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Reading Response #5

I see a sea of people, a sea of faces at UCSD
Yet with such a crowd there is very little diversity
It is a reality hidden behind hypocritical words
That is overused, false, and absurd
I see a sea of people, a sea of faces at UCSD
Mainly Caucasian and Asians roam this university
The Chicanos, Latinos, and African Americans are here
Yet their numbers are so few, I imagine this draws upon their fear
Fear of not belonging, along with the culture shock they experience
This internal discord draws upon only more dissonance
I see a sea of people, a sea of faces at UCSD
Despite being students who struggle every day to get their degree
They are ignored, pushed aside, and forsaken
Now I realized that these students had their support taken
I see a sea of people, a sea of faces at UCSD
This is the reality that I see

Angela Kong gives us all a glimpse into what UCSD does not include in its brochure. The campus climate is one that seemingly lacks diversity. After reading her text my mind wasn't really changed because I already knew what the campus climate at UCSD was like thanks to Summer Bridge. I knew about the racist events that happened as well as how UCSD itself dealt with the situation and how they seemingly dealt with their students of color. UCSD doesn't give out as much support to the students of color and goes as far to ignore the student's pleas and cries for change in academic policies. So the actual campus climate that I have experienced at UCSD fits with what I have learned in Summer Bridge and from Angela Kong's text. Students of color are not given enough support and the whole idea of diversity is seemingly falsify.

What this all means to me is that being here I thought I would experience a place where diversity was the norm and such things like racism was close to being nonexistent. Turns out I was wrong. Learning about how UCSD and its campus climate is opened my eyes yet at the same time made me view UCSD in a more pessimistic light. Despite UCSD announcing it self to be number one in terms of diversity I know in my heart and mind that is false. All in all, the UCSD campus climate is not what I expected but it is something I have to get used to. So many Asians and whites and very few African Americans and Chicanos gave me and possibly others a culture shock. At the same time it reveals how scarce minorities are in college campuses. If UCSD wants to be diverse split up the Asian population into their actual groups and try to get more students of colors into the school, not because of some marketing campaign but rather to open up the opportunity for more people.