

## Homelessness

For our proud H-town, we have about 8,768 homeless people. 3,824 people are out in the streets without much shelter, 3,532 are sheltered in small houses, and worst of all 1,412 are in jail. Why are there so many homeless people in jail? This is due to the fact that for some counties (and cities), homelessness is a crime.

Just check the top ten anti-homelessness cities homeless people should stay out of. The list ranked Florida and California as having the most anti-homeless cities in America. America should be known as the land of opportunity, or the land of the free. This country was made by believers and the right to be free (liberty) only to be thrown down by today's official's in the cities. The laws passed upon the people to collect more money is just plain wrong because it takes away the freedom of the Americans.

Another fact with these unjust officials is that the hidden agenda is kicking out the homeless. They don't want the homeless in their cities or state. We should not look at these people as homeless. The ones who treat the homeless like dirt bags should be considered a poor person. Here in Houston, we should be even more concerned because studies show that many of the homeless are military veterans. As shameful as homelessness is, it is even more shameful that our veterans are homeless in the land of opportunity. Look at their faces, their lives, and their service for the land of the free, only to be treated as a peasant and abused in the faces of the wealthy.

This is a crime. A crime that harasses not only the homeless, but free speech and most importantly, the American Dream. We who are hard at work to resolve this matter have a goal. And that goal is to put an end to homelessness in the land of opportunity and the free.

Jovany Aguirre, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, RYSS