

## United We Stand

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Remember that great quote, “United we stand, divided we fall”? It has never been truer than it is right now!

We all have our own opinions on the way things are or should be, and we all have friends and family members with opposite points of view. Our first impulse is to simply clam up or avoid them. In some cases, they have already “beaten us to the punch” and avoided us first, “unfriended” us on Facebook, or enacted some equally terminating solution.

In fact, there is something out there called “cancel culture,” which aims to silence or eliminate through extreme measures any opposing position or person with an opposing position. Nothing seems to be off-limits.

Here’s my challenge: don’t let the cancel culture win! Confound them with your ability to have friends of all political and philosophical persuasions. Listen politely when others are presenting their ideas, but then expect the same in return.

You might be surprised that you can still maintain friendships with people, even if they have ideas that are different from yours. Perhaps you will learn to meet somewhere in the middle, or you will just agree to disagree, while still maintaining the type of relationship that you had before the ideological impasse.

America was founded on vigorous debate, which ideally results in changes brought about by legislation or elections. I hope that we never forget our roots and continue to appreciate the amazing foresight that our Founding Fathers had when they hammered out the Declaration of Independence and our Constitution.

It is every word in these documents that make America what it is today, has always been in the past, and is the reason why so many immigrants around the world are trying to become Americans today.