

English

I'd like to talk about American Independence Day, which is celebrated on the 4th of July every year. The reason that it's on the 4th of July is because that was the date in 1776 that the Continental Congress, the second Continental Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. And they did that to announce and explain why they were separating from Great Britain or why they wished to separate from Great Britain.

All of this started many years before that, mostly with economic issues, the most famous of which is the Boston Tea Party, which was in December of 1773, when colonists dumped all of the tea off of the British boats into the harbor to show that they didn't want any taxation without representation. In other words, they were having to pay huge tax or stamp duty on the tea arriving, but they didn't have any representation in parliament in England. So that's one of the reasons that they decided to separate from Great Britain.

And the most famous sentence perhaps, or passage goes like this, "We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal and that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." So of course when they wrote that, they didn't mean all men, they certainly didn't mean women, they meant that the colonists were just as good as the people living in Britain and.

So since then, basically, we've been still struggling nearly 250 years later to achieve any kind of equality, especially for women, especially for African Americans and many other groups. But the way that 4th July is typically recognized or was during my childhood, is mainly the backyard barbecue, very innocuous, sausages and hamburgers, and macaroni salad and fireworks, which recall the words in the national anthem, bombs bursting in air.

Simplified Chinese

我想谈谈每年7月4日庆祝的美国独立日。之所以定在7月4日，是因为那天是1776年第二届大陆会议在宾夕法尼亚州费城签署《独立宣言》的日期。他们这样做是为了宣布并解释他们为什么要，或者为什么希望脱离英国。

这一切始于多年前，主要是经济问题，其中最著名的事件是发生在1773年12月的波士顿倾茶事件。当时，殖民者将英国船只上的所有茶叶都倾倒在港口，以表明他们不希望在没有代表的情况下征税。换句话说，他们必须为这些抵达港口的茶叶支付巨额税款或印花税，但他们在英国议会中没有任何代表。所以这就成为他们决定脱离英国的原因之一。

其中，最著名的句子或段落可能是这样描述的：“我们认为这些真理是不言而喻的，人人生而平等，造物主赋予他们某些不可剥夺的权利，其中包括生命、自由、和对幸福的追求。”当然，他们在写这些的时候，他们并不是指所有的男人，当然也不是指女人，他们的意思是殖民者和生活在英国的人是同样平等的。

从那时起，基本上，近250年后，我们仍在努力实现任何形式的平等，尤其是对女性，对非裔美国人和许多其他群体而言。但是，对7月4日的认识通常被视为，或者在我的童年时期被视为，主要是后院烧烤，无伤大雅，香肠和汉堡，通心粉沙拉和烟花，让人想起国歌里的歌词，“炸弹空中作响”。

Traditional Chinese

我想談談每年7月4日慶祝的美國獨立日。之所以定在7月4日，是因為那天是1776年第二屆大陸會議在賓夕法尼亞州費城簽署《獨立宣言》的日期。他們這樣做是為了宣布並解釋他們為什麼要，或者為什麼希望脫離英國。

這一切始於多年前，主要是經濟問題，其中最著名的事件是發生在1773年12月的波士頓傾茶事件。當時，殖民者將英國船隻上的所有茶葉都傾倒在港口，以表明他們不

希望在沒有代表的情況下徵稅。換句話說，他們必須為這些抵達港口的茶葉支付巨額稅款或印花稅，但他們在英國議會中沒有任何代表。所以這就成為他們決定脫離英國的原因之一。

其中，最著名的句子或段落可能是這樣描述的：“我們認為這些真理是不言而喻的，人人生而平等，造物主賦予他們某些不可剝奪的權利，其中包括生命、自由、和對幸福的追求。”當然，他們在寫這些的時候，他們並不是指所有的男人，當然也不是指女人，他們的意思是殖民者和生活在英國的人是同樣平等的。

從那時起，基本上，近 250 年後，我們仍在努力實現任何形式的平等，尤其是對女性，對非裔美國人和許多其他群體而言。但是，對 7 月 4 日的認識通常被視為，或者在我的童年時期被視為，主要是後院燒烤，無傷大雅，香腸和漢堡，通心粉沙拉和煙花，讓人想起國歌裡的歌詞，“炸彈空中作響”。