

Not Quite Same

The society is always struggling with the issue of basic human right, especially rights for minorities, so is university campus. Climate of university is specific important because it predicts how is social climate like. Kong's fourth chapter reflects a part of this issue, about how Asian Americans react and what difficulties they face after the Compton Cookout incident. However, what this text asserts is not quite like what I experience here.

As the paper discusses, after the Compton Cookout incident happened in UCSD, various minority groups joined together immediately to protest and demand basic right assurance from school administration. But after black student union got what they needed, and many other groups that contributed in the protest got improvement of the environment they had in the campus, the Asian American students were left out. This chapter analyzed in detail about how Compton Cookout incident happened and what all the minority group dealt with it, in this specific case, how Asian students dealt with it.

To be honest, I was firstly very surprised when I read about this incident. As a freshman, before I arrived at this school, all the school policy I read, the community environment I feel and students I contact made me feel very comfortable, thinking that this is a school that values diversity very much and has a great climate that is good for every group of people's well-being. When I actually start my campus life here, my experience confirmed my expectations. As an Asian gender-neutral student, when I was back in my country, I always faced with peculiar eyesight, but here in UCSD, I have not. I am perceived as normal as anyone else in the campus. The only attention I receive from others is because my action and words but never because of my identity. My speaking was poor at first, which revealed to others that I was only an

international student who came to America for the first time, but I never got indifferent or rude response because of the identity revealed by my speaking. Once I fell down from my bike due to my own carelessness, couple of students immediately surrounded me and asked me whether I was all right. I was grateful and surprised to deserve such warm and friendly response.

Maybe it's because my experience of this campus is only less than three months and I haven't face some negative side of real life, or it's because the Compton Cookout incident happened in 2010 and there are lots of improvement of minority's rights and change how campus value diversity during these years, I haven't experienced any unfriendly treatment to minority, or model minority, yellow peril such as me, an Asian international student. I haven't realized how urgent and necessary for minority organizations to always be alerted in demanding rights or what malice hidden in some people's heart towards minority. I am grateful and surprised about what I have been given, and willing to give all I received to others. I think maybe this shall be the basic philosophy for the social equality.



I choose a part of the library as the reflection of my experience in UCSD for several reasons. It was the place where the Compton Cookout incident was happened. However, in the very short time I have been here, what I have perceived the climate of the campus is so much different from what I read. It's full of respect of diversity and friendship. As I said before, maybe it's only because the time I have been here is still short and I still haven't got to the core of the environment. But who knows. I also spent a lot of time here during this first quarter for studying and academic discussion with my friends. It's the best place that represents this school, for me. It always reminds me what the true meaning of university, to study and to create proper relationship with others. It's the preparation for the social life and it gives me a positive feeling.