

I sit here with my blue eyes, fair skin, last name that ends in “son,” and pictures of my northern European ancestors in my mind and read the diatribes of old white men as they are dragged against their will, screaming and “tweeting,” into a future America where diversity will be the norm and where old white men will no longer wield power out of all proportion to their worth. And I think about those ancestors of mine who came to this country because of the poverty they endured, hoping and working for a better future.

It wasn't easy for them. They spoke no English, they didn't understand the money system, they had left friends and family behind, they were called “dumb Swedes” because they could not communicate, and when they did begin to learn English, they said “yust” instead of “just,” and “tink” instead of “think.” They had it easier than many of today's immigrants, because they looked like the average white folks who had lived here since the country was new. And, eventually, they “assimilated.”

But, in the very near future, the average citizen of the United States is more likely to be brown than either white or black. And, as time goes on, our people will be more and more diverse—racially, ethnically, and culturally. How can anyone doubt that this will be a better country than ever?

So, in spite of old white men in power, white supremacists, narrow minded people who spout “christianity” that Jesus wouldn't recognize, those who hate anyone who is “different,” and all the men and women who drag their feet at sharing economic opportunity with newcomers to the country, we will change. It is a done deal. I can't wait.