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Subject: Re: Should English be the official US language?

Posted by [Nukelt15](#) on Wed, 17 Dec 2008 01:37:04 GMT

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Agreed; there really isn't much of a motivation for people born in the US to learn any language but English. Not like there would be for, say, someone living in France or Germany with other countries in easy driving distance speaking literally dozens of different languages. Most tourist hotspots in Mexico aren't places which require fluency in Spanish, and Canada is bilingual wherever it isn't English-dominant... and that covers all of the countries a US citizen can get to without the hassle and expense of ship or airline travel.

I believe there is an intrinsic value in having at least partial fluency in another language, if only in order to be a more well-rounded and open-minded person (it aids in understanding culture; the language one speaks has a significant influence on thought patterns). However, that isn't the sort of thing that should be legislated; if people want to live in ignorance of the world around them, that's their own damn business. There should not be second language requirements in school, period.

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