Venezuelan Reconstruction

Never, even for a second, would I have imagined it. Those who have known me throughout my life, know that Venezuela was never a country in which I was passionate to live in; on the contrary, I counted the days until I could finally emigrate. Even though I didn’t live in a bad way as the majority of the population, Venezuela’s constant decline affected everyone, especially the rise of the unstoppable insecurity. This meant seeing my friends less and less every day, because of the danger that supposed circulating outside my home at any given time, going to a party or simply meeting people outside school time.

Not only that, but the saddest thing is that parties became farewells, in which you never knew whether to celebrate, because the person (your friend) was looking for a better future; or to be sad because you would most likely never see that person again. Listening to all the parents talk about how everything is getting worst and worst everyday was exhausting. It became a daily thing for me to watch how there was no more food in the markets, and how people struggled to eat throughout the day. Not only was insecurity and food
shortages a huge problem, so was the unstable currency known as 'Bolívar Fuerte' and now renamed ‘Bolívar Soberano’ after the government took out 5 zeros (00000) due to the unprecedented inflation, that is getting up to 1.000.000% a year. Which, like the rest of the country, is constantly deteriorating. It deteriorated to such an extent that me at 9 years of age, among many children from Venezuela were one of the few children in the world who knew the meaning of inflation. Nevertheless, despite all the problems not everything was bad. All my memories, friends, home, school, and family are still there, and even though I was determined to leave them, so I could look for a better future. And yes, one day the host of those farewells was me. At last the day I had waited for so long had come, I had finally left Venezuela. It was time to start a new life, I thought I wouldn’t worry about what happens in Venezuela anymore.

After having lived and studied 2 years of high school and now one semester of college in probably one of the best countries in the world, seeing with my own eyes a society that believes in quality education, that strives to be within reach of all its individuals, that believes in justice and practices it daily, that believes in the individual and collective contribution through innovation, solidarity, taxation, etc., a civilization that values hard work and rewards adequately the merit, a society which practices patriotism because really loves its country. I started to think more in my own country and how all this great things from society could be implemented there. How could the youth of Venezuela and me, in conjunction and working together; through our effort and experience make things better, to create a new Venezuela with great values and people who really want the best for their country and their people. Where everybody has to work for the things they want and not wanting to get anything for free, and ultimately inculcating the society and the newer generations that through hard work and personal improvement is the only way to achieve the Venezuela we dream of.

Even tough Venezuela is a very rich country with a lot of natural resources and the largest oil reserves in the world (more than Saudi Arabia) the people in Venezuela are very poor, with almost 90% of the population in Venezuela living under poverty, that is why to start this process is necessary to get rid of the dictatorial government that has been running for the past 20 years. That is the main reason why my country has deteriorated so rapidly; Now Venezuela is going through a critical moment in history where I think this
corrupt government is close to the end, and for this reason I felt the necessity to write about Venezuela.

In the left appears the “current dictator of Venezuela” Nicolas Maduro, and in the right appears the “intern president of Venezuela” Juan Guaido who was proclaimed by the national assembly on January 23rd, 2019.

After realizing that I was given an incredible opportunity to study outside of my country and getting a little bit of experience. I understood that many aspects I hated about Venezuela could be improved through the effort of my generation, for that reason I began to feel a passion for the things that I could achieve for my country; since I started to focus in the good things and how the bad things could be improved. I realized that the only valuable and important things in a country is its people and I am one of them; and if I want a change I must start with myself and my habits. That's why my goals since I first stepped into the United States have changed radically, changing the focus of my future to my new goal: the reconstruction of my country Venezuela. I want to use the knowledge and experience that I acquire in my education to contribute to my country, so I can witness for the first time in my short life that Venezuela and its people are progressing and decreasing their misery, so for the first time in my life I would be able to walk in the streets of Venezuela without fear, and be a part of something much bigger than myself.
At this precise moment a lot of things are happening in my country, a lot of nations are starting to repudiate Maduro’s government (the current dictator of Venezuela) and calling for new legitimate elections. The great amount of international support and the proclamation of Juan Guaido as interim president of Venezuela followed by massive mobilizations, protests and riots against the regime, has given me a lot of hopes regarding the future of my own country. I just expect all of the things that are happening right now, make a real change so we as a country can get out of the dictatorship that has pushed our hopes down for the past 2 decades.


It is very encouraging to listen that good things are happening in Venezuela as the time passes by, mainly because my whole life I’ve just heard bad news. However, it will be very hard to find a way that the dictatorial and corrupt government of Maduro leaves the power. They would fight with all they can to keep the presidency and this is very scary; in the past four days around 50 people have been killed by the hands of Maduro and the military. The people that were killed were just protesting in a pacific way against the government and for that simple reason they were murdered by the Venezuelan authorities, that are constantly profiting at the expenses of the populations misery and unbearable corruption. That is what gets me angrier about Venezuela, how there are individuals that claim that they would do
everything for their country, but instead they just get benefited at the expense of the majority of the Venezuelan population, this type of people that are insanely rich due to doing illegal things and corruption in conjunction with the government while the majority of people are looking how to survive each day, with little food and medicines in order to have a decent life.

That is why I thank God and my family every day, because they have given me the opportunity trough effort and sacrifices to get an education outside my own country so I can grow as a person and learn from new experiences, and see everything with an outsider’s perspective. My father still lives in Venezuela because he is a business man. Nevertheless, his businesses has been closed for the past 4 years because is very hard to do business in Venezuela now a days without being involved in corruption; Every day that passes by, I am here in Bloomington and he in Venezuela, I am worried that something could happen to him because of all the robberies and murders that occurs every day. Caracas is the capital of Venezuela and it has ranked #2 in the most dangerous cities in the world with around 4,000 murders a year. This is what happens to a country where the society is so deteriorated that more important than changing the government is to re-educate the population and that is going to be the hardest task. Never before would I have imagined that after finally leaving Venezuela, I would have had the slightest intention to return, but here I am, wanting to be part of its reconstruction, wanting to be proud of the country that gave me a home. Like the famous saying states “Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory.” —Theodor Seuss Geisel.