

## Dead Kennedys "Stars & Stripes of Corruption"

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Finally got to Washington  
In the middle of the night, I couldn't wait  
I headed straight for the Capitol Mall  
My heart began to pound  
Yahoo, it really exists  
The American International Pictures logo

I looked up at that Capitol Building  
Couldn't help but wonder why  
I felt like saying, "Hello, old friend"

Walked up the hill to touch it  
Then I unzipped my pants  
And pissed on it  
When nobody was looking

Like a great eternal Klansman  
With his two flashing red eyes  
Turn around he's always watching  
The Washington Monument pricks the sky  
With flags like pubic hair  
Ringed 'round the bottom

The symbols of our heritage  
Lit up proudly in the night  
Somehow fits to see  
The homeless people  
Passed out on the lawn

So this is where it happens  
The power games and bribes  
All lobbying for a piece of ass  
Of the stars and stripes of corruption

Makes me feel so ashamed  
To be an American  
When we're too stuck up  
To learn from our mistakes

Trying to start another Vietnam  
Like fiddling while Rome burns at home  
The Boss says, "You're laid off"

Blame the Japanese"

"America's back" alright  
At the game it plays the worst  
Strip mining the world  
Like a slave plantation

No wonder others hate us  
And the Hitlers we handpick  
To bleed their people dry  
For our evil empire

The drug we're fed  
To make us like it  
Is God and country  
With a band

People we know who should know better  
Howl, "America riles, let's go to war"  
Business scams are  
What's worth dying for, fuck

Are the Soviets our worst enemy?  
We're destroying ourselves instead  
Who cares about our civil rights  
As long as I get paid?

The blind me-generation  
Doesn't care if life's a lie  
So easily used, so proud to enforce  
The stars and stripes of corruption

Let's bring it all down  
Let's bring It all down  
Let's bring it all down  
Down, down, down

Tell me who's the real patriots  
The Archie Bunker slobs waving flags  
Or the people with the guts to work  
For some real change?

Rednecks and bombs  
Don't make us strong  
We loot the world  
Yet we can't even feed ourselves  
Our real test of strength is caring  
Not the war toys we sell the world

Just carry on, thankful to be farmed like worms  
Old glory for a blanket as you suck on your thumbs

Real freedom scares you  
'Cause it means responsibility  
So you chicken out and threaten me

Saying, "Love it or leave it"  
I'll get beat up if I criticize it  
You say you'll fight to the death  
To save your useless flag  
If you want a banana republic that bad  
Then why don't you go move to one

But what can just one of us do?  
Against all that money and power  
Trying to crush us into roaches?  
We won't destroy society in a day  
Until we change ourselves first  
From the inside out

We can start by not lying so much  
And treating other people like dirt  
It's easy not to base our lives  
On how much we can scam  
And you know it feels good  
To lift that monkey off our back

I'm thankful I live in a place  
Where I can say the things I do  
Without being taken out and shot  
So I'm on guard against the goons  
Trying to take my rights away  
We've got to rise above the need for cops and laws

Let kids learn communication  
Instead of schools pushing competition  
How about more art  
And theater instead of sports?

People will always do drugs  
Let's legalize them  
Crime drops when the mob can't price them  
Budget's in the red, let's tax religion

No one will do it for us  
We'll just have to fix ourselves  
Honesty ain't all that hard  
Just put Rambo back inside your pants  
Causing trouble for the system is much more fun

Thank you for the toilet paper  
But your flag is meaningless to me  
Look around, we're all people

Who needs countries anyway?

Our land, I love it too  
I think I love it more than you  
I care enough to fight  
For the stars and stripes of corruption

Let's bring it all down  
Let's bring it all down  
Let's bring it all down

If we don't try, if we just lie  
If we can't find a way  
To do it better than this, who will?

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