

"*Vota para que te respeten*." Do you remember that slogan? You must if you were living in Miami in the early 80's. It was a public service announcement aired by a local Spanish-language television station to ensure that we hyphenated Americans embraced our American civic responsibilities. Vote, in order to be respected.

I did. As soon as I was eligible. My mother would always tell me, "*Tienes que ir a votar*." You must go vote. My parents dreaded history repeating itself for them. Voting became their way of playing a part in the preservation of democracy in their new country. Their voice silenced in Cuba would be heard here loud and clear.

Fifty years after my arrival in the U.S.A., I continue to be grateful for the privilege to have my voice heard.

What are your thankful for today?

Until next Thursday's post…si Dios quiere.

"It is easy to take liberty for granted, when you have never had it taken from you."
-M. Grundler

"Those who stay away from the election think that one vote will do no good. 'Tis but one step more to think one vote will do no harm."
-R.W. Emerson

"Elections belong to the people. It's their decision. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters."
-Abraham Lincoln



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