

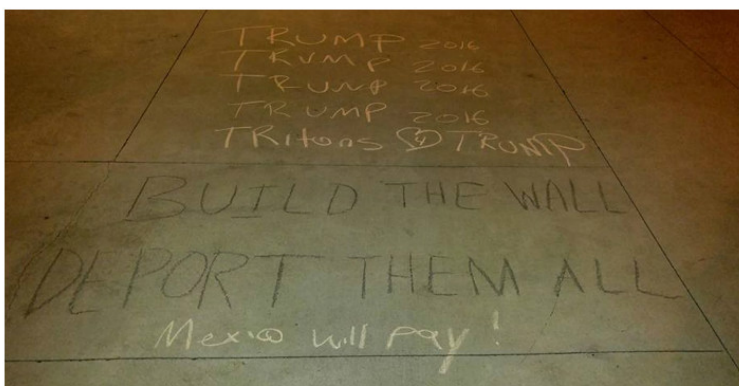
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Reading Response 5



To me, UC San Diego was a welcoming university that accommodated and fulfilled the needs of students of all races and ethnicities. The college seemed to be home to a diverse set of student bodies who, more often than not, courageously united in order to create a racism-free and tranquil environment. However, after reading Kong's fourth chapter and her analysis on the racial politics of the university, I came to an understanding that UCSD does, in reality, have disputes regarding ethnic communities. I was shocked to see that Asian Americans were not considered "an important part of a community of minority students" (Kong 91). Furthermore, the fact that Asian Americans were deliberately excluded from discussions regarding the racial climate of the university was something that I was completely oblivious to. After observing and analyzing the reading and experiencing UCSD for eight weeks, it is now more evident that the renowned institute does contain slight divisiveness in ethnic groups and communities. Nonetheless, they are attempting to eradicate this difference by constantly updating and enhancing the diversity policy.

Currently, I feel that the political climate of the campus is fluctuating. Before this year's presidential election, the environment appeared to be somewhat calm and individualistic. The students followed a daily routine of waking up, hurrying to class, keeping to themselves and thriving on the prestigious education they received. But as the election advanced, the climate progressively heated and intensified. Students separated themselves into their respective racial groups and argued for what they believed in. The night that Donald Trump successfully became president of the United States, thousands of students united and protested his presidency. But the day after, anti-Mexican, pro-Trump chalking appeared around campus which made clear of the hostile environment at UCSD. But now that that is subsiding, the campus is returning to its serene and independent climate.