

TREE OF TRITONS



The drawing I created represents the Tritons' tree who has been progressively growing against the racism that is prevalent in UCSD campus. The family tree holds certain characteristics including values, compassion, love, etc. that will help UCSD students overcome the struggles we are encountering.

Let's Say No to Racism

While scientists have clinched that humans comprise of one race, several people believe and act as if we were made up of distinctive and irreconcilable races. This problem is visible in today's society, racism sadly still existent in the many universities where minorities are constantly fighting to feel safe and secure in their respective schools. Part of this imperative problem is reflected in Kong's fourth chapter "Voices of Asian American Students and the Politics of Diversity Policy," where she reflects on the struggles Asian American students confronted after the Compton Cookout (2010) at UCSD. Within my own experiences at UCSD I can only add to Kong's allegations offering my own experiences at UCSD.

After reading Kong's fourth chapter, my perception of UCSD institution did change a little. I was unaware Asian American students were compounded by the burden of racism. I feel distressed towards the administration at UCSD who is evident in Kong's chapter coercing many students to protest demanding the appropriate response from the university. Furthermore, I was more startled as Kong's paper by no means reflected by experience at UCSD's climate when the first days I arrive everyone made me feel comfortable and welcome where every race and ethnicity has a vital contribution to make to this campus. Nevertheless, I am perplexed when the chronicle of racism uncovers to be very much part of our present. My experience at UCSD has not been all amiable. The actions of those nameless individuals who decided to write racist comments of UCSD's sidewalks exclusively targeting Mexican minorities did astonish and anger me. As a Mexican and Latina experiencing racist comments such as "*Deport them all, Mexico will pay, build a WALL*" and more I fathom there is still more to do.



Photographs Courtesy of UCSD students

This act of hatred designed to hurt, intimidate and harm the entire Chicano/Latino/ Mexican community is reminiscent of the overt racism that it is still prevalent at UCSD. I don't want to remember UCSD by its racism, but rather an intuition where I was able to accomplish my dreams. The Compton Cookout incident made me realize of the tremendous progress we have made over the past years; however, it also discloses the improvements still need to make.