

**From:** [John Balch](#)  
**To:** [Monroe, Pamela](#)  
**Subject:** My Dear America  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 12:00:10 PM

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John Balch  
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December 15, 2017

Dear Pamela Monroe,

My Dear America,

In America, our government is no longer a body that is by, of, or for the people. In America, a group of oligarchs have assumed control and implement policies that benefit themselves and their corporate associates at the expense and well-being of the American people.

In America, agencies and their policies designed to protect our planet for future generations, our children and grandchildren, are being dismantled to make way for more corporate greed. Utilities trespass on Native lands to force more fossil fuels on us, and continue to inflict lasting damage to our environment rather than transitioning to sane, sustainable, alternatives. In America, the very national parks and monuments that once symbolized our beautiful and diverse country are being shrunk and opened to exploitation.

In America, higher education is financially out of reach of many Americans while our military is allocated a budget nearly 10 times that of all education programs combined.

In America, health care continues to be outrageously expensive. In America we pay twice as much, and sometimes more, for the same drugs sold by the same companies in other countries. In America, women's health care is defunded by a religious right, defying the separation of church and state.

In America, unarmed black men are shot dead by police while White Supremacists hold rallies. People are sent to prisons owned by corporations that profit from their incarceration. In America, states pass laws that allow people to "accidentally" run over protesters without consequence.

In America, pedophiles run for Congress. In America, a pathological liar and self-admitted sexual predator sits in the White House, occupying the office of the President of the United States.

My Dear America, I ask you, when is it enough? When do we find the courage to rise up and make a stand for all that is right, that is just, and that is moral? When do we take back our country from the few and return it to the many?

Sincerely,  
John Balch