

## Individual Freedom VS Governmental Control

The United States of America is often praised as the land of freedom. The United States even have a Statue of Liberty. Immigrants come to the United States believing that they will have rights and the freedom to do worship what they want and live how they want. However, that is not entirely true. Once immigrants come to the United States, they realize that they have to live how the government wants them to. They are not actually welcome to the United States, not until they have a green card or a citizenship. They cannot find work without a citizenship. They must obtain a work warrant after getting a citizenship. But in order to obtain a citizenship, they must know their basic facts about the United States such as; what the stars on the flag stands for, what is the United States motto, who is the current president, and etc. Thus, they are not entirely allowed to live how they want. They still have to follow the rules of the government. Also, it is much harder for immigrants to find work here in the United States. They must be able to speak, read, and write the language.

Another example of how the government controls its people is by making them have health insurance. President Obama has recently tried to pass the Health Care bill that around 60% of the American people opposed. This is the first time that the government is forcing everyone to buy something that will "protect" them. Although it is a great idea to always have health insurance, some people simply do not want it. There will be people out there who believe that they will always be healthy and will probably not need insurance to cover up their hospital bills. Or other people who believe they will make a good living that they will be able to pay off the hospital bills themselves.

In order to live in the United States, you must work. Once you get your paycheck, there are also taxes to be paid. Not only does the U.S. force us to work to live there, we must also pay taxes to the government. So we are not entirely free to use our money the way we want. We have to pay other expenses too; such as water, electricity, food, car gas, and more. The amount the government taxes us depends on how much we make. Thus, the government knows how much each household's annual income. So not only do we not have the freedom to use the money we earn the way we want, we have no privacy to how much we make.

And the most obvious way how the government controls us is how they force our children to go to school. In other countries, school is an option and is leisure. However in the United States, it is an obligation. All children from age 5 to 18 must attend kindergarten to senior year in high school. The taxes that we pay fund the elementary, middle, and high schools that our children are forced to attend. The schools are similar to prisons where there is at least one police officer on a golf cart roaming around the school campus, hunting down any student who is skipping classes. Not only does the government control adults, they also control our children who live in the United States. The issue here is that there are some children who do not want to attend school and are wasting the teachers' time. Although it is a good idea to make it a priority that everyone knows how to read and write, it is not good that some people simply do not want to learn. These children who are wasting the teachers' time are also wasting everyone's tax money because they are not learning what the government wants them to learn. This is why some countries make it a privilege to go to school. In Japan and China, the school's standards are much higher because going to school is a privilege there. In the United States, many children and teenagers take school for granted. Shouldn't it be our choice to have our children attend school or not? The way how the U.S. government is controlling us is making our children take school

for granted. Also, although school is a good way to be successful in life, it is not the only way. The realistic way how to get a job is to simply learn how to read, write, and speak, have good manners and hygiene, and have connections that will get you a good career. So in short, it should really be the parent's choice to have their children attend school or not.

As you can see, the United States is the biggest hypocritical country out there. It is very ironic how the United States is praised for being the land of freedom. Although it is, in a small way, but for the majority of it, it is similar to the other countries out there. The U.S. government still wants foreigners to obtain citizenship to live here. They do not allow foreigners to drive or work here. Americans are forced to pay taxes and make their children go to school. There are so much more how the United States controls us, but there is too little space to type them here in this one essay. In conclusion, although the United States of American claims to let Americans have freedom, they are not entirely free from the U.S. government. They are still expected to do things for them, such as; pay taxes, sign up for the army, vote for elections, and etc. There will never truly be a balance between individual freedom and governmental control.