



When I was in grade school, there was a song that we sang. The words began, "Am I a good American? What do I have to be? Am I a good American? Let's take a look and see."

If you know history or current events around the world, you will see atrocities and oppression against the citizens of many countries. Some people in this country want our youth to believe that the U.S. is one of these countries and that the white male is the cause. They certainly don't understand what atrocity and oppression mean because they do not apply to this wonderful country. These same individuals seem to think Marxism, aka communism, means freedom. If that were so, then why have hundreds of thousands of people risked their lives to escape it? Communism is one of the most oppressive of all the -isms.

Have Americans become too complacent about FREEDOM, so

much so that they don't recognize it? Do they believe that destroying this country and its values will suddenly make humans loving and non-violent? Are they that delusional?

Utopia on Earth will never exist. It is impossible. One size does not fit all. Every human being has different needs, wants and likes. Not only that, but to have a utopia, everyone living there would have to be a saint, a perfect human being. No flaws, phobias, hates and no anger toward anything or anyone. Everyone would have to be sane as well as the same. Tell me that will ever happen.

There are a lot of citizens who are good Americans. I'm proud of our military, our law enforcement and our first responders who put their life on the line to help others. Altruism exists in our best citizens.

Patriotism is alive and well in Lillian. I thank the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay for their Streets of Red, White, and Blue program and the residents who subscribe. It is a wonderful sight to see our country's flag flying proudly.

Am I a good American? I may not be the best person in the world, but I can honestly say, that I love my country! Happy July 4th, ya'll.

Until next month....

• Editor's note: This column was inadvertently left out of the July issue of *The Lillian* so it has been published on our website.