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Painful to hear our nation criticised

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I WAS shocked, to say the least, at the impertinence and crudeness of US Vice-President Al Gore. Who is he to tell us what to do? How can a person who aspires to be the next President of the "greatest country in the world" be so stupid, unfeeling and glaringly biased?

Is democracy just a jingoism in Gore's books? I would suggest he re-open his textbooks or get proper briefing before making major pronouncements in a foreign country in future.

I am not a politician; neither am I pro-Mahathir or pro-Anwar.

It pains me to see our country being riven with divisiveness at this critical juncture of our history. Let the courts decide the fate of Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and let the rest of us go on trying to improve our lives during these trying times.

To listen to our country and our system being criticised and ridiculed by outsiders who may be ignorant of the real issues at hand or who may be just biased is painful indeed.

But when the "second most powerful person in the world" who professes to champion democracy advocates mob pressure against a democratically-elected Government, enough is enough, in the words of Tan Sri Nordin Soviee.

Is Gore equating our Government with that of the late Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines, or Indonesia's Suharto? Where is his sense of justice, fair-play and decency?