

It's not what America can do for me; It's what I can do for America

What can I do for America? And if anything, why should I? America is more than the land of the free and the home of the brave. It is an environment that fosters growth and free thinking like nowhere else on earth. We take for granted the fact that we live in a place where we enjoy the freedom to become or accomplish what we want. Our forefathers fought to create this land for us and have helped it become what it is today. Where is America going? Will these freedoms last? I do not believe that our ancestors fought to give us what we have just so that it could be wasted. With our surplus opportunities comes a solemn responsibility to protect and improve our American environment.

We are responsible for protecting this environment physically and psychologically. We need to actively ensure that our foreign diplomats and ambassadors are doing their best to preserve our autonomy. But, in the case of emergency, we need to be prepared to physically protect ourselves. Brave men and women in our armed forces have sacrificed their lives for our happiness and safety and those who continue to protect our nation must have our love and support at all times. This unity and common purpose will unite us with an unmatched strength, but if separate and prideful, we could fall divided.

We are also responsible for building our nation by being active within government. Activism in the public system allows ideas to be heard and acted upon. Currently only those who vote have control and see things going the way they want. Is what those individuals want what the true majority of our country wants? Each individual has the responsibility of knowing what is going on and the importance of the issues at hand and then must vote as they feel best and keep America a place where freedom is available to those who participate. Freedom of speech, religion, and free thinking are fundamental principles that I think are often lost in the blur of today's twisted agenda and self-serving politics.

I see America as a rare gem in a sea of sand. We must preserve its values and freedoms. I am indebted to this nation because of the blessings it has given me, and it is my duty to repay that debt by protecting this nation physically and psychologically. Supporting our troops and politicians as well as taking active role in the public process are basic duties that I feel should be fulfilled by all citizens. In a dictatorship the dictator molds the nation to his agenda no matter how morally right or wrong his agenda may be. In a democracy we, the people, have worked hard to preserve a government that values our views and opinions. Isn't therefore our responsibility to participate and help those views take flight? If we don't, I ask you who will. It's not what America can do for me. It's what I can do for America.