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Even though the federal, state, and local governments all wish for the country and region to develop, the local governments have pushed for large scale record keeping and accounting because the division of labor in the United States is very fine. For each major development project, there is a person especially appointed to supervise it and push it forward. Many people participate in such projects, and after the government has decided on a plan, the details of the plan must first be discussed with the community. If conservative community members oppose the plan, then the government cannot implement the plan. Therefore it is difficult for the United States to change and develop.

If the government were to auction off some land, it would be necessary to first record it and release the information to the public. It would not be possible to quietly hand the land over to a close friend to develop. Generally speaking, American officials cannot engage in business due to possible conflicts of interest. They are also usually prohibited from receiving expensive gifts or being invited to luxurious banquets. Policemen and all levels of other officials cannot use their authority to eat free meals at any restaurants. This law-abiding mentality deserves to be praised.

The United States should be especially praised for its education system. There are many schools in the United States, and it is one of the countries with the greatest number of famous schools. If the United States did not recruit foreign students, many schools would be forced to close, but American schools manage to attract many elite students from abroad. American schools even award foreign students with many scholarships and attract students with exceptional talents. After such students graduate, some return to their home countries to become leaders. This is also beneficial to the United States because such people often maintain good relations with the country. Such people will also spread the American consciousness of freedom and democracy. Many of the residents of countries in the third world wish to immigrate to the United States. For many people it is the first choice, but it is not so easy to make a living there. After arriving, many people live a life that is no better than the one that they left behind in their home country. Even though they've come to the United States, they do not have the means to return home. Only the tough ones manage to pass through the hardships to reach success through hard work and study.

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Since the United States is a nation composed of many different immigrant groups that come from all over the world, they all have different religious beliefs and languages. Since the immigrants come from different countries, speaking different languages and having different customs, they settle in distinct areas. For example in New York, the Jewish, Russian, and Chinese communities have each established their own districts to maintain and protect their religious beliefs and customs. There is also Chinatown in Manhattan, Koreatown in Midtown, and Indiantown in Flushing. The residents near the number 7 metro line in Queens mostly come from Asia, Central America, and South America. Therefore the number 7 train has been dubbed the "immigrant train". Since most immigrants do not have their own cars when they arrive, they take the bus and train to get to work. The United States is the most powerful capitalist country. Of course this makes people from other countries revere and admire the United States. The people in the United States every day demand greater equality and human rights. Powerful groups and leaders do not have special rights.

In the past many skyscrapers and great bridges were constructed, and in this technologically advanced nation where the automobile reigns supreme, numerous multi-millionaires were made. Since immigrants have voting power, America's politicians welcome them to increase their chances of becoming officials. Most immigrants are educated. It is necessary to have a specialized skill in order to support oneself, and if not one must rely on government aid. Most such immigrants are refugees from countries that suffer disasters due to politicians, or that suffer from political corruption. These types of immigrants have increased the government's responsibilities, since helping them requires finding them work and providing economic assistance. In daily life landlords and tenants have disputes about rent, and employers and workers have disputes about wages as well. In the law courts, the United States tends to protect the rights and benefits of workers and tenants, as they possess voting power. Although the United States is a capitalist society on the surface, the interests of the common people are protected in a way that resembles a socialist society.

No matter whether they are appointed or elected, American officials are generally honest and rarely corrupt, which is worth commending. Common public servants such as policemen, firemen, and sanitation department inspectors generally do not harass people in the course of their duties.

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American police and fire departments are operated by the government, but unlike other countries, policemen and firemen are unionized, and even have the right to go on strike. In the above two professions, there are discussion with the government about salary nearly every year. If their demands for salary increases are not met, they threaten to go on strike. Although the policemen and firemen have not gone on strike in nearly four decades, if they were to do so it would lead to chaos. Imagine if the police and fire departments were to strike during an incident like "911". Such disasters would become even more unimaginable. In my opinion, government departments like the postal service should be able to go on strike, but government workers that are responsible for the lives and property of the populace, such as the police department, fire department, and military should not be able to go on strike.

In the United States, people are permitted to hold permanent ownership of land, so one can buy and sell land freely. The government will not interfere with the pricing. Of course, the federal, state, and local governments all own land as well. Land owners are free to use their land for any use such as agriculture or construction. If the land is used for agriculture however, a permit must be obtained from the government. Additionally, land owners must pay property taxes even if the land is not being used. Farm land can be used as the owner sees fit.

Twenty seven: If the president goes to inspect states or cities and is ignored by the local officials, there is nothing he can do about it.

Someone who is president today cannot simply move into an inferior position tomorrow, and similarly a governor cannot suddenly take the position of a county mayor. Even though a position like county mayor is inferior to that of governor or president, it can only be occupied by someone who is elected for the post by the people. Even if a governor breaks the law and fails to do his or her duty, only a court of law can initiate a prosecution and bring criminal charges against the governor. An elected official can only be removed in a legislative assembly of elected officials, and afterwards elections are held to replace the removed official. If the president visits a state or county to observe the local government, local officials can choose not to attend activities surrounding his arrival. Lower level officials do not necessarily need to ingratiate themselves with their superiors. Generally lower level officials will only show deference to their superiors when they need assistance with the public finances.

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The United States is a rich and powerful nation with great bearing. Not only do numerous tourists come to visit, but a great many presidents, prime ministers, and royalty from other countries come often to show their goodwill. These honorable guests come with two kinds of purposes. The first purpose is to attend international assemblies. Since it is simply for a meeting and not an official visit, it is only necessary for them to come to the United Nations' location in New York City, not the government offices in Washington D.C. The second purpose is engaging in political discussions. Such visitors are received with a higher standard of treatment. There are also important people who come just to visit, not to attend political meetings or the United Nations assembly, and they generally do not receive any special treatment from officials, but are free to travel as they please.

If a foreign official is visiting the United States for political discussions, then the standard of treatment is relatively higher, and usually a department-level official will be on the tarmac to greet him or her as the plane lands, and a state dinner will be hosted at the White House. The highest level of treatment is when the official is invited to give a speech before the Senate and House of Representatives. The only official guest from China to give a speech before a national assembly has been Chiang Kai-shek's wife Song Meiling. Although nowadays there have been many state visits from Chinese officials such as Deng Xiaoping, Jiang Zemin, Li Peng, Hu Jintao, and Wen Jiabao, none have been invited to give a speech at the National Assembly. However, even heads of state from small countries like South Korea and Japan have been invited to give speeches before the National Assembly.

Taiwan's Democratic Progressive Party does not recognize Taiwan's citizens as Chinese people, instead calling themselves Taiwanese people. The United States is indifferent to this particular matter since it is a democratic country and promotes human rights. The United States has diplomatic relations with China, but also has a close relationship with Taiwan. The United States not only wants to prevent Taiwan from declaring independence, but even more strongly wants to prevent China's military from attacking Taiwan. For this reason, the United States sells advanced weapons to Taiwan, but not to China. In the eyes of Americans, it benefits the United States to keep China and Taiwan from unifying.

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China is a nation composed of many different races. Tibet and Xinjiang are both situated in China's western plateaus where transportation is problematic, and industry and commerce have fallen behind. Historically speaking, none of China's dynasties have been able to truly control these areas. Even up through the Republican era these areas were not under central government control. After the revolution, these areas were given autonomy. Several years after the revolution, the Tibetan Dalai Lama fled to India. Although the authorities called for different races to join together and supported republicanism amongst the different ethnic groups, ethnic Han military forces were sent to Tibet and Xinjiang, which made conservative locals uneasy. Many locals fled to other countries and advocated independence for Tibet and Xinjiang. Some Tibetan refugees who ended up in New York receive protection from local freedom and human rights groups, and protest whenever Chinese officials visit. In recent years there has even been terrorist activity in Tibet and Xinjiang, endangering China's public security.

In the past two or three decades, Tai Chi has become popular amongst the people of China as a form of exercise. Afterwards, Falun Gong rapidly attracted many students in China and abroad after being established by Li Hongzhi. The United States has become a headquarters of sorts for the Falun Gong movement, and there are many people here who believe in and practice Falun Gong. Those who practice Falun Gong often carry out demonstrations and protests in front of the United Nations headquarters in New York, especially when Chinese diplomats are visiting. Such protests by Falun Gong members are often dramatic.

The United States' foreign policy towards China is generally solely focused on benefiting the United States itself. Even though the United States is the world's primary developed nation, and China is the world's primary developing nation, cooperation between the two is insufficient. The two countries ought to collaborate, but instead each seeks out profit for itself. Sometimes the relationship is amicable, but other times conflicts occur. In the United States there are several million Chinese immigrants, and numerous goods imported from China. China generally prefers to have a good relationship with the United States, but the United States has been the world's premier manufacturing economy. However, over the past two decades the United States has become a consumer economy, making China's growing power and wealth even more concerning. The United States promotes its products in the Chinese market, but costs are high, and so the prices are too expensive for the Chinese people's limited spending power.

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Twenty eight: Law school takes three years after graduating from university, and then graduates need to pass the bar exam before they can finally become lawyers.

The United States is a unified nation ruled by law; however power is distributed amongst the federal government, states, and cities. The federal government does not hold absolute power over states and cities, and similarly the state governments do not hold absolute power over city and local governments. The president cannot issue commands to the states and cities. If the central government issues a command and the local governments do not abide by it, there is nothing the president can do. If for instance the president is a Republican and the governor or mayor is a Democrat, then not only will he or she not listen to the president's command, but also criticize the president.

The states' are very powerful, and the system is very democratic. Every state must obey the nation's constitution, but rules and regulations differ in each state and city so each area's legislators create laws according to different circumstances. About seventy percent of the nation's most important leaders, such as the president, vice president, governors, vice governors, mayors, senators, house representatives, state legislators, and city council members have a background in law.

A lawyer's occupation is quite lofty. Not only is the salary high, but the position is respected by the rest of society. A lawyer needs to persuade clients to listen to his or her guidance. Moreover to be a successful leader of a city or state, a legislator must possess knowledge of the law and unfettered eloquence. If one does not possess legal knowledge, it is difficult to lead work as a legislator because it cannot be delegated to someone else. From my own experience in running in elections, I can say that in order to become a candidate one must win the votes of the people, and then defeat opponents in debate to win the position. Lawyers are required to complete three years of law school after graduating from university, and then must take the state bar exam before they can obtain their permit to practice law. If a lawyer wishes to practice law in a different state, he or she must pass the bar exam in that state as well.

Looking generally at the United States' thriving economy, developed industry and commerce, advanced technology, and robust legal system, as a lawyer one can do anything; however, most often lawyers specialize in a specific field, such as immigration, commerce, marriage, inheritance, investment, accidents and injury, medical, or criminal law.

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There are two types of judges in the United States: those that are elected by the people, and those that are appointed. Federal judges must be nominated by the president. Nominees can only be appointed after they have been approved by both the Senate and the House of Representatives. Judges in state appellate courts must be nominated by the governor, and then approved in a session of the state senate.

A federal judge holds the position for his or her entire life. The highest-level federal court is the Supreme Court, which altogether has nine members. The cases they handle are unique, and are used as precedence for making decisions in the future about similar cases.

Mid-level judges state judges in the state appellate court are nominated by the governor and then must be approved by the state senate. The period of office is four years, and in order to serve another term, the judge must first be chosen in elections. State Supreme Court justices are on the other hand elected by the people. In city councils, some members are elected by the people, and others are nominated by the mayor and then approved by the city council. Every judge was a lawyer previous to being appointed, and can return to being a lawyer afterwards.

The United States is a country ruled by law, and each state and city seeks public peace and justice. Therefore no matter whether there is a dispute between two individuals, two businesses, an individual and a business, an individual and the government, or a business and the government, it must be resolved in a court of law. Courts are situated in busy places, even if they are in the countryside, so that the common people can have access to them. Courts are constructed to be stately and majestic, making its appearance similar to that of a cathedral.

New York's courts are concentrated mostly in Manhattan, with many in lower Manhattan close to city hall, which is convenient to reach by metro. Many of the large office buildings next in the surrounding area are occupied by law firms. After the September 11 terrorist attacks, security inspections that people must submit to upon entering courts have become more thorough in order to prevent further terrorist activity.

There is a one hundred and sixty year history of Chinese people immigrating to the United States. The period with the greatest number of Chinese immigrants to the United States was the 1970s. Many applied for immigration and came legally, while many managed to come illegally by any number of methods.

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American judges are themselves very well acquainted with the law. If a defendant has been charged with a crime such as theft, robbery, kidnapping, murder, or drug trafficking, then the criminal case will first be examined by the police. After evidence has been collected, if the police think that there is sufficient evidence to prosecute, then the case will be brought before a grand jury. If the majority of the jurors decide that there is insufficient evidence, then the case will be dropped.

Twenty nine: In large cities, government departments such as the Immigration Department and Environmental Department have specific courts.

Besides federal, state, and municipal courts, there are also courts that serve special administrative agencies, such as the Immigration Department, which has its own courts and judges. Judges that work for administrative agencies do not need to go to other courts to hear cases, but can instead hear them within the agency. The immigration, housing, and environmental departments all have their own inspectors. For example, if a landlord and tenant have a dispute, the case will be heard in the Housing Department's court.

If a merchant dumps waste, if a traffic accident occurs, or if someone fraudulently claims welfare benefits, then the cases will be handled by the courts of the environmental, transportation, and public welfare departments respectively. If you park in a restricted area, exceed the speed limit, or drive through a red light, the Department of Transportation will issue a ticket. After the ticket has been issued, you must pay the fine within a certain amount of time, and your driver license will accumulate points. If your license reaches a certain number of points, then it will be revoked. Traffic tickets can also be disputed in the Department of Transportation's court. In order to dispute the fine, you must bring the ticket and any relevant evidence. A judge will listen to the appeal from the defendant and then hear a statement from the officer who wrote the ticket. If the judge believes your appeal is reasonable, then he or she has the authority to reduce the fine or annul the ticket, and the police officer who issued it cannot intervene. Businesses such as restaurants must also deal with inspections from the Department of Sanitation and the Fire Department. If inspectors find any violations, a notice of infringement will surely be written. Once such a notice has been issued, it cannot be ignored; otherwise the infraction will be dealt with even more severely. Appeals can be made in court in these situations as well, and judges generally deal with such cases fairly.

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Since the United States is a highly democratic nation, its citizens can criticize the government anytime in any place. If an official is suspected of corruption, news outlets publish the details freely. If people think the charges are warranted, they can protest to the related government department, and the official will necessarily account for the incident with the public.

In the United States if an official's methods are deemed inequitable by the people, it is not necessary to write a letter of protest as is done in China. Instead, people can protest directly and request a reasonable solution. Officials in the United States are generally considered public servants, and do not accept money or generous gifts from the people, or require special treatment. Most officials work during the day, and then go home at night to eat dinner and watch television. However, clever officials will give special treatment to businesses they have connections to so that after they leave office they can get a job in the company.

The head of the New York City Police Department is nominated by the mayor, and then approved by the city council. If the person nominated is rejected by the city council, then the mayor must nominate another person. The Police Department is divided into many precincts, the heads of which are appointed by the police chief. New York's Chinatown is located in the fifth precinct. The police's duties include dealing with crimes such as theft, robbery, and murder. Incidents involving fire or traffic accidents are shared responsibilities with the Fire Department and Department of Transportation. The police are also responsible for suppressing the sale of fake and imitation goods. However, the police in the United States are different from China's local police in that they do not interfere in the private affairs of citizens. Police carry handguns and handcuffs, but their most important piece of equipment is their book for writing tickets. Of course they also carry cell phones to communicate with their partners and the Police Department. The annual salary of a police officer is very similar to that of a general college graduate. Police work is dangerous, and after twenty years an officer is eligible for retirement. Being a police officer is quite a dangerous business. If an officer catches a robber, but there is no one to act as a witness, the officer has no way to bring the criminal to court. Chinese immigrants in particular are reluctant to act as witnesses, and so criminals are free to act as they will.

The United States' elected officials range from the president to county and city representatives. The vast majority of elected officials are lawyers, but why? This is because as an official, one must understand the Constitution and the city and state laws as well.

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The United States president is not like an emperor; he or she cannot give orders to senators or house representatives. Although elected officials such as the president are charged with bringing prosperity to the majority of the people, the president must abide by the nation's laws; otherwise, he or she will be subject to criminal penalties after leaving office. Judges make their decisions in all cases independently, and no politician has the authority to intervene. Members of the Senate and House of Representatives have the power to legislate and change laws. Representatives possess great poise, and when debating often become flushed with excitement. When a majority decision is reached and the issue is decided, the minority let the issue go and behave outstandingly rather than fighting it obstinately.

Thirty: The 1970s were the golden age of New York City's Little Italy.

Little Italy possess a long history, and many holidays and festivals are celebrated. The activities surrounding such holidays are attended not just by the local residents of Little Italy, but also by the Italian Diaspora in neighboring areas such as New Jersey. During some religious festivals, the celebrations in Little Italy will last as long as two weeks. The pedestrian roads in Little Italy become filled with all manner of drinks and foods, such as fried sausage buns, pizza, and coffee cake, as well as numerous gifts, such as toys and lottery games, and even small Ferris wheels for children. The celebrations are an excellent holiday for young and old, with many forms of entertainment and refreshment.

Little Italy went through a period of great prosperity during the beginning of the twentieth century. However, from 1970 to 1990 things began to go downhill, and Little Italy was in decline. After reforms, all of the restaurants and shops on Mulberry Street underwent renovations, and the area was cleaned up. This led to a revival in the area, and things became prosperous again. Especially important was an appeal to open up the roads on the weekends to pedestrian traffic during spring, summer, and fall months. During these times the area can be compared to Beijing's Wangfujin district, or Nanjing Road in Shanghai. Little Italy once again became one of lower Manhattan's jewels.

The local people and tourists that come to Little Italy all come to eat in the restaurants and go shopping, so the businesses in the area do very well. The rezoning of the area for pedestrian use was able to save a neighborhood in decline and bring it back to prosperity. I believe Chinatown's Mott Street should do something similar in order to prosper.