

## “TORY”

To - ry (tōr' ē, tōr' ē) *n.*

1. a member of a political party in Great Britain from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century to about 1832 that favored the authority of the king over Parliament and the preservation of the existing social and political order; succeeded by the Conservative Party.
2. (*often l.c.*) an advocate of conservative principles; one opposed to reform or radicalism.
3. a person who supported the British cause in the American Revolution; a loyalist.<sup>1</sup>
4. (In the 17<sup>th</sup> century) one of a class of dispossessed Irishmen, nominally royalists, who became outlaws and were noted for their outrageous cruelties.
5. a boy's given name.
6. - *adj.* of, belonging to, or characteristic of the Tories.
7. being a Tory.
8. (*sometimes l.c.*) opposed to radicalism; conservative.

[< Ir *toraidhe*, *toiridhe* highwayman, persecuted person < *toir* chase, pursuit + *idhe* *n.* suffix]

*The Random House Dictionary of the English Language, The Unabridged Edition* (Random House, New York, 1966)

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<sup>1</sup> While the newly-minted, modern Right likes to wrap itself in the cloaks of the Founding Fathers, they wouldn't have been recognized by them, hairy radicals of their day that they were. Tellingly, after the death of conservative pundit William F. Buckley, Jr., many conservatives such as David Brooks turned to the modern *British* Tories for philosophical guidance.