

America's Gift to My Generation

I think America's gift to my generation is my freedom. Freedom is a necessary part of our daily lives, and I believe that many of us take it for granted at times. I also know that I took it for granted too. A few years ago, I started traveling to different countries, countries that don't have as much freedom as we do. I saw people who looked lost and had no chance of ever having that freedom. It was eye-opening because until then I hadn't realized how privileged I was.

I also have seen how getting this freedom isn't easy. Our freedom isn't "free" as most of my family says. Being a daughter of a U.S Marine veteran I've seen the aftermath of the pain he went through. Seeing him wake up in a cold sweat some nights and not talking about what he had seen, it really showed me how lucky I am to have the freedom that I currently own. Also, seeing my great uncle grieve over the loss of his son in combat. Even going to his grave in Washington DC was hard for the family. Knowing that even though he won the Purple Heart would never cope with the pain. Seeing all of this made me understand how our freedom is not in fact free.

Realizing how our freedom is not "free" really made me understand how our generation's gift sometimes neglected and taken for granted. Now seeing all of this throughout my life I finally understand how our generation's gift is our freedom. Even if it's as simple as picking out what we want to wear or eat or where you want to go to school. Seeing other children, even my classmates take this gift for granted makes me feel very strange as if they don't understand how lucky they are as if they don't care about this truly beautiful gift.