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You know, my life is pretty stressful. 1 bet

yours is too. But did you know that only 0.5% of the women in South Yemen are literate? It makes me thankful when I realize what a great opportunity I have here in America. Yes, we have our faults. Onion rings that pull the onion out and leave just greasy crust after the first bite, Arnold Schwarzenegger as a paid member of our government, Billy Packer doing commercials for Mr. Cash; these things are not good, I agree, but they are a heck of a lot better than having less than 10% of your people in cities, as in Bhutan.

Of course, one day the Bhutani yakstraddling armies will conquer the globe and enforce an era of disco-frenzy-rock (a form of self-endangerment popularly called MOSH and disguised as dancing in New Dorm Lobby...). But that's not important right now...

As I was saying, I occasionally look at life here and realize how blessed we are. In some countries it sounds like a Pizza Hut advertisement if you ask how much money the ruler has compared to everyone else (...Twelve Billion Dollars, Four Bucks, Four Bucks, Four Bucks, Four Bucks...)

But in America, every person has a chance, and an equal chance. There's talk in the news about discrimination, "hightech lynching", reverse prejudices, et cetera. But as long as Larry Bird can dunk a basketball (if you can call it a dunk... perhaps the volleyball phrase is a bit more apt-dink?) and the Fresh Prince can move from Philadelphia to Bel-Air and still be the only cool show left on TV, I say equality is not far away (if it isn't here already).

But I have given my little dissertation on life as I see it, and it might be easier if I weren't wearing these stupid red and blue 3-D goggles all the time, but that's OK, because I'm good enough, I'm smart enough and gosh darn-it, I'm a second semester senior, so who gives a flying fudgesicle?

- John Patty, A&E Page Editor