

## EXILED IN PURGATORY: NATIONAL INFERIORITY COMPLEX

"American exceptionalism". Our politicians have a droning tendency to endlessly parrot to other nations about "American exceptionalism". This includes our imaginary moral and economic diversity coupled with our bottomless ability to consume anything and everything. We don't just want to keep up with our neighbors, we want to have more than them and be able to brag about it. We can never have enough, even when we have enough.

However, "having enough" in the U.S. is defined as having more than the poor S.O.B. next door, not simply just being content. Enough is never really enough. It's like French Fries, or "Patriot Fries" if you're Republican, you can never eat just one. I'm no mental health expert but, it seems to me the U.S. suffers from symptoms of a national inferiority complex. I do know it is a common psychiatric symptom of people who feel inferior to have a desire to try to cover up their own perceptions in hopes others won't see them as well.

We're the "Land of the Free!", yet, we have the highest incarceration rate in the world. Our politicians have created an atmosphere in which reason and logic are displaced for quick sound bites to make them look good in the moment and distract people from the ill effects of capitalism, fundamental right-wing religious nuts, corporate corruption and all the political trash that fills the air waves daily.

The only exceptional thing about the U.S. government is its ability to nauseate anyone within ten feet of it.....