

*What it means to me to live in America*

To me living in America is everything. America is the land of the free, of opportunity. Thousands migrate to America each year in order to achieve their ultimate goal: the American Dream. My parents are a part of this trend. I am part Mexican and part Salvadorian. They like so many others came to this wonderful nation so that my sisters and I could have a better life; so that we could someday become doctors and lawyers. To me living in America is freedom; freedom to express my thoughts, to dream of doing great things. America is my home.

My parents are migrant workers. They came to America for the same reason as many others: to search for jobs. There are very few resources in Mexico and El Salvador. Not to mention the horrible civil war that tore El Salvador for 12 years, killing thousands of innocent people, and leaving the nation scared forever. This civil war brought thousand of refugees to America seeking an escape from the horrible nightmare they were living in their nation. In America they found comfort, support, freedom, and above all a home.

It has not been easy to achieve the American dream that so many seek, and yet few ever find. My parents work in the fields under the hot, burning sun during the summer and in production factories during the rest of the year; all so that they can provide for my three sisters and me. Yet, they have a job. That is the most important thing of all. They have a steady job that provides for our family of six; whereas, if they were in any other Latin American country they might not be so fortunate.

This nation is what allows so many dreams to become a tangible reality. One of those dreams that will soon be within my reach is a college education. My ultimate aspiration is to become a lawyer. I have aspired this since I was a little girl. I want to be able to help others in need. And to help those who have a voice but are never heard. In America I will be able to

achieve this dream. I will be able to attend college with the financial help of scholarships. I will be able to attain my Bachelors degree in English and minor in Political science. Then move on and attend law school.

My parents are always reminding me that I was born in the best nation there is. The nation where all dreams are possible and where I can dream that I will someday be a successful lawyer. Living in America is a blessing to me. It has given my family and me a future. I know that my sisters and I will be able to attend college and do great things and all because we live in the nation of the free; the nation that our forefathers fought so bravely for, all so that we could live without oppression. America is not only my home but it is also the home to anyone that seeks a better future and freedom.