

## Campus Climate

How would I describe my experience here in UCSD?

Well, I wouldn't say that it is the worst.

People here express themselves, their mouths are free.

But wouldn't it still mean that people would think about what they said first?

The markings on the floor,

The tainting of our minds,

Can they not make it as obvious as leaving us an open door?

It's as if they're shutting the blinds.

It'll be the duty for the rest to keep them open.

After all, if we don't unite as one, wouldn't that mean we're no better?

We'll all work together as if we were all chosen,

Chosen to write our own letters.

Why don't we put aside our differences towards the world?

Make our campus one again.

It may be that our thoughts will become swirled,

But what is a strong family without any pain?

## Expected the Unexpected at UCSD

Like every campus in the world, there will always be a tough beginning or a tough time in general for a group of students, or students as a whole. However, I did not expect what was discussed in this chapter to have actually occurred in the UC San Diego campus. When I first arrived on campus, I was culturally shocked, yes, but everyone seemed friendly enough. I did not feel like people were treating me different because of my race, in fact they were more curious as to where I went to school, and how different it was from La Jolla. In the reading, it stated that there was an event called the Compton Cookout, which was hosted off campus, this event aroused racial slurs because it was targeting the small African American community who attended UCSD. I would not say that my view of UCSD completely changed, however. Mostly because during week 6, I believe it was, there were words and phrases on the concrete floor all around campus discriminating people of color, the minority group. At first, I had thought it to be a joke, but the more I saw, the more I realized that those words were serious and there was no joke about it. I do understand that there is freedom of speech, but I do not believe that it should be taken to such extreme measures. Where politics gets involved in student's everyday lives.

Before that day, UCSD's campus climate seemed to be more in the mellow side, where everyone got along and people didn't judge one another, but now I feel like even though UCSD continues to be a great campus with great students, faculty and staff, there will always be that bit of tension on campus. Of course, it won't be big enough to start a riot, but it would be there. Like I stated before, there will always be situations like these on campuses, it just so happened to be that UCSD is one with a couple. To me, this campus is home, with all its flaws and all; I continue to view UCSD as a safe place for people's thoughts and opinions to roam without being criticized.