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10A English
9/22/17
Period 1

Charlottesville

In recent events there have been protest by white supremacists and neo-nazis in the town of Charlottesville. These events not only demonstrate the bigotry and ignorance within people but also the underlying amount of people who have racist beliefs in a so called "free land"

America has the famous term of it being the "free land" however how many of us are free? Who is free from racism? Who is free from homophobia? Who is free from religious intolerance? Who is free from sexism? No one except one majority group: white men in America. White men are the people who founded the country and are the same ones who continue their traditional beliefs. Although those racist, homophobic and sexist beliefs were normalized years ago, society has changed and gotten educated. Despite this knowledge people in America hide behind the first amendment and try to justify their discriminatory beliefs. In 2017, people should recognize that discrimination is not a part of the first amendment and rather a part of an uneducated society.

Racism can be traced to as far back as the Romans persecuting Jews for their monotheistic religion however it somehow managed to be intertwined with American history. As a society we have evolved and know that race is not a thing that should separate people. In a community such as school there still tends to be an underlying segregation. Although schools are integrated, the U.S laws can't integrate minds and beliefs. In the school education system there is still some schools with a majority of people of color who are said to be "less successful" or "unintelligent" compared to schools with a majority of white people. As a community people have to learn that people of color are just as intelligent if not more than white people and that they shouldn't have a different level of standard. The education system should set up the same level of expectations for all groups and encourage an education of all cultural backgrounds. In this type of society and equal community would be pictured by support for everyone and equal opportunities.

The events of Charlottesville show people that letting things resolve themselves isn't a plan that's gonna work anymore. As a society, as a global community, we have to speak out against bigotry and racism and not just wait for it to pass. That same mindset is what allowed racism to still exist in 2017. Now is finally the time where we, the new generation, can end it and redefine America as a whole. If as a society we all speak out, the concept of being stronger in numbers applies. The sooner we realize that our words and actions can create change the sooner change will happen.

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