. It gives me the inspiration to move on, even through the most challenging times.

Finally, the last reason why I honor the American flag is because it represents our independence. The flag deserves to be honored like an important person because it represents those who have sacrificed for America. We don't say our "Pledge" for nothing. We do this to thank Americans for being there for us. The flag has been there as people faced intense battles to make our nation the greatest and reach heights that no other nation could reach.

The American flag has had a significant impact on me and the world.

This flag isn't like any other country's flag because America will keep on striving, keep its independence, and will gain perseverance under the flag.

Victor Contreras is a student at Krueger Middle School. This is a version of the essay he submitted for a recent "Patriot's Pen" contest. In the Middle is a regular column produced by MCAS middle school students.