

What do you think?

Do the words on the Statue of Liberty still ring true?



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Ask people to come up with an image that symbolizes America's immigrant heritage, and many of them will choose the Statue of Liberty. A gift from the people of France, she has watched over New York Harbor since 1886, and on her base is a tablet inscribed with words penned by Emma Lazarus in 1883:

**Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!**

To some Americans, the words of Emma Lazarus are our national credo. Others say they're our national curse. What do you think? Credo? Curse? Both? Neither?

You can learn more about the Statue of Liberty and the restored immigration entry station on Ellis Island by visiting these sites:

Statue of Liberty National Monument
<http://www.nps.gov/stli/>

The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc.
<http://www.ellisland.org>

Ellis Island National Monument
<http://www.nps.gov/elis>