

# Wake Up! We Are The Future!

A ZINE BY YOUTH FOR YOUTH



 **Human Relations Ambassadors Program**  
A project of OC Human Relations

Wake Up! We Are The Future!  
A Zine By Youth For Youth

Zine Project by Orange County Human Relations Ambassadors

ZINE PROJECT BY ORANGE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS AMBASSADORS PROGRAM (H.R.A.P.)

# EDITORS' NOTE

OC Human Relations Ambassadors Program (HRAP) created this zine to explore social issues that matter to us. We researched our issue, discovered what organizations and youth are doing to address it, and creatively shared our thoughts, feelings, and understandings with you through the pages of this zine. We hope to spread awareness of these issues to other young people in Orange County so that you can join us in telling Orange County, and the world at large, to "Wake Up! We Are the Future!"

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## Zine Created by Human Relations Ambassadors Program (HRAP)

### ABOUT HUMAN RELATIONS AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

Human Relations Ambassadors Program (HRAP) seeks to create a safe environment for students to attain the skills and knowledge in order to become leaders that can reach out to the diverse communities of OC as part of a larger human relations and social justice movement.


### ABOUT OC HUMAN RELATIONS

OC Human Relations fosters mutual understanding among residents and eliminates prejudice, intolerance and discrimination to make Orange County a better place for ALL people who live, work, and do business.

### CONNECT WITH US

Join our e-list by texting: HATEFREEOC to 22828 | [www.ochumanrelations.org](http://www.ochumanrelations.org)



ISSUES  ORANGE COUNTY  
YOUTH CARE ABOUT!

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**WAKE UP!**

**WE ARE THE FUTURE!**

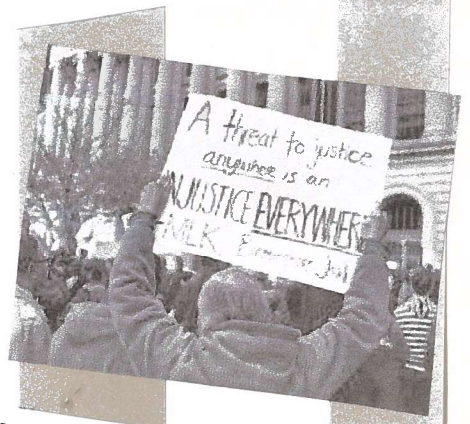
A Broken immigration system means broken families and broken lives - Jose Antonio Vargas



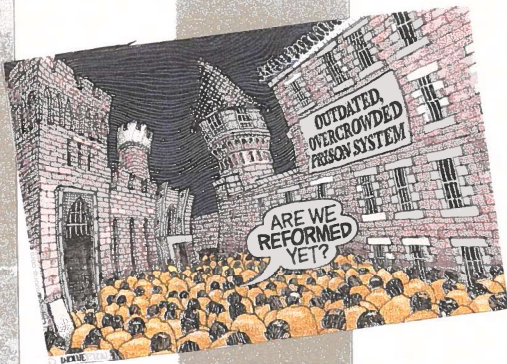
United We Dream • California Immigrant Youth Justice Alliance • Resilience OC • Viet Rise • Brown Issues

# PRISON REFORM

From a lack of mental health support to gender and racial biases, there are a plethora of problems facing the United States Prison systems. Modern prisons exhibit poor living conditions and result in high rates of reincarceration. Overcrowding caused by racially biased incarcerations have resulted in poor conditions, that are exasperated by funding gaps.



While, there are growing issues within the prison system, many organizations have taken action to address these problems, and you can become involved in many of these. For example, the Future Justice Fund has been working to provide alternatives to jailing, working to end poverty jailing, and aiming to hold prosecutors accountable. Youth can have a large impact on this issue. It is up to us to share information regarding these current conditions, and aim to find possible solutions. Some possible organizations are joining the Power to the People movement in Orange County.



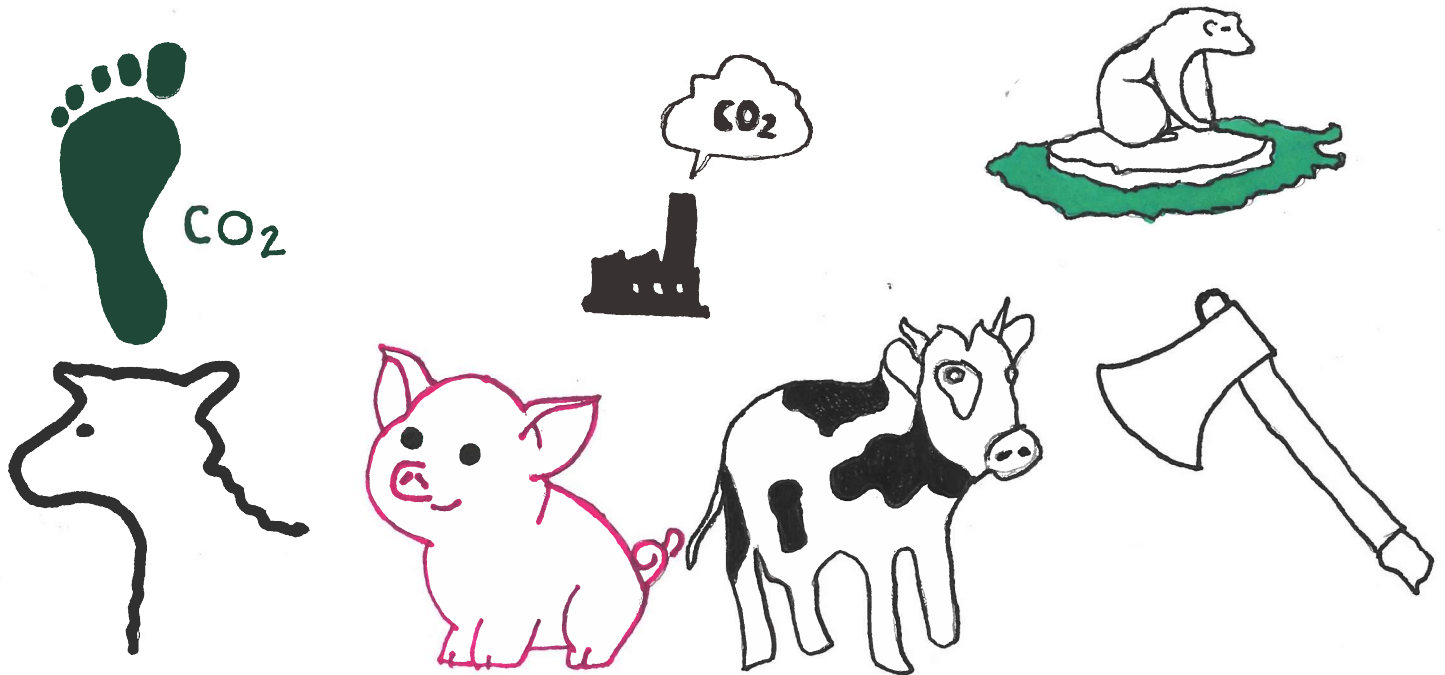
# Animal cruelty

S.A.F.E. Club at San Juan Hills High School is raising awareness about animal cruelty.

Orange County SPCA embraces the humane treatment of animals by educating the public, preventing pet overpopulation, and providing community resources and guidance.



# Slaughterhouses



# Climate change



### Increasing Access to a Global Education

In current times, citizen diplomacy is as necessary as ever. Tensions in the Middle East and on the Korean peninsula, in addition to fears of future conflict, have plagued the world. New technology has made it possible to interact with others from around the globe. I truly believe that to work towards a more peaceful and accepting world we must take it upon ourselves to learn about other cultures. This view is shared by Ashley Lin, the founder and Executive Director of Project Exchange, a youth-led nonprofit that aims to increase access to global education through the use of technology. Project Exchange's signature program, the Digital Exchange Program (DEP) has engaged almost 200 middle and high school-aged youth from around the world and even in Orange County. It provides them with the opportunity to discuss culture and learn about their peers, shaping them into the next generation of global citizens.

The need for a global education can be seen elsewhere - Even within Orange County. While the Digital Exchange Program is unique to Project Exchange, youth throughout Orange County have advocated for the inclusion of multicultural education in school. A request that shares many commonalities with Project Exchange's mission. Just last year students from the Korean American Young Leaders Program (KAYL) launched a petition calling for the addition of an Asian studies course in the Irvine Unified School District (IUSD). Additionally, School clubs have been formed throughout Orange County to promote current affairs and various cultures. This progress in Orange County alone shows how youth have made a lasting difference in their communities. A difference that transcends nationality and ethnic background and will eventually make us more informed Global Citizens.

#### RETURNED

Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaidó, to Venezuela on March 4, after he defied a court-imposed travel ban in order to canvass support in nearby countries. President Nicolás Maduro had implied that Guaidó could be arrested if he returned.



sacrifice  
uro or  
t for him.

leader



# HOUSING SEGREGATION



**BROKEN**

HOUSING SEGREGATION IS A PROBLEM ALMOST EVERYWHERE AS IT HAS STARTED DECADES AGO WHERE PEOPLE WERE NOT ALLOWED TO LIVE IN CERTAIN AREAS DUE TO THEIR RACE, AND OTHER IDENTITY FACTORS. THE IMAGE IS OF A CRACKED MIRROR WITH RED ALONG THE CRACKS TO SYMBOLIZE REDLINING AROUND WHICH WAS A WAY PEOPLE MARKED ON MAPS OF WHERE PEOPLE OF MINORITIES WERE SEGREGATED TOWARDS LIVING AT. AS VIOLENCE ARE MOSTLY IN AREAS THAT WERE IN THE REDLINING ZONE THE MIRROR IS BROKEN JUST LIKE THE SYSTEM IS, WITH CRACKS RUNNING DOWN IT THERE IS A PERSON IN THE BACKGROUND NOT IN A CERTAIN COLOR BECAUSE ALL DIFFERENT RACES OF MINORITIES EXPERIENCE REDLINING AND IT'S A VERY GRAY AREA IN HISTORY AS NOBODY EVER MENTIONS IT. ONE ONE SIDE THERE IS A NICE WEALTHY HOUSE AND ON THE OTHER SIDE THERE IS A OLD HOUSE WITH DELINQUENCY AROUND IT.



you believe in. Help those in need. Your voice matters. Be who you needed when you were young. If not now, when? Become involved. Spread the word. Talk about it. Don't ignore it. Be apart of the change. Don't accept it. Correct them. Stand up for what



The youth  
is aware  
are you

Learning

to fly

With

"They're bringing drugs"

"...and we  
same  
are  
GOOD  
people"



"They're bringing crime"

"Immigrant parents,  
with their wings cut, still teach  
their children to fly..."

GHIRLA-DACA-CAREEN-IMMIGRANTS RIGHTS PROJECT

Broken Wings

# SCHOOL BULLYING

STOP  
STOP

*We Dine Together, strong, a student-led movement sweeping across school around the world. Their family aims to provide a proactive & comprehensive solution + communities. The believe lasting relationship and impact happen over the table.*

*Bullying is a repeated aggressive behavior characterized by a power imbalance and the intent to cause harm. Student who are bullied often feel threatened and powerless. While bully can be destructive and persistent it can also be subtle.*

*The Orange County Sheriff's Department is committed to working with the community to stop bullying in its track. All children deserve and the right to attend school in a safe environment free from bullying. To work toward and achieve this endeavor, the orange county is partnering with the 28 school districts of the County of Orange to provide information, resources and trainings for parents, children, teacher.*

*Bully Free Starts with ME ♥*

*Orange County Sheriff's Department  
OCSD Anti-Bullying Program*

*OC*

*BULLYING*

*SHERIFF*

# FACING ASIAN AMERICAN MICROAGGRESIONS

By: Francine Tran

Hi! My name is Francine Tran. Growing up in prosperous California I have faced several issues regarding Asian American microaggressions. With many sly comments that were disguised to be "compliments" created this social construct of viewing Asian Americans in a negative standpoint. One of the most recent issues that have arose was the Coronavirus, although it originated in December from China, it has expanded to California. With an uproar from the Asian American community, they have seen the comments and actions beyond the boundaries of privacy that are being made towards them.



## Ways to Combat These Issues

### JOIN A BRIDGES PROGRAM

Does your school have Bridges program? The Bridges program is a way to fight these challenges that your campus may face. Members of the Bridges program educate others in the community by addressing the needs of the campus in training and dialogues. These members want to improve the school's climate and bring light to students who are at an disadvantage. This is a way where you can give back to the community and also help yourself grow as an individual!

### COSTS OF A HUMAN

Love

Respect

Unity

### PRICE

\$0.00

\$0.00

\$0.00

# dOMES Abus

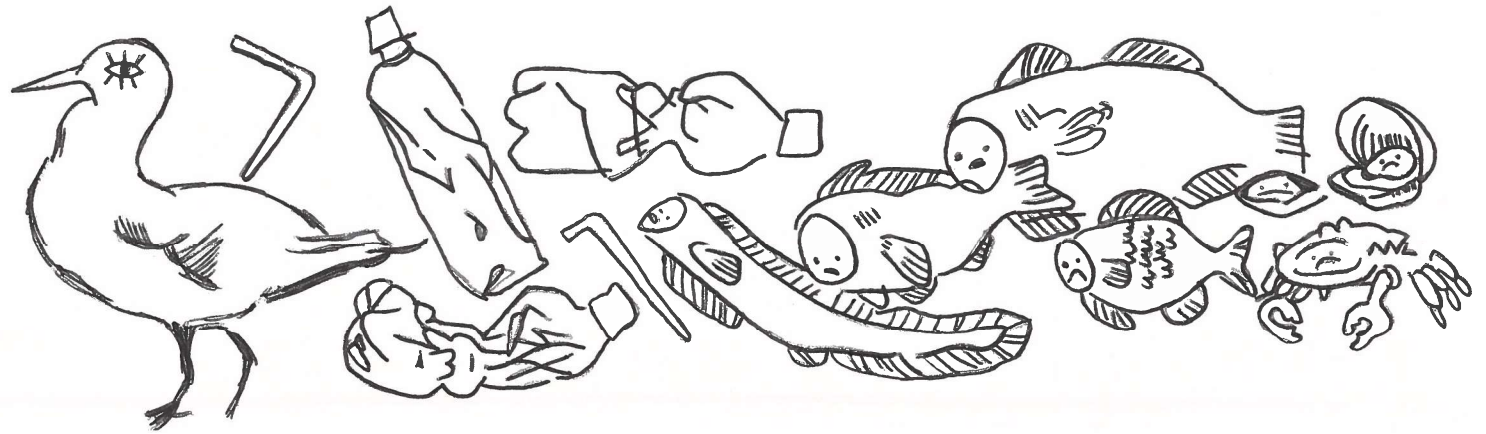
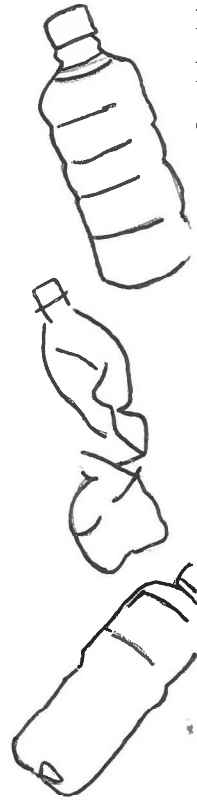
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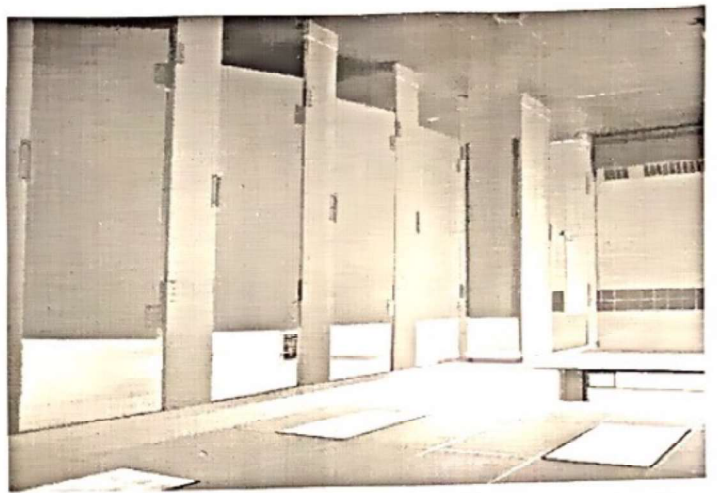
We know it exists, and it is under wraps. You  
awareness to your com





As I walk along the shoreline, I notice that the coarse sand beneath my feet is filled with litter. The jellyfish that I once feared have now turned into plastic bags. And the natural marine life has all but disappeared. From a young age, I was taught the importance of having respect for the ocean and its inhabitants. Whether it be rehabilitation of marine systems or simply avoiding taking shells from beaches, I had a great reverence for nature. Today, the same upsurge of environmentalist ideology has become a major topic among teenagers. Youth advocates for environmental change have not only revolutionized policy making internationally, but domestically as well. But how so? Leaders like Greta Thunberg, a catalyst for change, have called upon youth to volunteer in protest against such detriments. All over the country, mass protests were held in an effort to insight change among the American populus. Even cities like Orange Country participated in the event (primarily in coastal regions like Huntington Beach and Newport). Teens have created organizations and clubs at various high schools to continue teaching and educating students about the repercussions of climate change. However, standing by and protesting isn't enough to jump start a movement and further action must be taken. Coastal cities have endorsed the Surfrider Foundation, which aims to clean beaches and help restore ocean biodiversity. Such foundations have created chapters in high schools, where students can have hands on experiences with leaders in creating a healthy environment. Furthermore, this program also allows students to volunteer every Saturday, reinforcing the habit of making our beaches cleaner. Moreover, Orange County has attempted to alleviate these issues through the development and creation of the Orange County Coast Keeper, the Orange County Marine Protected Area Council, and the development of many State Parks near our coastline. But we cannot assume that all our issues will be remedied by the will of adults. Thus, we must collectively work together to help relieve the stresses of environmental change- especially since we live in Southern California. In order to do so, I suggest that youth from high schools organize clubs on campus that advocate for environmental protection and invest volunteer work at local beaches or wetland centers. The best way we can share our passion for environmental change is through the internet. Social media plays a key role in the dissemination of information and could help connect others to a larger cause within Orange County.





*keep*

YOUR

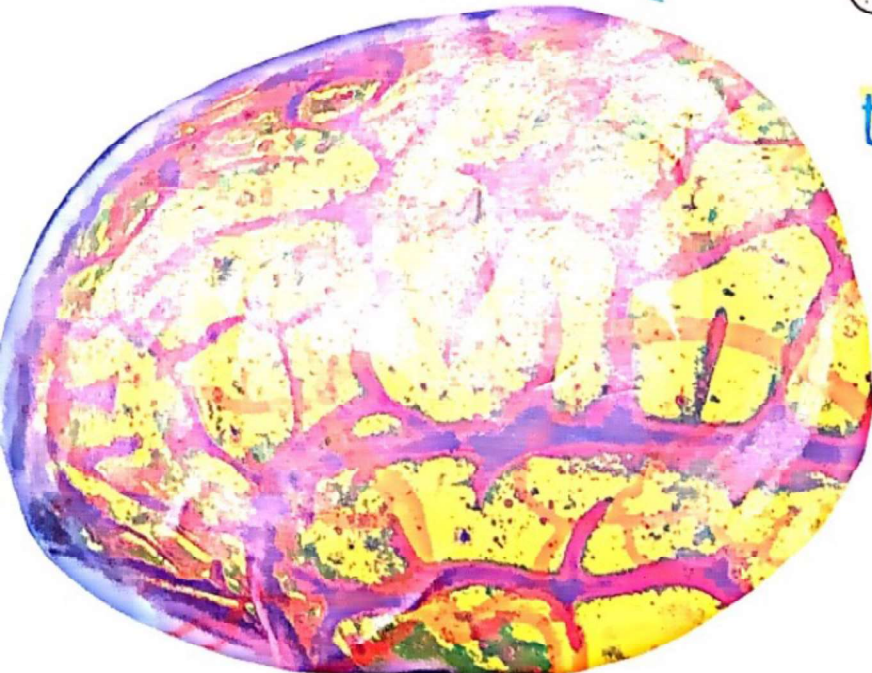
HEAD

OUT

OF

the

CLOUDS



# Microaggression

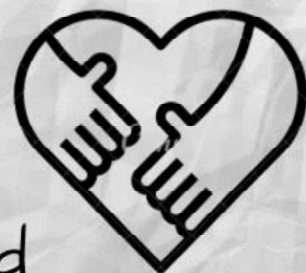
**Definition:** Unintentional remarks could be perceived as debasing and culturally insensitive. Behaviors or statements that do not necessarily reflect malicious intent but which nevertheless can inflict insult or injury.

..... ●  
● **People who commit**  
● **microaggressions might**  
● **deny or not realize their**  
● **somewhat biased**  
● **viewpoints and the**  
● **offensiveness of their**  
● **statement.**  
●

● **Microaggressive acts may**  
● **be fleeting, ambiguous and**  
● **easily overlooked, but**  
● **they have detrimental**  
● **effects on their targets.**  
●

● "When I was studying at Oberlin College, a  
● fellow student once compared me to her  
● dog. Because my name is Simba, a name  
● Americans associate with animals, she  
● unhelpfully shared that her dog's name  
● was also Simba."  
●

---- SIMBA RUNYOWA



## I, Too, Am Harvard

is a photo campaign that was initiated by a few black students at Harvard College whose voices often go unheard on campus, whose experiences are devalued, whose presence is questioned. This campaign gave voices to those black students who are resisting against microaggression and other forms of discriminatory acts committed by other students on campus.

#itooamharvard



#itooam  
harvard



#itoo





EVEN IF WE DISAGREE  
ABOUT EVERYTHING WE  
CAN STILL BE KIND TO  
EACH OTHER



People are often lonely  
because they build walls  
instead of bridges.

—Anonymous

END  
HATE

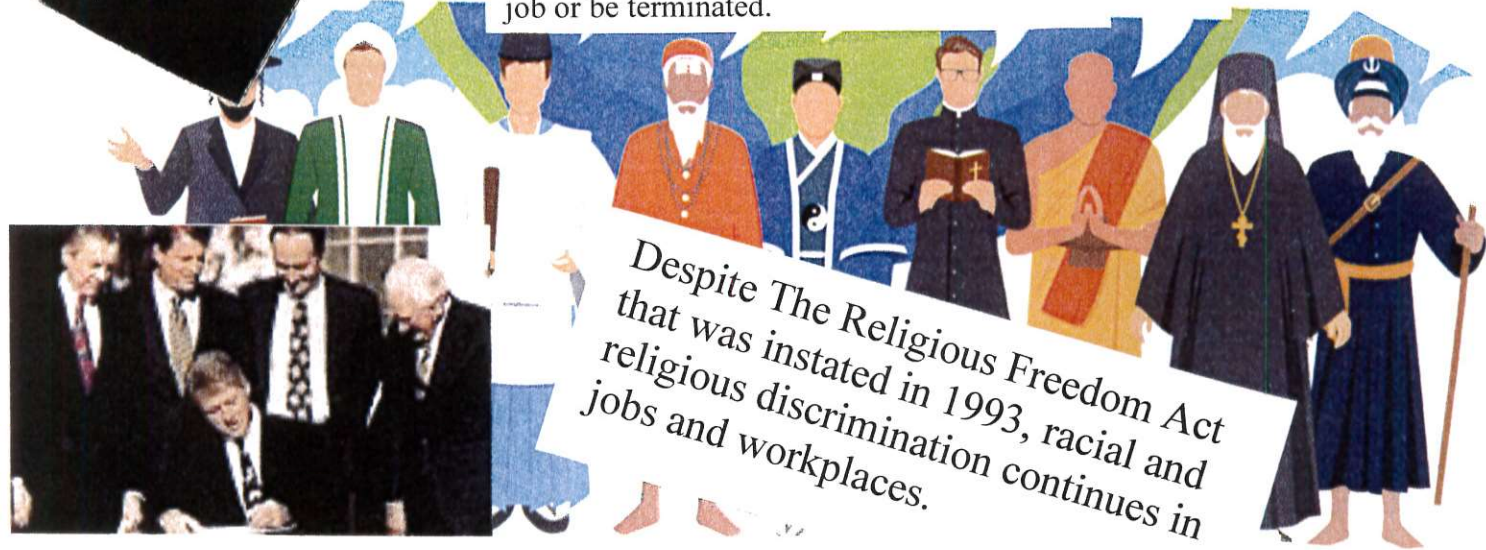
"The more you learn, the less you hate."



The *Interfaith Youth Council of Orange County* (IYCOC) was established with the mission to "come together to promote respect, understanding and appreciation for the integrity of each other's beliefs, cultures, and traditions, through interfaith dialogue, education, and activities."

Unfortunately, religious discrimination does occur in the workplace in many ways, making it difficult for certain individuals to complete their job duties, or leading them to quit their job or be terminated.

Injustice anywhere  
is a threat to justice everywhere.  
—Martin Luther King, Jr.



Despite The Religious Freedom Act that was instated in 1993, racial and religious discrimination continues in jobs and workplaces.

# RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ACT





# Priceless

What is human trafficking?

It is an illegal action of transporting people from a country or area. These people are mostly likely forced to do labor or for sexual exploitation.

Many people may think human trafficking is a global problem, but it can be closer than you think. No human should have a price tag.

Youth Organizations working against human trafficking

Orange County:

- Live 2 free

Out of state:

- United against human trafficking-Texas
- YSS - Iowa



# CULTURAL COMPETENCE

The United States is probably one of the most culturally diverse countries in the world, and every day students all over the country wake up to see a more ethnically and culturally diverse classroom. The fact that there is increasing diversity in our schools is absolutely wonderful, but to those who are not receiving the necessary guidance, increasing diversity and multiculturalism can be something daunting and unerving. The unity and learning environment of the classroom is oftentimes negatively affected by the lack of culture sensitivity, and the tendency of some teachers to simply ignore the cultural differences between students can create an uncomfortable atmosphere in which feelings of hate can spawn from the ignorance.

The Freedom Writers Foundation works against intolerance by training teachers in cultural sensitivity and developing more inclusive curriculums.



Teachers with cultural competence can inflict positive change in the social dynamics of students.

I want to feel included in my classroom. Culture sensitivity is key.

Schools that are not culturally aware run the risk of producing students that actively hate other groups.

\* Teachers must be trained as the teaching force remains stubbornly white!

By year 2025 children of color will make up 57% of all students.



# PPOSBC PEERS



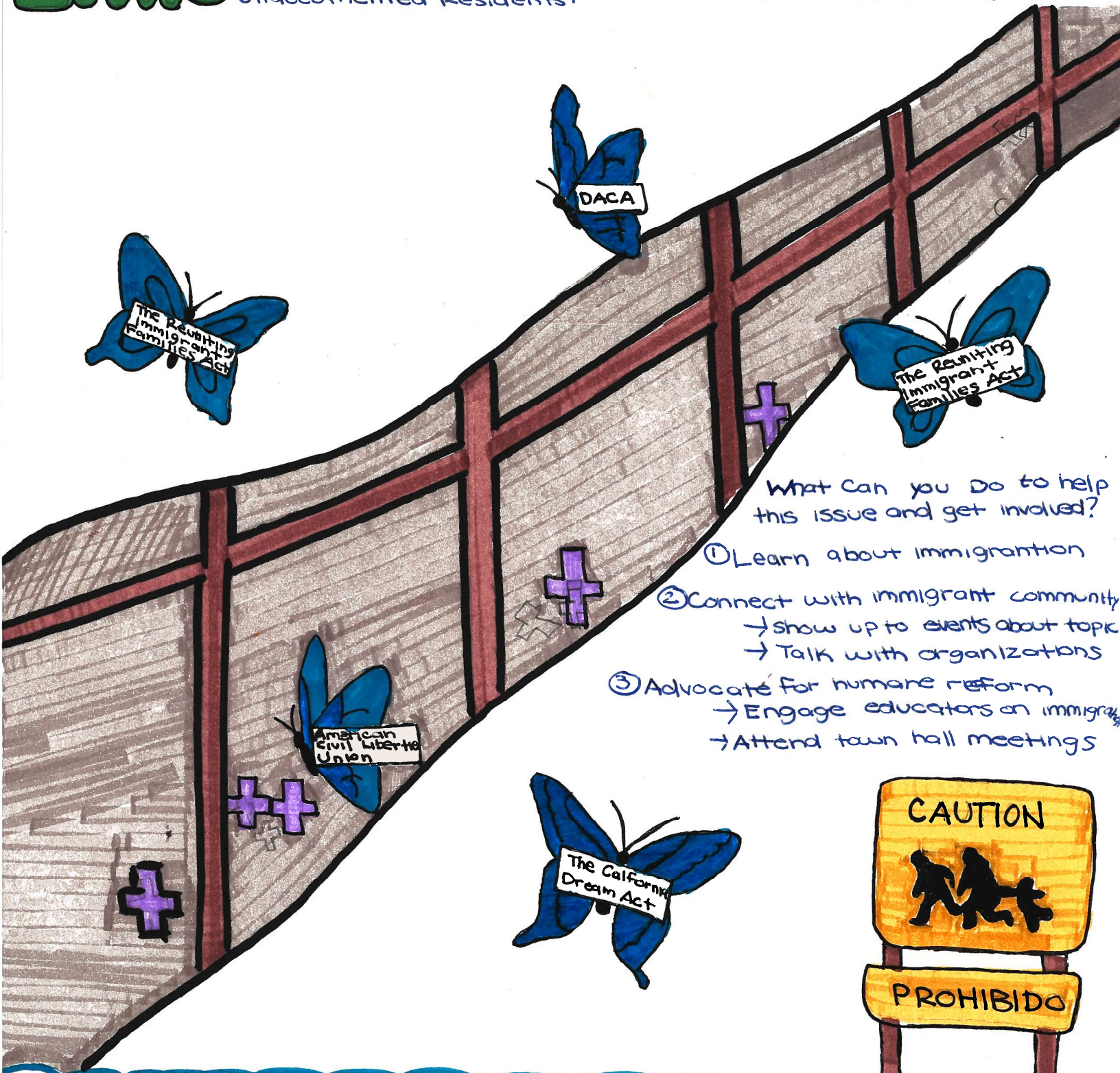
PPOSBC stands for Planned Parenthood of Orange and San Bernardino Counties! PPOSBC Peers is a teen based peer program supported by Planned Parenthood. The program encourages teens to become leaders and peer health educators by learning and having open discussion on a variety of topics such as maintaining a healthy relationship, having a positive body image, staying healthy mentally and physically. The peer program also helps with breaking down stigmas by raising awareness and having open discussions about preventing STIs (sexually transmitted infections), sexual health, and sexual expression/identity/orientation. In order to become a peer educator and part of the program, teens must attend a 2-day training (which are held on weekends) and receive a certificate of training completion. After completing training, peers are encouraged to attend monthly meetings that will involve different activities based on the month's theme. Peers also have the chance to receive community service hours for every meeting they attend and have outside volunteer opportunities within the program. If you are interested in becoming a leader in your community and a peer educator join the PPOSBC Peers Program!



Community Discussion  
Inclusion Fun!!!  
Awareness Leadership

# REFORMING IMMIGRATION LAWS

What's being done to address this issue?  
People are working hard to promote legislation & support effort that provide a pathway to citizenship for our nation's Undocumented Residents.



What can you do to help this issue and get involved?

- ① Learn about immigration
- ② Connect with immigrant community
  - Show up to events about topic
  - Talk with organizations
- ③ Advocate for humane reform
  - Engage educators on immigration
  - Attend town hall meetings

Everyone Deserves the opportunity for a better LIFE

# ARTISTS' STATEMENTS

## Saine Carrasco, Garden Grove High School

ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 4

Growing up, knowing you're the child of immigrant parents is kind of frightening. Especially knowing that there may be a chance that they won't be home waiting for you one day. The broken immigration system has always kept my parents on their feet. I finally realized how broken the system is when my mom told me not to cry if ICE agents do come and take her away from my brother and I. This moment in time has forever changed my life. Many others have experienced this as well, families are being torn apart and they live in fear of knowing the unpredictable. The monarch butterfly is a prominent symbol in the immigration rights movement and as the many butterflies fly over the southern border, it symbolizes the search for a better life, for more opportunities that couldn't have been possible without migration towards the United States.

## Tina Soroudi, Huntington Beach High School

ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 5

I decided to represent prison reform in my Zine. I chose to talk about poor conditions within the prison system because I have been looking into the many social justice issues that occur within prisons. Some of these include a lack of mental health accommodations, certain discriminations against women, and biased incarcerations. Youth in OC have taken many actions to help conditions within prisons and biased incarcerations. Some organizations youth are involved in are Resilience Orange County and the California Alliance.

## Brenda Galván, San Juan Hills High School

ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 6

I represented the social issue of animal cruelty, specifically in slaughterhouses and tied it into climate change. I specifically chose this issue because I am an animal rights activist who has witnessed animal abuse in various forms. This issue impacts me personally since I believe more should be done to slow down or prevent climate change, and the end towards the abuse of animals could be a start. The imagery shown in my zine page represents different forms of animal cruelty, different animals who endure animal cruelty, and how climate change is being affected by all of this. Safe Animals From Exploitation is a school club in San Juan Capistrano raising awareness about animal cruelty and it is one of the many examples of what youth are doing to address this issue.

## Kristie Moore, Irvine High School

ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 7

My Zine relates to the lack of access to meaningful cross cultural experiences and a global education. I had the opportunity to study abroad in Russia for 6 weeks last summer which completely revolutionized how I view the world and other cultures. Unfortunately many people don't have access to the same experience as I did. Project Exchange is an organization that I have been involved with since my return, and that is very meaningful to me. Through my involvement, I hope to bring cross cultural educational opportunities to my community and give youth the same wonderful experience I had! On my zine I incorporated various images of current events and conflicts worldwide including tensions on the Korean peninsula and the political crisis in Venezuela. I hope that these images will help convey the importance of developing a greater global awareness and learning about other cultures to establish stronger relations.

## Anne Marie Tran, Westminster High School

ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 8

I chose to do housing segregation, because I felt that that this was one of the most unexpected social injustices that nobody ever mentions, but you see it everywhere. Follow me on Instagram: tran\_amarie

## Emily Carrillo, San Juan Hills High School

ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 9

The ugly history we have in our society today. An immigrant child having the disadvantages because of their status, hence them being in a cave. The wings are broken, yet they will still be able to thrive despite the negative stereotypes that surround them. Immigrants make America stronger. Don't shield them away. You've seen the news.

## Xinyi (Cindy) Wang, Northwood High School

ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 10

The social issue I am representing is school bullying, and this issue does not affect me personally but my friends. My images and words choice shows how frustrated those children are under bullying. Youth in the United States has created different organizations and programs to help children to act friendly to others.

## Francine H. Tran, Fountain Valley High School

ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 11

I want others to be informed about the underlying issues of Microaggressions. With the media being heavily focused on the Coronavirus (CO-VID19), I took into account the comments that were made at college campuses that are filled with Asian-Americans and how the campus is combating these issues. This is the first step in addressing this issue, and take the time to think about what you are saying and how it can affect someone!

## Luisaelena Manriquez, Newport Harbor High School

ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 12

I have experienced the results of domestic violence, it could happen to anyone and affects everyone, and now I want others to be aware of the signs and the dangers.

# ARTISTS' STATEMENTS

## **Gabby George, Huntington Beach High School**

**ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 13**

I chose environmental awareness because it has vastly impacted my life. Ever since I was a little girl, I was taught to have love and reverence towards nature. Even as a teenager on the cusp of adulthood, I have integrated environmental consciousness into my daily life. Everyday I strive to improve the environment by actively cleaning my community. I hope this inspires all of you to do the same and promote environmental protection of Orange County and the many beautiful sights that we are so lucky to have.

## **Leo Baek, Beckman High School**

**ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 14**

*Head in the Clouds...* | I wanted to create a piece that encapsulated the dangers of vaping at schools. It can be a huge distraction and a detriment to everyday life. While I have not been impacted by this issue personally, it is still prominent at many schools and unaddressed. I put together a collage of words forming "keep your head out of the clouds". The clouds represent a vaping addiction, and the head is represented by a brain. Many youth are currently vouching for vape detectors in restrooms, which I feel is a good answer.

## **Amrit Singh Chawla, Santiago Canyon College**

**ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 16**

With my zine, my goal was to convey the message that all individuals should be provided with equal opportunities despite religion and race. I chose this social justice issue because I have seen many individuals around me suffer from discrimination and I also have been faced with it in the past. This issue is very crucial. There are a couple of youth groups in our society that are working towards fixing this social justice issue and some of them are mentioned in the zine.

## **Karla Diaz, Newport Harbor High School**

**ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 17**

I choose Human Trafficking as my social issue. The reason why was because it's a worldwide issue and I feel like everyone should be educated on this, so you can be aware and alert. There is more to human Trafficking than just people being sold to work free labor. What happens often in teens is they are asked to share pictures with little to no clothes and that is considered because those people can do what ever they want with those pictures. Again, this is really important to be educated on because many people don't know that there is a lot more then they think.

## **Leslie Alcalá, Newport Harbor High School**

**ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 18**

The intention of this artistic statement was to spread awareness on the blatant lack of cultural competence in the schools of Orange County. As a student who is a part of the Latinx community, the teacher's inability to properly address cultural differences in the classroom always made me feel uncomfortable and excluded. If teachers were to have more cultural sensitivity training social dynamics between people of different cultures would improve. The Freedom Writers Foundation is an organization run by both students and teachers which focuses on addressing these issues.

## **Cassidy Bayron, Samueli Academy**

**ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 19**

The social issue that I felt passionate about was raising awareness for mental and sexual health. In my community, I've seen the positive effects that raising awareness and becoming more open discussion can bring to families! However, I believe there is still more work to be done. The PPOSBC Peer group encourages more youth to be involved and have a voice!

## **Keana Boessler, San Juan Hills High School**

**ARTIST STATEMENT | Zine Page 20**

For my zine I made the decision to touch on the topic of the social justice issue I am most passionate about which is re-forming immigration laws because I believe everyone deserves the opportunity for a better life. My mom and grandparents are examples of this, they had the opportunity to become American Citizens and start their immigration journey in the eighties when the laws were being reformed. Coming from a low-income Mexican family, I am proud that I always see the value in hard work knowing that it will be effective. I live in a household of eight other people which includes my mother, brother, aunt, baby cousin, two uncles, grandma, and grandpa. My family is the main reason I have always worked hard. I also work hard because I am the child of an immigrant who has done the impossible to do the very best for me and the rest of my family. To me, being a child of an immigrant shows true strength and power. My mom is from San Luis Potosí México and migrated to a new country when she was four years old not knowing the native language, not only to better her life but also for the lives of the rest of her family. My mom has told me the story of her journey to California countless times and the struggles she had growing up. Against all odds my mom persevered and is now holding a career in molding young minds in early childhood education. My mom's story pushes me to work harder through the struggles and difficulties that I have faced and will face. Reforming immigration laws is something that is important to me because everyone deserves the opportunity for a better life.

**To bring about change,  
you must not be afraid to  
take the first step.**

**We will fail  
when we fail to try.**

**- Rosa Parks**





# Human Relations Ambassadors Program

*A project of OC Human Relations*