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14-15 years old

An Outstanding Leader

If there is one thing you could change in Lebanon, what would it be? Lebanon is deteriorating with time instead of improving to suit the new generations, and that is leading to devastating repercussions that needs to be solved. Presidency isn't just a title or a position, but it comes with uncountable responsibilities and obligations.

To start with, the president should be characterized by having leadership skills, a strong personality, and the capability of taking responsibilities. Being a good leader requires standing up for what is right and what benefits the country and the citizens. Moreover, having a strong personality is necessary to prevent being easily lead instead of being the one leading others. Being brave, understanding, morally upright and influential are all factors that can help in taking responsibilities. Understanding people's requests and cooperating with them in times of need is a must to meet expectations. The president is supposed to be persistent about defending Lebanon and creating a safe environment. For instance, the Beirut explosion caused thousands of citizens to immigrate because they felt unsafe in their own homes. Similarly, the economic crisis drove myriad of people as well to leave their home country, Lebanon, because of the lack of stability and unbelievable increase in prices. However, creating a safe environment and stabilizing the situation might lead to those immigrants returning to Lebanon as well as tourists filling the streets again.

Moreover, many laws can be added, removed or changed to improve this country. In fact, no one can expect the new generations to get accustomed with old laws that were placed almost a century ago. Back then, people thought differently, the circumstances were unlike, humans were more close-minded and the government was stricter. Numerous rules must stay to keep people organized and in line because complete liberty would make everything messy and disoriented, but some rules have expired in a way or another therefore need to be changed. For example, Brevet official exams add so much stress to 14-year-

olds and 15-year-olds while no universities take them into consideration anymore. Although the experience can prepare the students for the official exams that await them in 2 to 3 years, it can also be a lot of pressure for these young teenagers. Therefore, cancelling those exams can be a relief to many and make students less afraid of that school year.

Adding to the above, women should be given more rights such as the right to give their last name to their child. In fact, many people get raped every day, especially women. These cases can lead to unwanted pregnancies when abortion and adoption aren't always a choice. Not all women have the heart to get rid of a soul that's growing inside them or abandon them in an orphanage and would rather keep the child no matter how it was conceived. In these circumstances, these women would find themselves obliged to marry anyone at all that is willing to give his last name to the child which isn't exactly reasonable. Therefore, women must have the possibility to have full custody of the child, give him/her the mother's last name, and be able to raise that child on her own without legal difficulties.

Being a president comes with great power, and with great power comes great responsibility. A good president must use that power for good at all times. In that case, the president should fire corrupted ministers and members of the parliament and instead elect others that care about what is good for the country. Having a non-corrupted government will surely benefit Lebanon in various ways. This power should also be used to support people in need and organizations that assist these people such as the Red Cross, firefighters, good orphanages and retirement homes. Similarly, safety is a huge obligation, so supporting Police, Army, and others who contribute in protecting the citizens and land can reassure locals that they are indeed safe and have a good protection system. Adding to that, every member in the government should work as a team instead of getting divided into many groups that work against each other. Therefore, forming these groups should be banned and working as a team should be mandatory.

In conclusion, people can only hope that the new president will be able to solve the obvious problems like the economic crises, but they would also hope to have solutions for less spoken problems that are equally egregious. Presidency is

a salient position to make a change, so why not use it for the best. And just like Franklin D. Roosevelt asserted, “The presidency is not merely an administrative office... It is pre-eminently a place of moral leadership.”