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James Baldwin begins the writing by challenging Americans to avoid the year's Christmas celebration. He doesn't understand why America, identified as a Christian society could not live up to its values. By avoiding celebration, he meant not buying any single gift to mark Christmas Eve. The argument put forward is inspired by the continued violations of rights in American society. James identifies a lot that has been hidden under the Christian umbrella. First of all, the destinies of the Americans have been hijacked by the system. Secondly, the moral perspective of society has been curtailed. He doesn't understand why society does not practice the actual teachings in the gospel. Further, he identifies the love of money to have taken over society (p. 71).

James challenges the Americans on their true identity. He takes a personal reflection on how he ended up as an American citizen. He describes the efforts of forefathers in the creation of American society. He identifies the hurdles that his descendants put towards the realization of the present achievements. He mentions the hardworking farmers who labored so hard in the cotton farms so that a society could be created. The Americans are challenged to live up to the spirit of togetherness or choose the path narrow path that leads to destruction. James clarifies that America has never been nor will it be a white nation. He identifies America as a multicultural society in which everyone is entitled to be heard and respected. James demystifies the Negro issue. He says that there has never been a Negro problem in America and that the Negro issue was created by the government. He explains that the perceived Negros don't have a problem with their skin color or body formations and that it's the whites that perceive them wrongly (p.72).

The greatest source of worry to James is the many young people that stand to be deprived of their future successes. He identifies an urgent need to relook at the economic and political formations. The children mentioned above are not limited to black households but white households as well. He points at the stratification in the American setting. For example, he highlights the Northern region having taken pride in not racially segregating its inhabitants. There are no limitations whatsoever stem from an individual’s race. The Southern region is said to be a racist society. However, James points out the common challenge that cuts across Birmingham and New York. He says that the economy is a hurdle for many Americans and that there are limited finances in people’s pockets (p. 71).

James reflects on the segregation that exists in the city of New York. He blames its existence on political orchestrations. He makes it clear that a segregated society is not God's creation and that the people are their enemies. For example, he points out the Negroes that have been kept in Harlem. The real estate boards and banks are to blame for that. However, he ponders on a situation where the Negroes decided not to pay rent. Also, He likens some state laws as demeaning and that they should be disobeyed by all means. Moreover, he challenges the existence of Democratic and Republican formations. He says that Americans should not be inclined to such parties even when they disagree on their ideals. Governments are solely responsible for protecting citizen welfare and when it drifts from the wishes of the people then its lifespan comes to an end. James challenges Americans to rise above political affiliations and condemn a government that represents the wishes of only a few people (p. 73).

Further, James Baldwin stirs a spirit of revolution (p. 74). He points out that the problem of segregation indeed existed. The call is not just aimed at the realization of civil rights but serving a notice to the leadership to protect the interest of the 20 million Negro societies. Giving examples of government mischief in the establishment of American structures, James points out the gaps in leadership. He challenges the people to rise and create a society they can run and control that is devoid of violations. He blames political machinations for the mess in the society and thus asks citizens to rally up a third option that is inspired by the people. Also, James points out the existence of powerful people who run the economy and who cannot be prosecuted because of their close ranks with those in power. He also highlights a case of unfairness in access to justice. Citing the example of General Walker and Robert Williams, the latter is white and therefore is still free despite being a human rights violator. The former is branded with all sorts of names and forced to exit the country because he is black. The point being put across is that justice should inform a free nation. Lastly, James Baldwin confirms the need to transform the American society into one that carries the aspirations of the coming generations (p. 75).

The writer's main point revolves around rising for a free and democratic American society. He narrates the challenges that come with segregation and the need to protect the interest of the future generation (p. 75). I fully support the arguments of the writer. America has a lot to do in its efforts to ensure equality between whites and blacks. Black people are more skeptical about the idea that all races in America will be treated equally someday. It's more annoying to note that in the 21st century, America and the rest of the world still battle racism-related issues. In America, people consider being white an added advantage while belonging to other races a limitation to progress. Limitation of progress, in this case, entails access to services. Moreover, two main problems directly affect the black community. They are namely unfair treatment by the justice system and the police. Most cases involving whites and blacks end up in the favor of whites. Cases of police harassment of black Americans have been on the rise (Seitles, 1998). The recent murder of George Floyd by a white police officer explains it all. It necessitated protests calling for more stringent measures that can protect the lives of the black community.

The future of a country is dependent on the leadership that is in place (Jepson, 2009). I agree with James that people should be inspired to transcend limitations. The power brokers that have characterized political machinations have reduced democratic gains. It is time people took control and challenge those in power. They should demand more accountability and economic liberations. Further, people shouldn't shy away from recalling regimes that are no longer serving the interest of the public. The constitution recognizes the power of the people and therefore should be respected (Jepson, 2009). When people rally up to challenge poor governance, government atrocities, or even force meted on civilians, their interests stand to be reflected just in the case of George Floyd. In conclusion, therefore, democratic gains are a collective responsibility and thus civilians should strive to make their societies better for the benefit of the next generation.

**References**

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