

Alayna Gocke

TA: Dorman

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Reading Response 5



This photo is a representation of the stress and judgement that I have seen my Asian-American friends experience. Asian-American students deal with a certain judgement and expectation in school. The stereotype that they all get As and are perfect students is constantly brought up. There are always jokes about it. People will say “You’re asian, you must be good at math.” Jokes like these place a great amount of stress on these students, as it creates an expectation for them, even if that is not the intention of the jokes.

This reading changed my view of UCSD in a multitude of ways, mostly negative. I did not realize that racism was so prevalent on our campus. I have seen it in a few instances since I

arrived here in San Diego in August, but I did not know that there were incidents on such large scales like the ones discussed in this paper.

For example, I did not know about the Compton Cookout and the events that occurred shortly after, like the Ku Klux Klan hood being placed on the Cat in the Hat statue. The fact that there was hardly any action regarding this event until almost a month after it occurred was one of the things that affected me the most. There should not have been so many incidents in order to capture the attention of the UCSD administration. Also, it is good that so many resource centers stem from this event, however, it is not fair that the Asian-American students do not have a resource center. I have witnessed discrimination against Asian-American people just as much as I have seen other races discriminated against and it is not fair that their needs have been cast aside because people do not see that they experience racism just like other races.

I have had a positive experience on campus for the most part. I have not seen a lot of discrimination or racism against other students, but I have definitely experienced it. As I represented in my photo, I have seen my Asian-American friends stereotyped and judged because of their race. Most of this judgement stems in jokes, but I can see how it really affects them. Because they are Asian-American, they feel that they need to live up to the expectations of everyone by achieving high grades, often “nothing less than an A” because that is what they have always been told that they need to achieve. UCSD’s campus is accepting to a lot of cultures and racial groups, but still experiences problems, as most campuses do. The response rate to these problems needs to be faster and we need to create an environment that invites all cultures to talk about their struggles.

Works Cited

Kong, Angela. "Re-Examining Diversity Policy at UCSD." (2014): n. pag. Web. 27 Nov. 2016.