



Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians & Jews 2016 Essay Contest

First Place – Bella McNamara

The Benjamin School (Grade 7)

Teacher: Marshall Mullnix

World Wide Liberty

The word “liberty” means the state of being free within society from oppressive restrictions imposed by authority on one’s way of life, behavior, or political views. Liberty will give people the freedom to live in a free country. Freedom from any restrictions or restraints. Freedom to also think, act or speak about anything we want. We are so lucky to live in America where we have this kind of freedom. We should be so grateful to our past leaders for fighting the British for our independence, writing the Constitution to protect our rights and for leaving us “with liberty and justice for all.”

I am especially grateful to be living in America. I was born in China, a communist country. The people of China do not have the liberty or freedom to make personal choices for themselves. They are controlled by the government. If I grew up in China, I would not have the freedom I now have. I would not have a choice of where I would live, attend school, what college I would want to go to, or what kind of job I would want after I graduate. As John Adams said, “I must study politics and war that my sons may have liberty to study mathematics and philosophy.” If I lived in China, my life would be decided for me. I am so thankful my Mom adopted me and brought me to America.

As Americans, we have a responsibility to protect our country’s freedom and liberty. We have the liberty to vote for our president and choose a leader that will keep our country safe. We also need to honor those that go to war to serve and protect our country. They risk their lives so that all Americans can have freedom. Also, when we pray to keep those in the armed forces safe and keep our country safe, we have the freedom and Liberty to worship God and follow the religion of our choice. God gave us all free will and it is our right to hold on to this free will for our entire life. We need to make good choices, protect our environment, strive to make a positive difference in our lives and cherish our rights of liberty. Future Americans can also live happy lives with freedom to make choices for themselves and keep passing on “liberty and justice for all.”