

We've Got To Free Innocent Souls
By CHANDARY HY
Aurora, Colo.

This is what human diversity means to me: It means that we are very much different from each other, and we learn differences from each other every single day. To live is to dream, to dream is to live.

The joys that I have experienced in diversity are very overwhelming. I met many new people while I started the seventh grade. Some were shy, some were easy-going, some were outspoken, and some were even independent, like myself. When I started the seventh grade, I was shy, and I didn't want to talk to anybody except my best friend, because my other friends were in another classroom. Then, later in the year, I met new people and made new friends. I felt more open to talk to people, and I started to be very talkative.

The prejudice that I have faced involved name-calling. Americans have called me "chink" and "rice grainer." They say that to me because they don't know who I am, and they don't know that if it wasn't for us Asians, they wouldn't have fireworks, paper, and they wouldn't have strong companies like Sony to manufacture electronics. They can call me names, but it doesn't bother me. They don't know how many Asian traditions include politeness and loyalty.

Just the day before school was over for the summer, black, white and Mexican kids were up against each other. It was black and white vs. Mexicans. I thought everything was very pathetic. The Mexican boys didn't like my friend Alma because she has black, white, and Asian friends. They said that she "isn't a true Mexican." Those hateful words really hurt her because she is very fond of her heritage, and she is very dedicated to Mexico.

That's what's wrong with this country. There is too much discrimination, and there are too many harsh words said to innocent people. From my point of view, and from what I've seen in the world today, it seems that everyone needs a helping hand, and everyone needs love. We can't turn our backs and carry on and not care about other people who are in need and desperate to lead a normal life.

If all those things changed, I would be blissfully happy that there is no more discrimination but a lot of getting along.

So in the future, I hope that we can find changes in our lives, and that there is more happiness in the new generation. It would be nice to see people conversing and agreeing to reason with each other.

So in addition to the subject of human diversity, there is much more to life than popularity, purposed rivalry and hatred through the heart. There has got to be something better in the world for people to focus on than discrimination. We've got to free innocent souls.

WT