

## American Way

Nas

"Recently there has been an emergence of socially conscious and political rappers. It seems to be a new trend in the Hip-Hop world."

Yeah, check it, uh  
Spot build-rocker, lil' papa killed Hoffa  
Beard lil' longer, feel strong and I'll stop ya  
Drill sergeant, still thorough, wheelbarrows of distilled vodka  
Get me real bonkers like Will Ferrell on cat tranquilizer  
Rap guys get bank and think they messiahs, but they liars  
Vote fo who now? You're red, white and blue?  
I'm American too, but I ain't with the president's crew  
What you peddlin' and who you peddlin' to?  
You ain't got the ghetto with you  
Try'na lead my sheep to the slaughterhouse  
Talkin 'bout +Rap the Vote+, you ain't thought about  
The black vote mean nathan, who you gonna elect  
Satan or Satan? In the hood nothin is changin, uh  
We ain't got no choices who to choose  
Ten-years ago they were tryin to stop our voices  
And end Hip-Hop, they some hypocrites  
Condoleeza Rice - I don't really get this chick  
Tell her if she ever really cared about poor schools  
About poor children, then she gotta prove that she  
ain't just another coon Uncle Tom fool  
Like these MC's, gotta give 'em the rules  
Lie to the youth, Uncle Tom you confused  
Might as well give the Hip-Hop community a noose  
Need a truce with the gangs and some food for the hungry  
On Kerry nuts, he look at you like a monkey  
You MC's on that old slavery path  
The Bushs'll look at yo' ass and laugh  
See, it's all about community, let's help ourselves  
Cops brutalize us get dealt with with shells  
It's our turn, it's 'bout time we win  
Need somebody as the hood as my councilman, uh

Yeah I think about this everyday, that's the American Way, shit  
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(Cause that's the American way)  
Yeah I think about this everyday, that's the American Way, shit  
Yeah I think about this everyday, that's the American Way

Up in the steam room chillin', exfoliating the skin  
It's rarely men conversatin' on ends, probably businessmen  
I sense good taste, and they watch us, the spots an expensive place  
Manhattan New York, I'm try'na keep steamin'  
It's good for the lungs, had plans for the evening  
This man leans in, his boys laughing  
Now I'm the spokesperson for Black men, this always happens  
Says, "Since all Black women care about is who got dough  
And all we do is call them either bitch or a Black hoe"  
I say first brotha you ain't gotta be that cold  
Since you ignorant, I'ma show you how the facts go  
The biggest example in scandal of history  
Were Monica Lewinsky or Donald Trump's pimping spree  
Most woman who love Jeevanji of Gucci

Are pretentious non-Black groupies or floozies  
But who are we to blame, not the dames  
It's a man-made game, in essence our woman the same  
Beautiful creatures, Black girls birthed the earth  
So they deserve to earn man's purse  
Matter fact, I'm about to go shopping with my dime  
Catch you cowards the next time, the next rhyme, uh

Yeah I think about this everyday, that's the American Way, shit  
(That's the American way)  
Yeah I think about this everyday, that's the American Way, shit  
(Cause that's the American way. What up, K?)  
Yeah I think about this everyday, that's the American Way, shit  
(That's the American way)  
Yeah I think about this everyday, that's the American Way, shit  
(Ha, yeah)

I don't care about the runaways  
I don't care about who's gay  
I don't care about dying of AIDS  
But I care if I got paid  
Who even cares about the president?  
I think they're making a mistake  
I don't care about the hurricane  
As long as my family's safe  
I don't care about the candidates  
They burnt this country to bits  
Yeah I think about this everyday, that's the American Way (Uh)

Can we make a change  
You know it's not overnight  
Let's start the fight (Nas: And ya don't stop, uh)  
Can we make a change  
You know it's not overnight  
Let's start the fight (Nas: Yeah)  
Yeah I think about this everyday, that's the American Way