## Fifty-One Stars?

By Rebeca Boria

The governor of Puerto Rico thinks that becoming part of the US is a good idea. I think

that's a wrong idea.

Puerto Rico has been owned by the USA since the Spanish -American War in 1898. Puerto Ricans want to become part of the USA but want to protect their culture.

The governor and some Puerto Ricans want to be able to vote for a president in the USA They are lucky; they don't have to pay federal taxes. The island of Puerto Rico is a Commonwealth; a self

governing part of the US

There is a good and bad side to becoming a state of the US The good side to being a state is that the kids would get a better education and people that don't have jobs would get some. The island wouldn't be that poor. The bad part of becoming a state is that the Puerto Ricans are going to pay more tax than they are paying now.

I think Puerto Rico should not become a State because the people will not have freedom to govern themselves to make their own decisions with out help from the US government. They would have to

pay a lot of taxes.

The Spanish language wouldn't be the major language, instead it would be English. The island culture would not exist. People would forget their cultures, and what they were and the Puerto Ricans would think they're just Americans.

I just worry about their culture and history. They won't be able to decide what they want to do. They will have their freedom taken away from them. They won't be able to run wild like they do now. They will have to build their house with a permit, not like they do now. My opinion overall is just to stay a commonwealth.