

Though many Americans cheer at Memorial day parades and wave around their red and white striped flags, many do not understand the true meaning of Memorial Day. Memorial Day is the day that Americans come together annually to celebrate the brave individuals who are protecting and thus bringing comfort to the citizens of the United States. We celebrate the ones who have courageously passed in war, our living veterans, and ones who are currently serving our country.

During times of crisis, members of the US military were always there to help. For example, during World War II, members of the military helped storm Normandy and created a huge turning point in the war. They served for what was right and successfully defeated Nazi Germany. Though many people died in the World War II military effort, these people sacrificed their lives to serve for the sole cause of trying to bring world peace. The US military effort during WWII really shined a light on the amount of courage and valor that the men and women that served our country possessed. As Winston Churchill once said, "...we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender...", the US military did just that during World War II, which ultimately saved many Jews and other people that were being oppressed.

Furthermore, the military is helping tremendously during this COVID-19 period. For example, many military doctors are using their expertise to work in hospitals to help the COVID effort. There have also been many naval ships like the USNS in Los Angeles, that docked to help take in COVID patients. Our National Guards are also helping food banks distribute food to people in need. Guards are also expanding their units to be used as a makeshift hospital to treat non-COVID patients. Lastly, the Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Disease is beginning to start to research a possible vaccine for COVID. All of these situations show how COVID is not slowing the military and how courageously they are working. By combating this virus, they are trying to bring comfort to all Americans.

Memorial Day is a day where Americans gather to honor the brave people that are serving or have served for this country. We celebrate how these individuals risk their lives everyday for the safety of their country. And we thank them for their hard work by showing respect to this country and by showing appreciation for these heroic individuals.