

The promise included in the preamble that means the most to me is simply the phrase, “We the people.” When I first read this prompt, my first thought went to the 6 traditional promises of the preamble. The document aims to create laws around justice, peace, defense, welfare, liberty, and prosperity. This is what you learn from a quick google search, but I believe the phrase, “We the people,” is a worthy promise within itself, and perhaps the most important one.

The phrase is known by American citizens nationwide. Some may know the whole preamble by heart, and some may know only the phrase. Even so, it binds us together. They are a heavy and extremely influential set of just three words, but they started this country and continue to help hold it together today. They bring with them the promise of a strong country, a stable relationship between the government and the people, and of a community built around freedom. The promise of community is what prompted me to choose the phrase, “We the people,” for the topic of my essay. As long as America has been around, there have been conflicts between our own citizens. From petty squabbles, to rallies, and to even war. This has hardly slowed down since colonial times. Some may even argue that we’re more divided today than ever. With the internet came misinformation wielded against politics and groups that reside in our country. We saw this especially prominent in the 2016 election, and the issue is growing everyday. Politics have grown into small minded screaming matches, citizens rights are being ripped away, and crime rates climb ever higher. On the surface, it doesn’t seem like much of a community.

Our country is far from perfect, but it is certainly not the worst. There are a plethora of countries where the killing of minorities is allowed by the law, where there is barely even the illusion of choice, and is the farthest thing from freedom there is. Those are not communities,

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11

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they are oppressive strongholds. Here in America, even with certain liberties and rights becoming a constant battle to keep in place, we find community in the like minded and sometimes in government officials. We are not beyond help. We have the freedom and the opportunity to fight for change within our large or small communities. With the right to free speech comes freedom of expression, and through that we can find people with similar ideals.

This country only works if its citizens work in tandem. This can be considered a daunting task, but we are already working together. Granted, in some of the smallest ways available to us, but working together nonetheless. This forces us to be a community in the most basic sense of the word. It's necessary to keep this country a safe place. A luxury that many other countries don't have. I'm incredibly grateful for that sense of community, no matter how small. I know there is always someone in this country who will fight for our rights, and to protect similar ideals. "We the people," is a phrase that makes me feel safe and welcomed to share my voice and opinion in this country. It helps me feel a part of a greater community, parts of which have my greatest interests at heart.