I wish I can write “New Jersey”, “Hawaii”, “Puerto Rico” or “Turkey” which “Should Be a Cheerful Paradise” but I know the size matters. You may add CA, FL, VT, NY, and WA…

St. Thomas is a small island and less than half a day one can drive all around.

St. Thomas has a small population: All of them can fit into a baseball stadium (50K).

St. Thomas has marvelous physical structures in a tropical geography.

St. Thomas is surrounded by even smaller marvel islands such as St. Johns or BVI Virgin Gordo.

St. Thomas has more not less tropical beauties than Aruba.

So what is missing to attract more tourists to level up the wealth and living conditions in St. Thomas?

The first is to ask: How can the “normal” food be provided with the reasonable prices in the island?

Hawaii has 3 Whole Foods and 3 COSTCO stores: Time to have one of each in St. Thomas.

Marriott Vacations Worldwide (MVW) acquired ILG: Sheraton, Westin and Hyatt Vacation Ownership portfolios.

MVW and ILG will have approximately **650K** owners (verify if the multiple weeks owners are counted once) and owns St. Thomas Frenchmen’s Cove (which I own 3 weeks) and Ritz-Carlton. All of these 650K middle-class owners have a vested interest of a Cheerful Paradise in St. Thomas.

“Approximately [**1.5 million tourists**](https://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/22491.htm) per year visit Aruba, with nearly 60% of those from the United States”, while St. Thomas received [531K](http://stjohn-beachguide.com/who-visits-the-us-virgin-islands-here-are-the-numbers/) (**0.5M**) air passengers and 2 million cruise passengers with their one day (day-time) stop.

St. Thomas is closer to East Coast US than Aruba: What will attract additional 0.5 million air passengers from the United States to visit USVI? Easier access to the beach, the best possible foods and the beautiful and relaxing islands atmosphere.

***\*An Action Documentary***

I want to be part of a team whom will start making an action documentary.

This is an action but not a political one, it is a social and it is a cultural action.

While it will have some characteristics of a reality show, it is not a show.

It will be a real comprehensive social activity.

There won’t be any elevator pitch but the common understandings, the common goals and the targets.

Every action will be follow series of the community and their leaders meetings.

We all need the dignity, if one forced not to have it, we all don’t have it.

Today is Monday April 29, 2019 and unfortunately one more time I am embarrassed as a US citizen, as a human being with USVI St. Thomas. This time it is about the Elementary Schools. I checked the rating for my twins whom are the Kindergarten students.

[E. Benjamin Oliver Elementary School](https://www.publicschoolreview.com/e-benjamin-oliver-elementary-school-profile)

 E. Benjamin Oliver Elementary School serves 528 students in grades Kindergarten-5.

 The percentage of students achieving **proficiency in Math is 2%** (which is lower than the Virgin Islands state average of **7%**) for the 2015-16 school year. The percentage of students achieving proficiency in **Reading/Language Arts is 11%** (which is lower than the Virgin Islands state average of **20%**) for the 2015-16 school year.

 E. Benjamin Oliver Elementary School placed in the bottom 50% of all schools in Virgin Islands for overall test scores (math proficiency is bottom 50%, and reading proficiency is bottom 50%) for the 2015-16 school year.

 The student:teacher ratio of **18:1** is higher than the Virgin Islands state level of **13:1**.

Since the student:teacher ratio is very good, what is the reason of these very low achieving proficiency rates?