## Reading Response 5

In chapter 4 of *Re-Examining Diversity Policy at UCSD*, Angela Kong discusses several racist incidents, including the student-organized "Compton Cookout", the placement of a KKK hood on the Dr. Seuss statue outside of Geisel Library, and others. Kong examines how Asian American students on campus responded to the events and why there seemed to be a struggle between Asian Americans and other people of color when fighting for a more substantial diversity policy.

As an incoming freshman, UCSD appeared to be all that I wanted in a college: most importantly, academically rigorous but not cutthroat. In truth, I saw very little wrong with the university. However, during my brief time at UCSD, I have seen acts of hatred, particularly in relation to the 2016 election. In the dissertation, Kong describes how Asian Americans reacted to the Compton Cookout, which was fueled by black "ghetto" stereotypes. The chalking that occurred on UCSD's campus, specifically around the Raza Resource Centro, promoting Donald Trump, the deportation of Mexicans, and the building of a wall is in some ways similar to the Compton Cookout because it seemed to attack a specific minority group. But along with those acts of hatred was also a sense of unity among the students and staff. After the results of the 2016 presidential election were revealed, I witnessed people of a wide variety of backgrounds coming together to cope. It is untrue that all UCSD students were disappointed by the results, but those who were supported one another. The chalking incident and other events leading up to and following the election have extended my view of UCSD's campus climate. I now view the campus from a more realistic yet not necessarily pessimistic perspective as a place where not everybody has the same thoughts or values and where some are not afraid to freely express themselves.

## **UCSD**

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