



Export = American Jobs
Great American Principles: Motherhood, Apple Pie, and Trade
July 1, 2011

Our Independence Day is the perfect opportunity to reflect on America's founding principles. Principles such as freedom, equality, hard work, fair play... and trade.

Among those who celebrated the Boston Tea Party, the right to trade was considered one of their fundamental liberties. The founders of our Republic went on to create the world's largest free trade area in 1789 with the ratification of the Constitution of the United States of America.

Consider these comments from some of America's founding leaders and thinkers:

"Our interest will be to throw open the doors of commerce, and to knock off all its shackles, giving perfect freedom to all persons for the vent [sale] of whatever they may choose to bring into our ports, and asking the same in theirs."

– **Thomas Jefferson**

"Any nation which leaves all her ports open to the world on equal terms will have commodities cheaper, sell its own production dearer, and be on the whole most prosperous."

– **Benjamin Franklin**

"We rail at trade, but the historian of the world will see that it was the principle of liberty; that it settled America, and destroyed feudalism, and made peace and keeps peace; that it will abolish slavery."

– **Ralph Waldo Emerson**

The pending trade agreements with Korea, Colombia, and Panama
are part of a proud American tradition.

By "opening the doors of commerce," they promise opportunity, growth, and jobs.

This July, Let Freedom Ring!

The Trade and American Competitiveness Coalition is made up of U.S. business enterprises that support policies and legislation that will enhance U.S. competitiveness in the international economy to promote growth and prosperity for America's businesses, workers, and consumers.