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Reading Response 5

I believe that my experience of the UCSD campus climate both correlates and challenges Kong's analysis of Asian Americans and how Asian organizations chooses to focus on cultural aspects rather than on social problems. Ultimately, I think that the reading changed my views of how organizations work together, or not in UCSD to achieve their goals together and in this case, fighting for minority rights. It made me think about all the times I've been told that people need to work together to make progress and how Asian Americans treated the Compton Cookout incident very passively. As an Asian Americans myself, I was taught to stay out of other people's business when it does not involve me and I believe that many of my fellow Asian Americans were also told the same things. It needs to be pointed out to the Asian Americans that the incident does involve them as we are a minority group ourselves and we need to fight for our rights along with other minority groups. However, some of my experiences at UCSD contradicts with Kong's analysis and that is when I witnessed Asian-Americans participating in social issues.

Without doubt, I believe that there are positives and negatives to the UCSD climate. For instance, there was a protest on campus right after Donald Trump's victory on election night. Many of my friends and dorm mates, Asian Americans included, joined the protest and I think it is significant that people voice their opinions. However, people began to say things like "F*ck Trump" and continued the protest on the freeway until one girl was hit by a car. In my opinion, the derogatory terms and people getting hurt can contribute to a negative climate for UCSD. I've never witnessed in real life so many people being passionate about one thing, and I think that is what makes UCSD and other universities powerful. After attending UCSD for a quarter, I truly believe that college is a place where students learn to speak up about what they want and are willing to protest and fight for their rights.

Works Cited

Kong, Angela. "Chapter 4: Voices of Asian American Students and the Politics of Diversity Policy." Re-Examining Diversity Policy at UCSD. N.p.: UCSD, n.d. 82-109. Web. 25 Nov. 2016.