

Our Feelings Change As Our Outlooks Do



By Dr. R. Pletsch

The war in the Ukraine has developed a deeper sense of patriotism among many of our immigrant neighbors. I have met with several small groups that at one point left their former homes and land because it was simply better for their people to live here in the USA than any other place in the world. This, of course, is not true for many people who were born with the proverbial silver spoon in their mouths. I don't know many of those people.

I've met several people who never thought much of the old world. Though political ramifications have changed their opinions in many cases. These people seldom talked of back in Europe because they had fought sometimes on the wrong side in WWII.

That was where they were born, you joined the military or went to jail. But now, in that part of the world you either ran away or fought the Russians. It is not always easy deciding what is best for your family. I talked with a young couple that, by their standards, was a mixed marriage. She was from Ukraine and he was from Poland.

Many reading this article would not think that is a big deal. But in the 40's, they were on the opposite side in WWII. I was told that the cousins all get along because they feel American. While some have deeper feelings usually because of some death in the family, luckily this generation sees each other as Americans.

They now have small flags in their house from many countries because most of the youngsters that came here after WWII intermarried with all nationalities. You can be proud of your heritage or what your distant relatives are doing now to protect their country.

When this war is over, through the grace of God, we will return to one nation under God and realize that we all feel differently at different points in our lives, but be grateful that our ancestors had the ability to come thousands of miles and make a new home here. Don't think it's wrong if they have a flag alongside the American flag. We have many in our household.