

“I Find it Difficult to Believe Politicians.”

Damaris Rodriguez



I come from Guatemala. I find it hard to have faith in the political process. Politicians sometimes do nothing to make positive changes for the country or the community. My view is influenced by something that happened in my native country. A president was elected there who promised to make a lot of

changes for the good of the people. But once he became president, he did not do anything for them. Instead, he stole money, bought himself a mansion in another country, and moved away. I find it difficult to believe politicians after witnessing that.

I would like to believe that things are different here in the United States, but I’m afraid that now the situation may be the same. The president promised to help immigrants, but so far he has not kept his promise. It is a bad decision to separate families, as happens when parents are deported to their native countries. Children suffer whether they accompany their parents to what is to them a foreign country or stay behind without their parents.

America needs immigrants. I think it is important for immigrants to have a voice. I hope the next administration will do the right thing and make a difference in our lives and in America.

Damaris Rodriguez is 21 and has been living in the United States since 1994. She has two school-aged children and is currently studying with the goal of passing the GED.

What do you think?

The essays on pages 40 and 41 are by immigrants who had bad experiences with politicians in their country of origin. What is your experience with the political system—either in the U.S. or in your country of origin? Are you more optimistic about the U.S. political system (like Ladda Lanouette) or are you more pessimistic (like Damaris Rodriguez)? Write about it here.
