

## Public servants' lives solve for ours

When Ted Cruz spent time with his daughters on a trip to Cancun, he possessed just as much responsibility for them as he does in his role as an elected official.

Yet for each public servant in America, each constituent's child must be equally important to him or her as their own children, regardless of their political party. This is both the responsibility and the challenge for those who spend a portion of their lives solving for everyone else's.

As the challenges in Texas currently demonstrate, unique opportunities exist for children of public servants to watch their parents creatively deploy the tools of their role to protect the lives of their peers, with whom they will work together tomorrow to build the future.

The ways in which we interpret another person's life experiences come through the prism of our own and being able to see firsthand, our parents and mentors unexpectedly bridging gaps for those in need, helps us learn how to see the world from another's perspective. In times of crisis, this unplanned investment in the lives of others puts us directly in their shoes and allows us to see our shared humanity.

Where and to whom we were born is always a matter of luck. The opportunities our birth conveys create the knowledge that we can use to provide someone the same opportunities. For those born into financial resources, those advantages are no more or less important in society than growing up in a multicultural setting, where each family or social event required a skill in finding common ground, just to make it through dinner.

In a society reconciled to democratic principles, a public servant's only goal is to make sure that each member of that society has the opportunities for life that others in that society also possess.

Not every person wants or needs a career path or resources that make a quick trip to Cancun an easy choice. The role of a public servant is to ensure that the lives of those in our care have a better present and future, in the same way that we strive to provide those opportunities for our own children's future.

This duty is particularly demanding when an event or circumstance that no one can solve individually occurs unexpectedly and changes the lives of everyone collectively. We each get cold without enough warmth. We get hungry without enough food, and we get scared when the future of our basic services is no longer certain. It isn't enough for one groups' views to be represented, because one groups' views aren't the whole of a public servant's constituency.

I can think of no greater privilege or responsibility than to be trusted to take care of the life of someone who disagrees with us, because in no other society than one founded on democratic principles is this opportunity afforded.

Society was formed to make solving for these challenges easier. Democracy was conceived to create the highest long-term returns to each member. Our republic imbues our elected representatives with a dual mandate - be one of us, and see our future through your eyes.

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/ted-cruz-airport-power-crisis-texas>