We the people... are patriotic and progressive.
We fight for our democracy and for liberty, equality and justice for ALL Americans.

The Patriotic and Progressive Guide to strengthen the power of your voice and actions

Step 1 – Build connections to our democracy. Voting is essential - but not enough.

Connect in the present: There is strength, power and inspiration in working together. Join and commit to a group such as Indivisible or a progressive campaign for women’s health, gun control, get-out-the-vote etc.

Connect with our past: There is wisdom and inspiration to be found in historic Resistance movements and leaders - such as the Civil Rights movement, women’s right to vote etc.. Review our website for a summary of iconic progressive movements for ideas and examples (e.g. see logo at top of this page).

Connect with our future: Make an effort to directly include young people in your actions and include their voice; emphasize the significance of your actions on your legacy and our collective future.

Step 2 – Use powerful patriotic and progressive messaging
(Define yourself and your actions - or you allow others to misdefine and undermine you)

Words: Use words such as: justice, democracy, “We the people”, morality, civil rights, equality etc.
Optics: Reclaim and proudly fly our American Flag, embrace the U.S. Constitution (and all its amendments), the Statue of Liberty etc.. Nationalists must see all Americans identifying with our Flag.
Patriotism: Explicitly define your pro-democracy efforts as patriotic and draw power from patriotism and explicitly reject Nationalism. (See our website to learn more about true patriotism which is inclusive and aspirational in contrast to Nationalism - which is exclusionary, racist and regressive).

Honor historic progressive figures/movements: incorporate quotes and images of historic famous progressives such as Martin Luther King Jr., Shirley Chisholm, Susan B. Anthony, etc.

NOTE: Right-wing extremists have effectively claimed, co-opted and defined the language and symbols of our democracy – most notably our American flag and “patriotism” - if we do not willfully reclaim and define these reflections of our democracy they will be forever be associated with these extremists.

Step 3 – Promote community and unity of purpose to make our democracy progress

Collaborate: co-sponsor actions, meetings, fundraisers with other progressive groups. The historic 1963 March on Washington, DC was for “Jobs and Freedom” by Civil Rights groups and the autoworkers union.
Document: share photos, summaries of your efforts on social media. This helps in recruitment, spreading of your message and your democratic legacy.

Collaborate with us: email/tag us your photos/videos for our digital “More Perfect Union Project”

Meaningful patriotism is action - not sentiment.
E pluribus Unum

For more information visit: PatrioticAndProgressive.org
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