

EAST BAY TIMES

Letters: America's promise seen in the victories of the vulnerable

East Bay Times reader letters to the editor for July 10, 2026

PUBLISHED: July 9, 2026 at 4:30 PM PDT

Victories by the weak show America's promise

Re: "[U.S. celebrates 250th as country](#)" (Page A1, July 5).

The article inspired me. Reporter Steven Sloan wrote, "Vice President JD Vance said small but loud voices would speak on America's birthday about its imperfections instead of its greatness." Sloan quoted Vance: "They will tell you that America is just another country, where the weak struggle against the strong."

America is strong because its weak sometimes win against the strong and lessen our national imperfections. The weak sometimes restore the Declaration of Independence's "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" rights usurped by the strong. The end of slavery and the rise of workers' rights, women's rights and civil rights are examples.

The quotation from New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani is a call to action: "Those ideals upon which our nation was built — they are strong enough to endure any authoritarian regime, but only if we reach for them."

Jim Driggers*Concord*