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Yorba Times: Standing Up, Speaking Out

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Dear Yorba and Chapman scholars, family members, neighbors, and colleagues,

Welcome to our journalism publishing party, the third culminating event of the ongoing Yorba-Chapman Writing Partnership! It is an honor to be here with you to celebrate our ideas, research, writing process, and this anthology of journalistic writing that we have created together these past three months. This special edition of the Yorba Times represents our learning together this spring.

This evening, you will hear from Yorba journalists and Chapman future teachers. The Yorba journalists have worked hard to brainstorm, research, and write about issues that concern them. The Chapman mentors have shared that they have enjoyed watching Yorba writers move from the seeds of an original idea to brainstorms, outlines, multiple drafts, and the final articles you will hear and read today.

In our teaching of writing course, the Chapman future teachers not only studied methodologies about the teaching and learning of writing, but also read case studies that exemplify authentic and responsive pedagogy at the elementary and secondary levels. As we worked with the adolescent journalists at Yorba, we wrote our own articles so that we could experience and discuss what it is like to engage the writing process that we were supporting through our fieldwork. These articles have been included in our anthology.

In both the work at Yorba and Chapman, it has been clear that reading and writing are about making meaning and participating in the world around us. It has been an honor to help foster adolescent scholars’ and future educators’ emerging participation in powerful literacies and pedagogies. Moments like a student’s first time deciding to read a draft aloud for constructively critical feedback, a future elementary school teacher’s epiphany about the best way to teach transitions, or writing partners deciding on the best way to begin the next paragraph demonstrate the value of collaboration and a deep process, and are reflected in the work you will hear tonight.

This year, we also added critical media production activities as a supplement to our journalistic articles. These multimodal projects have allowed both Yorba journalists and Chapman future teachers to think about the ways that information-sharing and meaning-making increasingly go beyond the written
word to include visual media and a wide range of digital production tools. We hope that you will enjoy these this evening.

We would be remiss if we did not thank those who have made this collaboration possible. This partnership would not be possible without the support of the Lloyd E. and Elisabeth H. Klein Legacy Foundation. Your support of this and other important community projects and partnerships are deeply appreciated. Thank you to Principal Tracy Knib, Mrs. Andrea Lopez, Mrs. Kori Shelton, and Mr. Nick Sepulveda for their dedication to their students, and to this university-school collaboration. Thank you to my amazing colleagues in the Attallah College of Educational Studies for the support and planning that are making this publishing party event a success. We are especially grateful to Kelly McCuen. Thanks to the dedication of all of these people, we are embarking upon a truly reciprocal partnership, one that supports young writers and future teachers alike.

Finally, thank you for coming to celebrate our collaboration with us this evening! We appreciate your being here to engage our writing.

Dr. Noah Asher Golden
Assistant professor of Integrated Educational Studies

April 26th, 2018
Queridos académicos de Yorba y Chapman, miembros de la familia, vecinos y colegas,

¡Bienvenidos a nuestra fiesta de publicación de periodismo, el tercer evento culminante de la colaboración de escritura de Yorba-Chapman! Es un honor estar aquí para celebrar nuestras ideas, investigación, proceso de escritura y esta antología de escritos periodísticos, que hemos creado juntos en los últimos tres meses. Esta edición especial del Yorba Times representa nuestro aprendizaje conjunto de esta primavera.

Esta noche, escucharán a los periodistas de Yorba y a futuros maestros de Chapman. Los periodistas de Yorba han trabajado arduamente para intercambiar ideas, investigar y escribir sobre temas que les preocupan. Los mentores de Chapman han compartido que han disfrutado ver a los escritores de Yorba experimentar las varias etapas de escritura, la creación de ideas originales, los esquemas, los borradores múltiples, y los artículos finales que escucharán y leerán hoy.

En nuestra enseñanza del curso de escritura, los futuros maestros de Chapman no solo estudian metodologías sobre la enseñanza y el aprendizaje de la escritura, sino que también leyeron estudios de casos que ejemplifican una pedagogía auténtica y receptiva en los niveles primarios y secundarios. Mientras trabajábamos con los periodistas de Yorba, escribíamos nuestros propios artículos para que pudiéramos experimentar y discutir sobre cómo es involucrar el proceso de escritura que estábamos implementando en nuestro trabajo de campo. Los artículos de los periodistas de Chapman también han sido incluidos en nuestra antología.

Tanto en el trabajo de Yorba como en el de Chapman, ha quedado claro que la lectura y la escritura tienen que ver con formar sentido y participar en el mundo que nos rodea. Ha sido un honor ayudar a fomentar la participación emergente de los estudiantes adolescentes y futuros educadores en poderosas alfabetizaciones y pedagogías. Momentos como la primera vez que un alumno decide leer un borrador en voz alta para una crítica constructiva, una epifanía de un maestro de escuela primaria sobre la mejor manera de enseñar transiciones o compañeros de escritura que deciden la mejor manera de comenzar el siguiente párrafo, demuestran el valor de la colaboración y un proceso profundo, y se reflejan en el trabajo que escucharán esta noche.
Este año, también agregamos actividades críticas de producción de medios, como complemento de nuestros artículos periodísticos. Estos proyectos multimodales han permitido a los periodistas de Yorba y a los futuros profesores de Chapman a pensar en las formas en que el intercambio de información y el significado van más allá de la palabra escrita para incluir medios visuales y una amplia gama de herramientas de producción digital. Esperamos que disfruten de estos esta noche. Seríamos negligentes si no agradecemos a aquellos que han hecho todo lo posible por el éxito de la colaboración. Esta colaboración no sería posible sin el apoyo de Lloyd E. y Elisabeth H. Klein Family Foundation. Su apoyo en este y otros proyectos y colaboraciones de la comunidad son muy apreciados. Gracias a la directora Tracy Knibb, a la Sra. Andrea Lopez, a la Sra. Kori Shelton, y al Sr. Nick Sepulveda por su dedicación a sus estudiantes, y a esta colaboración entre la universidad y Yorba. Gracias a mis increíbles colegas en el Colegio de Estudios Educativos de Attallah por el apoyo y la planificación que hicieron que este evento editorial sea un éxito. Estamos especialmente agradecidos con Kelly McCuen. Gracias a la dedicación de todas estas personas, nos estamos embarcando en una colaboración verdaderamente recíproca, una que apoya tanto a los escritores jóvenes como a los futuros maestros.

Finalmente, ¡gracias por venir a celebrar nuestra colaboración con nosotros esta noche! Apreciamos que esté aquí para involucrar nuestra escritura.

Dr. Noah Asher Golden  
Assistant professor of Integrated Educational Studies  
April 26th, 2018
# Yorba Times: Special Edition

**Standing Up, Speaking Out**

## Table of Contents

### NEWS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Yearly Flu Plague</td>
<td>Caroline Jenner</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuyvesant Students Protest the Dress Code</td>
<td>Lisbet Wences</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Melting Point of ChocoLATE</td>
<td>Leslie Tehuastle-Zamora</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Full Story on why people believe the Florida School shooting was preventable and how students took action</td>
<td>Cameron Brooks</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyberbullying</td>
<td>Veronica Aguilar</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender Wage Gap</td>
<td>Layla Fulton</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FEATURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When Cyberbullies Attack</td>
<td>Ryan Guzman and Aida Calderon</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Should Vaccinations be an Option?</td>
<td>Cassandra Gomez</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s March: Women Strike Back</td>
<td>Nancy Gavilances and Jose Lopez</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“I Will Not Be Silent”</td>
<td>Aileen Arriaga</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spend More Cash or Waste More Gas</td>
<td>Toni Guesnon</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cookie Lady Hands Over 1000 Jackets to Homeless Community</td>
<td>Dana Canning</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How Does the Flu Affect our Daily Lives?</td>
<td>Kimberly Vargas</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EDITORIAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marching Forward</td>
<td>Zoe Bonfield</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Homework Gap Must End</td>
<td>Emmery Llewellyn</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts in Education</td>
<td>Sylva Tavetian</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyberbullying</td>
<td>Emily Hernandez &amp; Areli Vazquez</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“We are all Equal”</td>
<td>Leslie Arriaga</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Me Too”</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Zeigler</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Groups on College Campuses Must Stay</td>
<td>Karly Bokosky</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Time is Now for Student Activism</td>
<td>Talia Cain</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are Cochlear Implants the Right Answer?</td>
<td>Abby Galletti</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Problem with Dress Code</td>
<td>Arianna Gama &amp; Ashley Diaz</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Parking Plight</td>
<td>Alyssa Kaplan</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Warming and Climate Change: Impacts and Solutions</td>
<td>Esmeralda Sanchez</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“Times Up” Could Be “Times Up” on #MeToo By Jodi Payne p. 57
Is Social Media Creating Social Issues? By Sammy Hurst p. 59
It don’t make much cents By Montana McIntyre p. 61
What is math literacy? By Ansley Wong p. 63
The Wage Gap Between Genders is Unacceptable By Kiaya Estes & Jaime Gutierrez p. 64
Body Image By Sharon Pinomi p. 66
Is Houselessness Being Ignored? By Yuliana Lazaro p. 68
Dear Sisters By Chloe Kardasopoulos p. 71
NEWS
The Yearly Flu Plague
By Caroline Jenner

Somehow each year after the holidays, as students are getting back to school, there is a flu outbreak. This year, the epidemic was much more sizable and affected much of Chapman's campus. The illness, either as the stomach flu or the respiratory flu, is spread easily through normal avenues of contact. It manifests itself as a severe cold complete with sneezing, dizziness, body aches, congestion, chills, and stomach pain and cramps. Throughout the first few days of school, students, many with travel-worn bodies, greet their friends they’ve missed and prepare to get back into the swing of the semester. A large contributing factor to the flu outbreak on Chapman’s campus is sorority recruitment. During the weekend leading up to the first day of Spring Semester, an active sorority member could shake hands with or hug as many as seventyfive new girls, never knowing the chances of each girl spreading the flu. Last year, the sickness dominated the first week of spring semester for the majority of girls in Greek-affiliated chapters on Chapman's campus.

The influenza virus causes such widespread damage because there are several strains that can be caught and spread. According to the Los Angeles Daily News, there have been over 160 deaths from the flu or flu-related complications in Los Angeles alone. These complications can include pneumonia, seizures, and a prolonged illness. The numbers all over California rose throughout February and March. The director of the Acute Communicable Disease Control stated that “it is too early to say that we have ‘peaked,’ as influenza is complicated and multiple strains can be circulating in a community” but that the number of cases has declined in the past few weeks so there is a lot of hope that it is headed towards the end of the epidemic. The flu season has been said to be almost as deadly as the 2009 pandemic, which caused over 500 casualties in California adults.

Often, the first few weeks of school only prolong the illness. The stress and exhaustion of getting back into the routine of school can have its effect on students and can leave them susceptible to a longer flu or can allow the virus to start. The CDC encourages those who come in contact with several people each day, as students do, to get a flu vaccine, wash hands with hot water and soap, and get enough rest and hydration each day to keep the body healthy. The flu is an easily spread illness that is also fairly simple to guard against with measures. The CDC claims that three out of the four strains of influenza can be prevented almost completely with the vaccine available, but the fourth strain is less likely to be stopped. The flu is an ever-growing virus that can kill hundreds each year, yet there are also measures to avoid catching it, precautions that should be taken by anyone who has access to them.
Stuyvesant Students Protest the Dress Code

By Lisbet Wences

The first time a dress code was added was in 1969 by the U.S. Supreme Court. Students at multiple high schools in Des Moines Independent School District wore black armbands during the Vietnam War to protest against it. As said in the article about dress codes on Findlaw “The Supreme Court determined that schools may limit student expression.” Redress the dress code” is what students at Stuyvesant High School were telling the staff and faculty. In lower Manhattan, New York on June 5th of 2012, students at Stuyvesant High School went against the dress code. Some things that the dress code policy states is that any sayings and illustrations must have good taste and that shorts, dresses, and skirts must be below the fingertips as well as no exposure of shoulders, midriffs, undergarments, and lower backs. Many of the students wore clothing items that went against the dress code such as tank tops and short shorts.

Many of the students felt that girls were being sexualized by the dress code. According to the Huffington Post, one student said, “They’re like sexualizing our outfits by telling us what to wear. And like I don’t know I guess it’s more important to learn in school rather than be like persecuted for your dress.” People also believe that the dress code makes them seem as if they are just “teens who can’t control themselves when they see too much skin.” The people of the school feel that they are being judged inappropriately, but the principal thinks that the dress code policy is needed. The WCPO news website states that the school principal said before the dress code was added “The dress code policy was intended to create a better learning environment.” He also said, “Some things are a distraction. And we don’t need to distract students from what is going on here, which is learning.” Although the principal says that some things are a distraction, the people themselves are saying that they can control themselves and don’t necessarily need such a strict dress code.

The students think that the dress code is very strict, biased and unfair. Both boys and girls believe the dress code is not right. However, the principal states that the dress code is there to keep the school a learning environment and be safe from distractions. Do you think protesting was the right thing to do? And do you think schools should “Redress the Dress Code” or leave it how it is?
The Melting Point of ChocoLATE

By Leslie Tehuastle-Zamora

Do you like chocolate? What if it disappears? Scientists predict that chocolate is going extinct by 2050. Chocolate comes from cacao plants. The places that grow cacao plants are unique and are only in certain parts of the world. As a result of Global Warming causing climate change, the warmer conditions are preventing cacao plants to grow in their normal environment. Earth’s weather patterns are affecting all living things that have already adapted to their normal temperature. There are many different ways to prevent this.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, cacao plants are sensitive and only grow in specific conditions. Cacao plants need rainforest conditions like high humidity and abundant rain. They also need nitrogen-rich soil and protection from wind. An article by Michon Scott (2016) states that most of the cacao plants used to make chocolate can be found 20 degrees North and South of the equator. Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) and Ghana produce over half of the world's chocolate. Ivory Coast is 124,504 mi² big and Ghana 92,099 mi²; when both are together it’s similar as the state of Texas. Cacao plants are only found in a small area which they can’t be grown in other places. This is important because if climate changes, it will affect cacao plants since they are very delicate to weather.

Global Warming is happening, and is causing significant changes to our climate. This shift can increase coastal flooding by icebergs melting, causing ocean water to raise up to a higher level. There are wet areas becoming wetter and dry areas becoming drier. This weather change can cause wildfires and hurricanes. Insect-borne disease depends on warm weather and if Global Warming is changing its overall temperatures, the insect-borne disease can spread more easily. Each time the temperature is raising by two degrees it will be too hot for cacao plants to grow according to a study from Colombia-based International Centre for Tropical Agriculture. To summarize, Global Warming is not only affecting cacao plants but it’s also affecting the ecosystem around the cacao plants. Global Warming is affecting many things and we must be concerned about it.

Although we have done all of that research, some people still don’t think that Global Warming is happening. Those who deny Global Warming exists point out that they don’t experience planetary climate change. Global Warming is happening very slowly, and the temperature is changing locally year by year, within the last decade. The evidence on NASA’s website, states how since the 19th century temperatures have risen up to 2.0 degrees Fahrenheit. Heat rises around the Earth affecting the weather patterns. Due to climate change the areas where cacao plants are grown are becoming not ideal. Temperature changes have led to many chocolate companies looking into gene-editing technology to make artificial chocolate.

Do you want artificial chocolate? If you do not want to see chocolate disappear, there are a couple of things that you can do to help prevent this. When we burn oil, coal, and other fossil fuels for energy they release carbon dioxide, which is the Earth’s worst enemy. Carbon dioxide is harmful, and we can help prevent it by being aware of the energy that we use. You can help by buying better bulbs, reducing water waste, using renewable energy for your home, and by
driving a fuel-efficient vehicle. These little things can help stop Global Warming and chocolate from extinction. You can spread the word and go green by talking to your family and friends, starting a Green Club, and being aware of the materials that you use. In order to prevent chocolate from going extinct, you can take a few steps in your daily life to help stop Global Warming.
Cyberbullying News
By Veronica Aguilar

On June 14, 2017 in Rockway, New Jersey, an innocent 12 year old girl took her life after being cyberbullied by her classmates. The bullying started in October at Copeland Middle School, where Mallory Grossman started getting Direct Messages on Instagram, Snapchat, and even through text messages saying, “Why don’t you kill yourself,” and “You have no friends,” according to Kalhan Rosenblatt, the author of the article Cyberbullying Tragedy: New Jersey Family To Sue after 12-Year-old Daughter’s Suicide

Eventually the cyberbullying got so bad that she did not want to go to school. She started complaining to her mom about chronic headaches, stomach aches, and as a result, her grades decreased. What made it worse was that the school focused on academics and did not care about her health issues. When Mallory’s mom, Dianne Grossman, told the school administrators to prevent the cyberbullying from happening again, they were inconsiderate towards the family and situation.

When the school did not do anything, the mom started talking to guidance counselors, teachers, and even the vice principal who then said they were investigating the situation. She took it into her own hands and confronted and begged the bully’s mom to have her child stop. The mom instantly declined and told her not to worry about it, that it was just a game that would soon end. It did end, but not the way Mallory’s mom wanted it to.

When Mallory did go to school, everyone could tell she had an aura of fear. This only gave the bully(s) more reasons to keep targeting her. As the months went on with constant cyberbullying, nothing changed. Unfortunately, Mallory Grossman could not take anymore and took her own life on June 14, 2017 due to the constant cyberbullying that was never resolved.

This is only ONE of the situations where suicide has occurred due to cyberbullying. Everyday someone is in a tough situation where they cannot handle the pressure. According to a website called Bullying Statistics, 1 in 3 young people have experienced threats online and 25 percent of adolescents have been bullied repeatedly through their cell phones or via internet.

Everyday many adolescents wake up and think they need to take a shower, pick out an outfit that is fashionable so they will get some attention. A lot of girls also feel the need to put on makeup that will make them feel a little bit more confident about themselves. Some of them need to style their hair with gel or curl it to hide the fact that their hair is crazy, and even pick shoes that hurt their feet to make them feel pretty or look cool. In fact, some people go so far to change their look to get accepted by their own friends that when they look in the mirror they won’t recognize themselves. This is just ONE example about cyberbullying and how it can change lives around them in just one decision by the person who is going through the rough time.
When Cyberbullies Attack
By Ryan Guzman and Aida Calderon

Cyberbullying is one of the most common forms of bullying and has the worst effect on people, but mainly kids and teens. There are many negative results of cyberbullying. Many can range from not wanting to go to school all the way to suicidal thoughts or actions. There are different social media platforms that can be used to cyberbully someone, with snapchat being the most common platform.

Mr. Roth’s Interview

An interview was conducted with Mr. Roth, the Tech teacher at Yorba Middle School. I asked him about his personal experience with Cyberbullying and what was the worst situation he has dealt with. Some of the things he said were shocking and sad at the same time. He stated, “This was a couple of years ago, I think the parent is in jail still because this parent was pretending to be a teenager and started bullying a girl her daughter’s age. This victim eventually committed suicide, tragic,” (Mr. Roth). The age group that is most affected by cyberbullying, according to Mr. Roth is, “12-13 and can go all the way through to college and adulthood, but it’s probably teenagers that are the worst,” (Mr. Roth). According to endcyberbullying.net, teenagers are affected by cyberbullying the most.

How is Cyberbullying affected by Social Media?

Cyberbullying is a big problem and even more so with all the social media out there. Snapchat is Punishment is when there is an increase of an undesirable a social media platform where a lot of cyberbullying takes place. It is one of the most used by the Cyberbullies because the pictures, videos and stories are temporary. This helps Cyberbullies because if they take a screenshot, they can have proof of something embarrassing that you or somebody else had post, even if it is erased they still can prove it. So, people have to be very careful with what they post. One of the examples is Rosalie Avila. She was a 13 year-old girl who hung herself because many people taunted her about her braces and called her “ugly.” Worst of all was that people were making Memes after her death.

Another case is of Ashanty Davis, a 10 year-old girl who was found hanged in her closet after two weeks of life support in hospital. She was frequently bullied by her classmates. Her parents say that the school could have done more to prevent this. In the end, they created a Go Fund Me page to raise money for her burial expenses.

In conclusion, the effects of cyberbullying can be devastating and can result in many awful things. Please, if you need some help call the Suicide National Prevention Lifeline 24/7: 1800-273-8255 or go to their Website: https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org.
Should Vaccinations be an Option?

By Cassandra Gomez

As Hudson’s first birthday is approaching, his mom Bree is worrying about more than just planning a party. As Hudson is almost one, he has already had two rounds of immunizations and his scheduled visit for his third round is coming soon. She recalls the first visit for immunizations as a tough experience for both herself and her child. She states, “Seeing the nurse walk in with three long syringes and then being asked to hold him down while he was crying was overwhelming and not what I wanted my little baby boy to go through.” Although she didn’t like her child crying, the experience of getting an injection is not her real fear. Bree Gomez, a first time mother from the Orange County area, has had concerns about getting her child vaccinated as she has been reading different online accounts of mothers who claim that the vaccines is linked to causing autism. After the first two rounds of vaccines, Gomez says Hudson has gotten sick and asks, “Do I really want to or need to subject my healthy baby to getting sick for these shots?”

The answer to the question from a majority of medical experts is a resounding "yes." The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommend that healthy children get vaccinated against 14 diseases by age 2 along with an annual flu shot. Vaccinations have been argued to be one of the greatest public health achievements for the many lives that have been saved. The CDC “estimated that 732,000 American children were saved from death and 322 million cases of childhood illnesses were prevented between 1994 and 2014 due to vaccination” (vaccines.procon.org, 2018).

Even with the success of vaccinations, there are many parents in the country who delay or skip getting their children vaccinated. They cite religious or philosophical reasons in order to exempt. Some of the arguments that parents have used to opt out of vaccinations are as follows: 1. Vaccines can cause serious and fatal side effects 2. Vaccines contain harmful ingredients 3. The diseases these vaccinations target have essentially disappeared and 4. The government should not intervene in personal medical choices.

The government’s goal is to have 80% of children ages 19 to 35 months up to date on their vaccinations as vaccines are able to more effectively prevent an outbreak when most of the population is covered. While this goal is almost achieved with a steady 76%, the more parents have been choosing to delay has contributed to outbreaks of infection. For example, the recent measles outbreak in Disneyland that resulted in at least seventy people contracted the contagious disease. Out of the seventy, only 5 patients had been vaccinated for that specific disease. Disneyland is a type of area to avoid taking children that have not been vaccinated because it attracts people from around the world who may come from countries where diseases like measles are still a problem. Although some people still contracted the disease after vaccinated, doctors explain this as a result of the patient only receiving one vaccination years ago. Decades ago, only one vaccination was required compared to now two measles vaccinations are suggested for children. This is just one recent case of an outbreak that could have been less in size if people were not allowed to opt out of vaccinations.
Even though there is no federal law mandating vaccinations, states are making strides in policy to increase the number vaccinated children. California changed its policy in 2015 with the passing of SB 277. Prior to the passing of this bill, parents were able to cite religious, personal or medical reasons to exempt their child from immunizations and still be able to enroll in school. With the bill, which was effective July 2016, religious and personal reasons were no longer an options and a medical excuse needed to be signed off by a doctor. California is one of few states that enacts this law as many states still allow religious exemption.

There is vast amount of research and study that goes into the creation of vaccinations before given to the public and parents should look into this before making their decision to exempt. There are many sites online that may exaggerate or fabricate stories of negative side effects in order to sway people’s beliefs. However, that should not be taken as the full truth without looking at both sides of the argument. In the case of Bree, she has some reluctance with the idea of her child getting sick in order to be immune but she says, “I know that in the long run my child will be better protected and these vaccinations help him and others.”
Inequality between men and women in government positions. Is it fair that women have to suffer when they are being treated differently compared to men? Elizabeth Warren doesn’t think so in the occasion when she was shushed on Tuesday February 8, 2017 at the Senate in Washington D.C., Capitol Building. It was a tragic evening for all the women who felt what happened to Elizabeth wasn’t fair. Some people think that what happened to Elizabeth wasn’t fair because she is a woman and some people think it was because what she was reading shouldn’t have been read.

On Tuesday, Elizabeth was in the senate reading Coretta Scott King’s letter to debate the nomination of Jeff Sessions to be the attorney general of the United States, the highest law enforcement official of the country, a statement criticizing attorney general nominee Jeff Sessions’ record on civil rights. Elizabeth was shushed after she said this “They are mothers, daughters, sisters, fathers, sons, and brothers. They are.” and she was shushed by Senator Mitch McConnell. Senator Mitch McConnell shushed Elizabeth Warren because she was invoking rule 19 which states that the senators may not directly or indirectly, by any form of words impute to another Senator or to other Senators any conduct or motive unworthy or unbecoming a Senator. Senator Mitch McConnell Jr. has served as the senior senator from Kentucky since 1985. Mitch McConnell is in favor of the Republican Party while Elizabeth Warren is in favor of the Democratic Party which might be the reason that McConnell decided to shush Elizabeth. Or she could have been shushed because she is a woman.

It has been stated that Elizabeth’s male colleagues were able to read from the letter uninterrupted which really upset all the feminists out there because the males were not shushed but the female was. All the women who have been marching for women’s rights have now found a new rally for women’s rights. Many are questioning on why when Elizabeth was reading Coretta Scott King’s letter, which she said applied to the conversation, she is shushed. When Donald Trump says something racist or offensive, he is not shushed or even questioned, even
though he is supposed to act like a responsible person because he is the president of the United States. The only difference between these two people is that one is a male and one is a female. Could that be the big difference on why they are treated differently?

Statistics have shown that there are more males in government positions than there are females. The House of Representatives is made up of 80.6 percent men and 19.4 percent women. The Senate is also made up of 80 percent men and 20 percent women. As you can see, the percentage of women in both the Senate and the House of Representatives is barely half the percentage of men in just the Senate.

There are many rights or wrongs in this situation. Whether you would chose to stand by McConnell or by Warren there are many thing to be learned from both sides. You could learn that sometimes men and women are not that different and most women want to be treated the same as their male counter parts.

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Every day, commuters use the 91 freeway to make their way into Orange County and the Los Angeles County area. Depending on time and day, which for most of the drivers, is around the morning and evening rush hour, it can take anywhere from one to two hours to get from the 55 freeway in Anaheim over to the 15 freeway in Corona. For some lucky users, this commute is significantly shortened with the 91 ExpressLanes. Two lanes coned off from the rest of the freeway that allows users who are willing to pay a toll every drive to bypass the parking lot we know as the 91 freeway.

Why do some people take the ExpressLanes? To save gas, to get home faster, to have a life outside of their car? With gas prices on the rise, wasting precious fuel sitting idle for 20 miles seems to be absurd. However, the only way around it is to pay a hefty fee. Depending on the not only on the day of the week but the time of day a commuter wishes to access ExpressLanes, tolls can range anywhere from $1.50- $25.

According to Carmella Guesnon, an avid ExpressLanes user, “I had to hook up bank account to the Fastrak with a dollar limit and threshold.” Though it sounds simple and hassle free, Guesnon explains, “Once you go below your threshold you are automatically charged the limit but the limit is not secured because you there are evaluations of usage and a possible automatic increase in the limit.”
Is a person actually saving anything when taking the express lanes, or does going 50 mph rather than 5mph a enough to convince a person to spend money? According to the Press Enterprise, drivers not using the Expresslanes can experience traffic delays on a one mile stretch between the 91/15 interchange anywhere from one to three hours on a Friday afternoon. Guesnon also claims that ,“It can cost someone about $600 a month if used every day both ways,” claims Guesnon.

In an article, “Why some drives on Corona’s 91 Freeway toll lanes are costing more”, some toll lane users state that the prices are ridiculous while others say that they try to only use the lanes once or twice a week when running late. Officials from county transportations defend the prices claiming that it is a way to keep the lanes from being congested during peak hours.

From personal use, the lanes are more congested when prices are higher. When the price is around $20 it is usually a thursday afternoon and the freeway will become a parking lot. Many drivers including myself can look at the prices on the billboard and use it as a predictor of how bad traffic in the general lanes will be. Most people will bite the $15-20 bullet because it seems better than wasting time moving an inch every 5 minutes.

Although the idea of the fast lanes is to create a winning solution for both toll payers and regular lane drivers, both parties still face an exhausting drive every day on the 91. It could be said the actual winner in this situation is the highways. They win everyone's time, money, and gas while the drivers are giving it all up to do it again the next day.

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Cookie Lady Hands out over 1000 Jackets to the Homeless Community

By Dana Canning

Would you like a cookie? The Crandall family is no stranger to the homeless community living in Santa Ana. “My mom was known as the cookie lady for a while!” laughed Rachel Crandall, a 22-year-old college student from Mission Viejo, California. Her mother, Julie Crandall, is a paralegal with Legal Aid Society of Orange County who dedicates every Thursday to providing free legal services to the homeless community around the civic center in Santa Ana. Rachel recalls memories of her mother walking around Santa Ana offering cookies and legal advice to the homeless community.

“This all began really from mom offering cookies. She gained everyone’s trust that way and word spread of her like wildfire, and eventually my mom, dad, sister, and I went around offering sandwiches with our church too.” Rachel describes.

Julie and the Crandall family collected over 1000 winter coats and walked the streets of Santa Ana delivering winter coats to the homeless community. Rachel and her sister Sam took to social media for outreach and help collecting jackets from their neighbors, friends, and community in Mission Viejo.

“My mom had this crazy idea and we just ran with it!” Rachel describes. Julie’s goal was to collect 500 jackets, she more than doubled her goal. Friends, family, and neighbors they hadn’t heard from in years, rummaged through the back of their closets to collect and donate winter coats for those in need.

The winter of 2016, Julie and the Crandall family collected and handed out over 1000 jackets to the homeless community around the Civic Center. The winter of 2017 Julie and the Crandall family provided the homeless community with 500 jackets. They intend to collect 500 jackets again for the winter of 2018. Look out for the Cookie Lady and ways that you can help donate too!
EDITORIAL
Marching Forward
By Zoe Bonfield

January 21st, 2017. A day that will go down in history. Not for the presidential inauguration that occurred, but rather for the almost 1,000 marches that connected women, men, and children from around the world. Approximately five million individuals, from Alaska to Zimbabwe, from cancer wards to retirement communities, all united in our pink, knit hats, marched as one, ready to take on whatever the upcoming four years would hold (Chenoweth and Pressman, 2017).

Little did we know on that day in 2017, that the following year would be full of more and more women beginning to feel empowered and to speak their truths publicly. An era of discrimination and assault was no longer going to be tolerated, and an era of change and power was upon us.

In October of that year, the Me Too movement spread like wildfire, practically overnight. Suddenly, thousands of women around the world began sharing their stories of sexual assault or harassment that they had experienced in their lives through social media. Some shared their full stories along with the hashtag, #metoo. Others simply wrote “Me too,” and no further explanation was needed. The sheer number of women who participated in this movement was astounding. Everyone knew at least one woman who had been affected by this awful epidemic, and people started to grasp the true volume of the issue.

A few months later, in January of 2018, a group of Hollywood celebrities shined light on the Times Up movement, fighting against sexual assault by powerful men in the entertainment industry. Women in Hollywood were sharing their stories of being exploited and abused by men in power in Hollywood. Through this movement, most celebrities who attended the Grammys wore black in honor of the women who had faced this type of assault and explained that the time of powerful men not being held accountable for their actions was over, and this behavior would no longer be tolerated.

These movements are powerful and moving, but there are a few consequences rising. Many people, mostly older generations that tend to lean more toward the right on the political spectrum, are now fighting back, questioning what actually counts as sexual assault. “Does a simple compliment from a man at work about a woman looking nice that day count as harassment?” some ask. “A man can’t touch me on the shoulder without people getting upset over assault,” others claim.

These questions, along with others, that are being posed on social media are quite hurtful to the cause. Women are finally feeling empowered and brave enough to speak their truth, get involved, and stand up for themselves against men who have oppressed and abused them. Why must women tear each other down and devalue each other as well? When women don’t support other women in this difficult process of coming forward and discussing sexual assault or harassment, no man ever will.
As women in our society facing many forms of sexual harassment and assault, we need to band together, as we did on that day in January of 2017, and support each other in our efforts to end this awful cycle. Our truths and experiences will never be taken seriously by the perpetrators of these atrocities until our survivors stand together and honor each and every one of our lived experiences for how we interpret them in our own lives.

A Google search can be done in less than thirty seconds. The weather report can be accessed at our fingertips. Messages can be sent on Facebook to friends and family members on the other side of the planet at any time for any reason. Simply put, it is hard to imagine a world without the Internet anymore. Given today’s technological advances, an information-packed, global community runs and defines the world around us. Then, how much easier would it be to have all our work done on our computers, phones, tablets, etc.?

This question has been on my mind for a while. But then, I happened upon an interesting statistic from a YouTube video: “70 percent of teachers assign homework requiring access to the Internet, and yet 5 million households with school-aged children do not have high-speed Internet access at home” (Soul Pancake, 2017). This video sheds light on a fundamental issue regarding education at all levels. How can a student learn and succeed in this WiFi-wasted world when they lack the valuable resources of technology? Unfortunately for many, this deficit is a reality. This phenomenon is known as the ‘homework gap;’ over 5 million students nationwide are at a clear disadvantage compared to those who are privileged enough to have computers and Internet access available in their homes. The ultimate question regarding this issue centers around how we as educators can set up students for success while also teaching the ever-changing norms of our tech-crazed society.

Of course, there are many benefits that come with Internet and computer-related homework. It saves paper which not only cuts some costs for schools, but it also reduces the need to cut down trees. Paper waste makes up about a third of the total waste production in a day of an average California public school (CalRecycle, 2016). If the Internet becomes a staple for homework assigning and completion, it will clearly reduce the amount of waste a school produces. Internet-related homework can also broaden the scope of learning. There is a plethora of supplemental tools that students can use from the Internet. The infinite amount of perspectives the Internet provides through videos, news media, tweets, etc. can encourage students to bring new knowledge in the classroom when completing homework assignments engaged in this technology.

The homework gap is a difficult gap to close because teachers and administrators cannot simply snap their fingers and make computers with Internet access appear in their students’ homes. What they can provide, however, is more access to the Internet in the schools themselves. Most schools offer their students access to school computers in the libraries and computer labs, but only for a limited amount of time. What schools need are more computers and more hours for these computers to be available. Perhaps schools can offer their computer labs on the weekends as well and hire a team to be there and watch over the students. This is just one idea in pursuing a solution to this major issue. However, there are still countless factors to take into account when approaching this issue. What if the bus schedule does not accommodate to this plan? How are students able to get to school on the weekend? What if they have a job? These plans also require money.
Overall, Internet access in the home continues to be the preferable option; it is called homework after all. Although computers and the Internet are amazing tools for learning, there are still millions that must manage without it, forcing them to do the bare minimum in today’s standards. That is why we need to push for more technology in the classroom itself. School, ideally, should be a place for people of all ages to seek equal opportunity in pursuing an education that will help them prosper in our current society. It is time to hold our schools accountable.

Works Cited


Arts in Education

By Sylvia Tavetian

In many classrooms, there has been a decrease in the importance of arts taught to students. While some may think that it is more important to focus on the other core subjects, I believe that a teacher can incorporate art into these other subjects. In an article in the Americans for the Arts website, it says, “Research has also shown impressive benefits of arts education on entire school culture—especially student motivation, attitudes, and attendance. Numerous reports discuss the ways that increased access and involvement in arts education encourage students to stay in school, succeed in school, succeed in life, and succeed in work” (https://www.americansforthearts.org/by-topic/arts-education).

This article says that not only will having the arts used in the classes benefit individual students, but it will also motivate the school as a whole. Some students learn more when they see the information visually or when there are pictures in the lesson. There are many ways to use art when teaching a lesson. For example, in a science lesson, the students can use images to show the scientific process or draw images of plants and label the different parts of the cells. By adding color and detail, the students learn and remember the lesson more and they are more motivated. Music and dance are also arts that can be used to teach. When learning math formulas, songs are great to remember the complicated letters and numbers. Dance and movement is great for remembering vocabulary words or learning about rhythm in literature. The idea that the students are making meaning with the lessons is important and helps them to understand why they are learning the formulas or vocabulary words.

In an Edutopia article, Fran Smith says, “Involvement in the arts is associated with gains in math, reading, cognitive ability, critical thinking, and verbal skill. Arts learning can also improve motivation, concentration, confidence, and teamwork” (https://www.edutopia.org/artsmusic-curriculum-child-development). Similarly to the other article, this one says how important the arts are for developing skills in many disciplines.

The importance of the arts is obvious. Arts bring students together, help them understand, and build skills. However, the arts are not valued as much. Many teachers feel the pressure of standardized tests and making sure that the students pass the tests. They do not think that they have time for arts because they have to follow certain standards and curriculum so the students can do well on the test. I think that the teachers can learn how to use arts to teach the students skills they need to pass the tests. This might even help students improve their scores. Budget cuts in the arts are another problem that teachers have. They do not have the materials to bring the arts to the classroom. However, there are ways to bring in arts that do not cost a lot of money. For example, learn songs and movements to teach difficult ideas, use paper to make sculptures, or use materials such as glue, cornstarch, and water to make slime. The teacher also can play music on a computer in the classroom to help the students concentrate on their schoolwork and to teach about music.

I think that we need to value the arts more. This does not mean that we value another subject less; it means that we value different learning styles and we want to teach students in a
way that is more meaningful. Teachers can get more involved in adding the arts to the class by looking at websites for ideas and by encouraging the school community to also value the arts more. To do this, teachers can educate others on how the arts can really help students learn important skills and motivate them to participate. Arts let the students be creative with their education and let the students express themselves.

References


Cyberbullying

By Emily Hernandez & Areli Vazquez

Many people think bullying face to face is more dangerous, but did you know cyber bullying can be just as dangerous? The majority of the population doesn’t take cyber bullying seriously, and they don't realize the harmful things it can lead to. But don’t worry, there are ways to prevent it. In the following article you will learn more about cyberbullying and the dangers its victims face.

There are many issues that cyberbullying causes, the following three are examples of the negative effects that can happen. One of them is that it can drive kids to develop anxiety. Anxiety is a feeling of worry or nervousness, which people can develop because they have a feeling that someone is watching them just to judge their actions, which is what a bully does. Another negative effect cyberbullying can have on someone is depression. Depression can lead to “changes in sleep and eating patterns” (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services), addiction, and suicide among other things. Lastly, the victim’s perspective on life can change because he/she can become more fearful of problematic social media.

Have you ever wondered why the person bullying you does it? It’s a question many victims have. One reason why a person might bully another is that they could have been bullied themselves. They might think that in order to never be bullied again, they must bully other people, which is not a good reason. A different reason why they decide to bully is that they might be a popular person and they see it as a way to keep their reputation. Thirdly, bullies may not realize this, but they might bully a person to cope with their self-esteem. Lastly, people might cyberbully for entertainment to get a good laugh. If they wanted a good laugh, why don’t they just go on the internet and watch YouTube.

Overall cyberbullying is not okay, and it needs to be taken seriously. The fact that it can hurt someone’s feelings through a screen does not make it a good excuse.
"We are all Equal"
*By Leslie Arriaga*

The double standards are where women and men are viewed in different eyes by society. Women aren’t really treated the same when it comes to picking a job out, trying out for a sport and/or going to fill out a resume for a certain college. Double standards are not fair because anything that women try to do to get even with society and the government, we get hushed and ignored. The Women’s Marches are not a new thing to anybody or anything, but nothing has changed as to please those who march for change. Society thinks that it is ok for men to get control over the two genders that exist, but no, it’s not.

The right to speak and have women’s voice heard is also limited to a woman because of double standards, when a woman tries to give her opinion on a topic that regards her, she gets hushed For example, there was an incident of Elizabeth Warren, a Senator from Massachusetts, being shushed while she was talking to the senators because they thought she had nothing good to say. A man on the other hand, can speak his mind on the stupidest of things, but he will not have his voice shut down because society thinks his words are important. That isn’t fair because we all have the right to have our voices be heard no matter what Double Standards are put onto us, women.

The different types of jobs that men and women share are different because of how The Double Standards “have it done.” Men can become mechanics, construction men, military commanders, businessmen, doctors, and Sport Coaches while women are limited to what job they can pick out or try out for. Women's jobs are more to the side of housewife, caretakers, nurses, house cleaning, and secretaries because they are thought not to be able to work as a doctor or a boss of a company. The certain areas that go to certain genders are divided because of the Double Standards and it is not ok. You do not just divide the system controlling the jobs just because you think a woman isn't capable of running a company or being the boss of a fancy restaurant. The Double Standards have put a border on women's jobs and that is not ok, it isn't fair, and it isn’t right.
Another thing that was affected differently by Double Standards is the sport branch, specifically, volleyball, tennis, and somewhat soccer. Women have that limit of sport choosing because even when women win the highest rank possible they receive less money. According to NBC Sports, “…heard how much money the U.S. Women's National Team got for the historic win over Japan. They received $2 million. When the men's team lost in round sixteen of last year's tournament, they got $8 million.” Women won the Soccer tournament but still got paid less. This just shows that men and women aren’t the same according to Double Standards. Men got paid way more than women and even worse than that, they LOST the Soccer tournament!!! This isn’t right, it just isn’t, and all of this is this way because of the Double Standards and because of society. Football, soccer, basketball, golf, hockey, wrestling, lacrosse, and water polo are all seen as sports that shouldn’t be played by women but even some specific women are very good in these sports and try to get into the sport no matter what other voices say. Sports are overall an exercise that helps your body and in which you have the chance to compete with other teams. The definition of a sport was never labeled for a specific gender in general and that is what the Double Standards doesn’t understand. ANY gender should be able to play ANY sport without having someone say “no” because the one who wants to play the sport is a girl. Females should be able to play soccer and win the same as men do. Women should be able to play football, golf, basketball- any sport any woman wishes so the Double Standards don’t affect any of this nonsense of “You’re a girl, you can’t play with us.”

In conclusion, everything that the Double Standards put against women or separate the two genders isn’t fair. We are all equal and even though we, women, are viewed as minorities to society, we are stronger and are capable of anything. Jobs and sports aren’t supposed to have sides or titles that specify, “ONLY FOR MEN.” Women should have the right to choose whatever job they want and women should also be able to play any sport they want because this is a world where we are all equal and that saying should continue and not just be used for personal affairs that benefit those who use it.

Sources:
“Me Too”
By: Kait Zeigler

There’s been a movement in regards to rape and sexual assault culture that has become a dominant factor in our society. Many victims and survivors are coming forward about their experience and people seem to have a lot to say about it. More and more controversy surrounding this issue has been become topics of interest in media and politics. “Me Too” is the phrase women and men who have been sexually assaulted are saying in raising awareness on this cause and to show other survivors that they are not alone. In an article by HuffPost a statement was found that said, “Every 98 seconds someone in the U.S. is sexually assaulted. That means every single day more than 570 people experience sexual violence in this country” (2017). Rape culture is growing more and more and there doesn’t seem to be much stopping it.

In order to understand the movement, we have to understand why it was started. There has always been a struggle for power between the two different genders and it has become something that is tangible through direct force. For some reason, there is an impression that men are the superior gender but women endure much more. Women go through childbirth, lower pay, judgement for their looks, and have a certain look box have to fit into, and if they don’t fit, they are ridiculed and forced into believing they aren’t good enough. Some men took it upon themselves to show their dominance by sexually assaulting women or vice versa; in more cases though, it is women who have a higher sexual assault rate. It made women feel weak, insignificant, and dirty. This was simply an ego stroke for these men. They wanted to feel powerful, so they took someone else’s.

Part of the issue, I feel, with sexual violence and assault is knowing what actually fell into this category. This could be the reasoning behind so many people now coming out to what has happened to them. With celebrities for example, many are getting into trouble because the victims were unaware of what was actually taking place. A no means no and taking things by force is not the way to go. Once survivors started to come out and share their stories, it created a ripple effect. Soon people were realizing they weren’t alone in this struggle and they finally were able to understand what it all meant.

“Me Too” signifies strength, love, and compassion. You are not alone in this fight and you are so much more than what your attacker did to you. Stand tall and know that you are capable of anything.

Reference

Women’s Groups on College Campuses Must Stay

By: Karly Bokosky

In the summer of 2017, Harvard University’s faculty committee recommended that final clubs and single-gendered sororities and fraternities be banned, and any student who join them be expelled. The recommendation was fueled to try and prevent sexual assaults and parties on campus. However, after word spread about this potential ban, many alumni and students protested against this outrageous rule. Donors even threatened to withhold their money. Nevertheless, Harvard decided to continue a policy they implemented at the beginning of this academic year that states that any student involved in unrecognized, single-gender groups, such as fraternities and sororities, will not be allowed to be a leader of other organizations or sports teams. Additionally, students in these unrecognized clubs are not allowed to receive recommendations from the dean for certain scholarship opportunities. By implementing this policy, Harvard completely misused their power, and put students in an unfair position to have to choose between school and being a part of something that is larger than themselves.

Although this policy generated a lot of backlash and unhappy students. The reasoning for implementing this policy came from a good place. Harvard’s faculty committee wanted to reduce the amount of sexual assaults at the parties put on by these groups. Also, Harvard blamed these groups for social divisions on their campus and forming privilege for those within the groups. Harvard’s president and policy makers have encountered many issues with the male clubs, such as fraternities, and felt that this policy would be the best thing to do in order to resolve issues of drinking and sexual assault. However, while punishing all male groups, Harvard managed to lump in all single-gender groups, which would affect sororities too. Thus, even though Harvard has good intentions in mind, they went too far by punishing groups that did not deserve it. The sororities at Harvard felt this was very unfair, considering they are not even allowed to have any parties or alcohol in the sorority. In an article on Bostonglobe.com, the women in sororities stated that “rather than fostering unhealthy behavior, [sororities] help them safely combat not only sexual harassment but also alcohol abuse, mental health issues, and other challenges particular to college life” (Krantz, 2017). Thus, these single gendered, female groups empower women and give them support to lift them up when they need it. As a result of the policy, Harvard is depriving women of this empowering experience by forcing them to choose between these clubs or being leaders of other organizations on campus.

Many sororities at Harvard refused to abide by these new rules, and even continued to recruit new members. On top of this, many sorority alumni spoke out against Harvard, which forced the University to rethink its policy. As of February 2018, Harvard maintained the policy with all male groups, but now allows all women groups to remain intact without sanctions. Although it took a lot of fighting, women in these groups are eligible to be leaders in other groups on campus. Even though the problem was resolved for women at Harvard, this issue is not limited to Harvard University’s campus. Many schools across the country are trying to get rid of single-gender groups. Thus, as a sorority woman, promoting the benefits of these groups is essential. Colleges need to understand the empowerment sororities and other single gender groups give its members and the networking opportunities they provide. Without these groups on campus, colleges will lack satisfaction in its students.
Asian? American? Asian American?

By: Kristi Kayoda

You are Asian. Almost immediately after meeting someone, you are asked if you are Chinese. However, when there’s a new girl around who only speaks Korean, everyone looks at you, as if all Asian languages are the same. They assume you understand her. When you tell them you only know English, they look disappointed, as if you shattered their expectations...as if you are not Asian enough for them. But then, sometimes they tell you, “your English is so good.”

You think, “Well, I’ve lived here my entire life.” And then it hits you. They don’t think you belong. They ask you where you are from. “Here,” you say. They stare at you, probably thinking, “no, where you are really from?” Sometimes they actually ask that question, as if the possibility that you being born in America is impossible.

Don’t you see? They assume that you belong to the group, “Asian.” Chinese. Korean. Japanese. Vietnamese. It’s all the same. It’s all clumped together and viewed simply as “Asian.” It wouldn’t matter if you moved here fifteen years ago from Taiwan. It wouldn’t matter if you were visiting for a week from Singapore. It wouldn’t matter if you were fourth generation Asian American. You are simply Asian to them. Apparently, it’s all the same.

Because of the human habit to label and categorize things, we tend to clump groups of like individuals into one category, one-size fits all. Through doing this, we fail to acknowledge individuals and their unique narratives. We take away aspects of their individual personalities and life experience. We disregard their culture and their history. By grouping them all together, as if there are no differences, we are essentially saying Chinese culture is synonymous with Japanese culture, and that Korean culture is the same as Cambodian culture.

This is not always the case. Some individuals do know and understand the differences between the various Asian cultures. They simply choose not to acknowledge the differences and continue to group us together. They are willingly blind. On the other hand, there are some individuals who acknowledge and validate your identity as part of a specific Asian group. They recognize that while you are Asian, you are specifically Korean. They understand that not only are you Korean, but you are Korean American. Each layer of your Asian identity has various facets.

In fact, there are many identities that come within the term “Asian.” It’s not as simple as being “Asian.” It goes much deeper. It is nuanced and layered. The majority of the time it’s forgotten that individuals can be ‘Asian American’ and not just ‘Asian.’ It is assumed that the two terms are synonymous. However, the human experience is vastly different for each individual identity. How one experiences life being ‘Asian American’ and growing up in America versus how one experiences life as a Japanese individual growing up in Japan are greatly different.
It is important to know and understand these differences to help validate and empower individuals who are labeled incorrectly. It allows for more inclusivity, empathy, and connectedness. It allows these individuals to share their stories and be further humanized.

How to we achieve this type of inclusivity? We ask individuals questions when we are unsure. We research. We take action to educate ourselves. We take action to educate others.
The Time is Now for Student Activism

*By Talia Cain*

It’s 10pm and you have just gotten home from a long day of classes, work, and meetings. All you want to do is curl up on the couch, eat some pizza rolls, and binge-watch Netflix. Yet, you have fifty pages of reading, two papers, and a group project all due tomorrow. We’ve all been there.

The expectations placed on college students today are overwhelming. Trying to find a balance between being a decent student, employee, organization member, leader, friend, family member, and community member— all at the same time— often feels impossible. Undoubtedly, sacrifices have to be made; some things have to give. When you weigh out the factors, such as your growing student debt and scholarship GPA requirements, it’s understandable that many decide to put activism last on the list of priorities.

However, forgoing activism is essentially neglecting the duties we have as democratic citizens. Oxford Dictionary defines activism as action intended to bring about change. As members of communities, it is important we remember our responsibilities to others and advocate for positive change where it is needed. Although our country was founded on the ideals of liberty and justice for all, that is not the world we live in. Yet, through activism, we can work to build a society where this statement is more than just a dream.

Why then, if we know how important being politically informed and engaged is, do we have such a collective attitude of indifference towards politics? Why does the media poke fun and belittle the struggle for social justice, specifically when it’s young people taking a stance? While there are clearly individual exceptions, there is no question that our generation of college students is apathetic towards activism. In order to address this apathy, we must first understand the social and cultural trends that have made it the norm amongst many students today.
First, as previously mentioned, there is unreasonable pressure placed on students, which free time hard to come by. Second, many people seem to have forgotten what it means to be an active democratic citizen and why it is important. Third, there is a stigma surrounding student activism. Fourth, there is a lack of institutional support for student activism. Lastly, the media sustains a culture of complacency.

To be an active democratic citizen means being in tune with both local and global issues. It means that you are connected to your community, and that you recognize the power you have to influence society. We influence society when we vote in political elections or when we protest against government policies, but we are also constantly influencing society in the way we choose to interact with others. The media tends to create a monolithic image of the activist: someone marching with a painted sign. However, an engaged citizen is more than just someone who speaks up, they are also the ones who are willing to listen to others.

To interact with others, especially those who are different than you, in ways that show respect and open-mindedness is the foundation for democratic citizenship. The more you start to listen to those around you, the more empathy you will develop. Over time, this fosters a commitment to holding leaders accountable, for wanting to be a part of decision-making processes, for reflecting on how you personally contribute to social systems, and for making sure people are treated fairly and always given equal opportunities.

However, in today’s world, the more involved you get or the more questions you ask, the more stigma you face. Many different labels have been ascribed to student activists. Conservative news media websites often condescendingly call millennials who engage in political activity “social justice warriors” or “snowflakes.” These negative labels make it more challenging to speak up in the presence of injustice. In response to the polarized political climate and out of fear of being framed in an unfavorable light, people tend to be less willing to physically show up at places like city council meetings and advocate for change. Instead of acting on their beliefs about social issues, people resort to only talking about them. While this does bring about an awareness of different social justice topics, in the face of injustice, both are necessary.

Social change requires awareness and the willingness to do something in response. It takes recognizing where these negative labels and media messages come from. Most likely, those trying to belittle student activists are the ones most threatened by their power. Society is set up in ways that make it easier for some to succeed, and activism is at its core is going against this structure. For some, a more fair and just society requires giving up their privileged seats of comfort at the top, and allowing more people access to the tools they need so they too can succeed.

It can be difficult, however, to do more than just talk about the issues when there is no institutional support for activism. Imagine how different it would be if professors didn’t assign mundane, time-consuming readings and assignments, but encouraged engaged, active citizenship by assigning projects that required students to learn by doing; to go out in the community, research issues up close rather than in a textbook, and devise solutions to societal
problems. Imagine if the administrators encouraged students to invest their time in doing service work.

Imagine if there were resources and tools available to students who wished to come together and protest. Imagine if there were spaces devoted to activism on campus. This can also be applied to high school and middle schools. We know that the most meaningful learning happens outside of the classroom; so why can’t these two worlds—the classroom and the community—collide and inform one another?

While media has been positively influential in uniting movements such as #BlackLivesMatter, it has also served as a barrier to authentic activism. Namely, it has made it difficult to distinguish between genuine activist efforts and surface-level, guilt-induced performance activism. We often tell ourselves we are being active, engaged citizens because we shared an article on Facebook that expressed our political beliefs. Or maybe, we feel like we have done enough because we retweeted a meme that advocated for a certain social change. This falls short of creating real change, making it more like performance activism; it’s the act of making it appear as though we are committed members of a democracy, but with no strings attached, no commitment, no personal investment. It usually comes about when people feel guilty for not contributing doing their part to create a better world.

In general, we all tend to forget that grassroots movements, especially ones started on college campuses, have historically been some of the most powerful forces in sparking change. The revolutionary social changes that occurred during the 1960s would not have been possible without student activism. In today’s fast-paced, politically polarized, and morally ambiguous world, it is important we gather the courage to stand up for what we believe. We, as students, cannot allow ourselves to withdraw and think that the world’s problems are too big for just one person to change. While it does require effort on behalf of everyone involved in educational processes—students, administrators, teachers or professors, family, peers, friends—one voice is loud enough to ignite a movement.
Are Cochlear Implants the Right Answer?

By Abby Galletti

Many parents of deaf/hard of hearing children are faced with the difficult choice to have their children receive a cochlear implant or not. Part of the reason that parents have a difficult time making this decision for their child is that they do not know all of the information about what it means to have a cochlear implant.

A cochlear implant is a device that has been used in order to produce and amplify hearing sensations to those who are deaf and/or are severely hard of hearing. One part of the implant is surgically placed inside of the skull that receives signals from the external part of the implant which serves as a sound transmitter. The external part of the implant sits on the outside of the head and is magnetically connected to the inner part of the implant. The two parts of the implant work together in order to simulate natural hearing, however, it is different from actual hearing (U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 2018). It is important to emphasize the fact that a cochlear implant does not necessarily “fix” hearing loss. Since this is not a cure for deafness, many people consider the implant unnecessary and not worth going through a surgical procedure.

Another reason as to why people may be against this procedure is because it goes against Deaf culture and Deaf pride. Those who are involved in the Deaf community are very proud to be deaf and do not see themselves as disabled. In fact, they see their deafness as a culture that should be valued and that others should be proud to be a part of. Therefore, those who are part of the Deaf community may not favor the idea of the cochlear implant because it is an attempt to essentially cure deafness.

Others believe that deaf/hard of hearing children should receive the cochlear implant if it is accessible. Those who support having this procedure done believe that artificial hearing is better than not hearing at all. They also argue that having the implant allows for children and adults to be safer because they are able to hear things such as noise alarms and approaching vehicles. Hence, they believe that the surgical procedure of receiving a cochlear implant is worth getting.

Even with this information, parents still struggle to know whether or not to have their child receive a cochlear implant. However, I do not think that parents should be afraid of having their child receive the cochlear implant. The fact is that as time goes by our technology is getting better and better which means that the cochlear implant itself should improve. For example, one of the advancements for the cochlear implant is one that was made for iPhone users. Technology for our world is not only becoming deaf-friendly but cochlear user friendly. Therefore, if maintaining a sense of Deaf culture is not a major priority, parents should highly consider looking into the cochlear implant.
The Problem with Dress Code

By Arianna Gama and Ashley Diaz

School dress codes are unfair! In many ways, girls are dress coded more than boys and some of the dress codes are hypercritical. Imagine being in a school that enforces students to wear uniforms and getting in trouble for wearing harmless pieces of clothing that do not work within the uniform standards. It’s unfair because we can’t wear the clothes we want. For example, we can’t wear ripped jeans or colorful sweaters. A lot of students have this problem, and we know this because our friend got dress coded for wearing a plain black T-shirt. It makes students frustrated and stressed, so if they are feeling this way, how are they supposed to learn? Students don’t want to go to school upset because of what they’re wearing.

School employees are tougher on girls than boys for breaking the dress codes. Girls get in trouble more often than boys even when they’re following the dress codes. That might be because girls have more rules. For example, they can’t have shorts shorter than their fingertips or wear tank tops. Principals and teachers say that it causes a distraction to boys because they can see their exposed skin. The co-founder of The Family Coach states that, "We need to be teaching the boys what appropriate behavior is instead of teaching the girls that they have to cover up to protect themselves from the boys." (www.cnn.com). In our opinion, boys aren’t going to be staring at a girl’s shoulder and find it attractive. So we should be able to wear ripped jeans and any sweater we want and express ourselves!

As girls grow up, society tells them that we need to please guys. We came to the world showing our shoulders not knowing that in the future it would be a distraction. The reason for such codes is to prevent a distraction. Laura Bates states, “Often schools go all out and explain that girls wearing certain clothing might ‘distract’ their male peers [...] and boys can’t be expected to control their behavior, so girls are responsible for covering up [...] his education is being prioritized over hers” (educationfind.com). We have been told to be proud of our own skin or to be proud of who we are, but how are we supposed to be proud of our own skin if we’re supposed to cover up. We’re sorry for you boys that are looked down upon because you can’t ‘control yourself’. We’re sorry we’re a ‘distraction’

We're being so naive saying we're being a disruption to our male peers. Sure, there would be a point where we would be a distraction for others. There is just some rules that don't make sense and fair to the side of the girl’s dress code. What is an appropriate length for shorts? That question was answered by the tip of your hand length, but do you see the dilemma? Everyone has a different length of hands. How ripped can your jeans be? The way that was solved was by not letting students wear ripped jeans.

There are many dress codes that are outdated and should be changed. Our society needs to change on how we view people in certain types of clothes. Schools should be open-minded about strict dress codes. Let's be the voice.
The Parking Plight
By Alyssa Kaplan

Chapman University is the loving home of over eight thousand students and yet, roughly eight hundred parking spots. Beginning at 8am, undergraduate, graduate, faculty, and employees begin to fill each of these spots that at first seems like a lot! Not every enrolled student is on main campus at the same time so over eight hundred spots should allow students to arrive to school twenty minutes before class, park, and have enough time to walk through campus and say hi to a few friends right? Wrong. By 9:45am each and every spot is taken. The dreaded red words fill the monitor outside the Lastinger parking lot reading: FULL.

So what does this mean for the students? Well, there are a few options. Option one is to arrive about an hour early and be one who is blessed with incredible patience to drive around the lot again and again hoping someone will be leaving just as you are approaching his or her spot. Option two, is to plan strategically to arrive just as a class block is being released and stalkishly wait at the bottom of the stairs to follow that person to their car. Option three is to park at a different lot, detached from main campus, and hope you left yourself enough time to possibly find a spot in that lot and then walk back to school. The last, and most dreaded option is to park on the street somewhere around campus that is about 5 blocks away so you do not get a ticket from the beloved Orange Police Department.

Chapman University is an increasingly growing college that each year becomes more well known and higher up on high school senior’s top schools list. We have built beautiful new buildings, are in the process of building a brand new dorm, and continue to take over the little town of Orange. If we are going to proceed with fostering this expansion, we need to find a place to park all of the students’ cars because soon that eight thousand will become ten, then twelve and who knows where it will be when this generation of students has their own children ready to attend college. It is time to expand the parking for main campus and have it be within reasonable distance and timing for students who are trying to attend class and learn without having to be marked tardy because parking is a huge plight at Chapman University.
“Times Up” Could Be “Times Up” on #MeToo

By Jodi Payne

When I was eleven years old, my 5th grade math class cycled through three different teachers that year. All of them were young, charismatic women with zealous work ethic and passionate hearts for their students. Yet, each teacher departed suddenly, leaving the students to question why.

It wasn’t until later that we found out the reason for their leave. Mr. Dunbar, the history teacher next door, had been fired based on accounts of sexual harassment in the workplace by a fellow teacher-- a male, who had witnessed Mr. Dunbar’s behavior and finally came forward. Still, this did not keep my three previous math teachers from feeling so silenced by the workplace and resulting social climate that they would sooner leave it altogether than speak out against their mistreatment.

That was 2006. Little did they know that was the same year feminist and social activist Tarana Burke co-founded Just Be Inc. in response to the overwhelming stories she heard about women-- of all colors and sizes and backgrounds-- who had been subjected to sexual harassment, trauma, and violence. This movement focused on rehabilitating female victims of these crimes while furthering the well-being and confidence of women of color in allegiant solidarity. Courtney Connely from CNBC wrote, saying Burke’s vision for this act was to create a community, for women like herself, who could feel safe in discussing their trauma. From this dialogue, Burke continues, they might learn how to combat it on a social and socio-political scale.

Last year, in light of the Harvey Weinstein allegations and charges, actress Alyssa Milano gave greater voice to Burke’s message by taking to Twitter. She encouraged all sexual abuse and harassment survivors to unite under a single hashtag of recognition: #metoo. Overnight, millions of women (and men) began using the hashtag to tell their stories-- on Twitter, on Facebook, and even on Instagram. Other celebrities and icons began to speak out as well and took to the forefront of the movement. Thus, the #metoo wave swept across the nation and even made international coverage and alliances.

From this, TIME magazine covered spokespeople for #metoo and their stories, signifying 2017 as the year of the “Silence Breakers”. (Zacharek, Dockterman, & Edwards, TIME, 2017). The magazine special featured stories from women of all ages and backgrounds who had experienced sexual trauma in the workplace or in any professional setting. This indicated that such issues have no race, gender, or socio-economic preference, but can affect women and men from any of these backgrounds.

Now, many are working tirelessly to continue promoting this hashtag and pursuing its place in 2018. Several public demonstrations and events have attempted to move this progression of candid proclamation forward. This includes the women’s marches that took place in several major cities across the US back in march of this year. It is also demonstrated in the recent statement made at the Golden Globes, where actors stood united in the color black in order to pay mind to such events that came to light in 2017.
CNN Entertainment cites Oprah Winfrey ending her at speech the Golden Globes for winning the Cecil B. DeMille award with a message to qualify this show of unification:
“So I want all the girls watching here, now, to know that a new day is on the horizon! And when that new day finally dawns, it will be because of a lot of magnificent women, many of whom are right here in this room tonight, and some pretty phenomenal men, fighting hard to make sure that they become the leaders who take us to the time when nobody ever has to say "Me too" again.” Because of powerful words, demonstrations, and communion of voices, 2018 has transitioned to include even more than the #metoo movement. To instill finality within its bounds, 2018 has been deemed the “Times Up” year, where the time is up on excused and unaddressed sexual abuse and harassment.

I wish a space like this could have been established earlier for women like my 5th grade math teachers. However In the age of backlash against female empowerment in public demonstration, and in the face of a political world that values leaders who participate in “locker room talk”, the “Times Up” mentality has become more important than ever.

The continuance of open conversation about sexual assault proved its monumental worth through the wide support of #metoo. Yet, solidarity must stretch beyond the hashtag to a “Times Up” stronghold, where the world will acknowledge that survivors will not just stand together but fight together to end the epidemic.

As Oprah Winfrey so eloquently asserted, the hope, then, is for a global community so brimming with warriors and platforms for #metoo victims that the world will not need #metoo any longer.

The more light that is shed and stories that are heard, the more intolerance the activist community will possess for the “Harvey Weinsteins” of the world. Beyond this, our devotion to action-driven dialogue will result in profound power that will exist to combat sexual injustice worldwide.
Is Social Media Creating Social Issues?

By Sammy Hurst

Many people worry about the effects technology has on the development of toddlers and young children, but that should not be their only concern. With such an expansive presence of technology and social media in adolescence and young adult’s lives, experts worry that this exposure is increasing anxiety, lowering self-esteem, and disrupting regular social interactions. Since these years are still a time of rapid development, we must pay close attention to the impact these technological advancements are making on our lives.

As a young adult myself, this topic is something that I can relate to on a personal level. Throughout my life, technology has seemed to grow alongside me, playing an integral role in my development as a young woman. I have experienced and witnessed, first-hand, the transformation of communication, accessibility, and exposure, that technology has made on the world. While it is true that technology and the internet are incredible and useful tools benefitting our daily lives, they have also drastically changed our society and the relationships we had once established with one another.

The first way technology and social media have remarkably impacted society is by increasing anxiety among the adolescent and young adult community. As people are constantly texting, emailing, snap chatting, updating their status, or sharing their location, they have created a community that is hyper connected. This means there is never a time where we are truly alone, which produces anxiety in and of itself. Ironically, it is still easy for people to feel lonely in the midst of this hyper connection. If a friend takes a while to reply, or if someone posts something about an event they weren’t invited to, it causes kids to feel ignored and depressed. These kinds of interactions leave people imagining the worst of themselves and feeling unworthy of others, which is detrimental to their mental health.
Technology and social media also have a negative effect on adolescents and young adults by lowering their self-esteem. This is particularly noticeable in young women, for they are more likely to compare themselves to others. As people spend hours upon hours scrolling through others’ feeds and trying to project the perfect image of themselves, they fail to realize that everyone is just putting up a front. Though people have always had these kinds of thoughts, how great everyone seems, their feeds and see “when kids scroll through their feeds and see how great everyone seems, it only adds to the pressure” (Ehmke, 2017).

Personally, as a twenty-year old female, I have these thoughts more often than not, and I must admit that I play into the ‘imposture syndrome’ too, where I only post what makes my image look good. Although this is important for my future work and business plans, it is not an accurate depiction of who I am in real life. There are so many aspects that contribute to who I am as a person and though it may seem as if I live a perfect life, I don’t. Using myself as an example, I think it’s important for us to keep in mind that everyone faces challenges, so these accounts are not a true representation of who we are.

Finally, technology and social media has disrupted social interactions among adolescents and young adults. Not only does communicating indirectly create a barrier, but it inhibits people from making lasting relationships. This is because people are communicating through a screen, rather than looking at another person. Clinical psychologist, Dr. Catherine Steiner-Adair, mentions how, “as a species we are very highly attuned to reading social cues,” however, kids are missing that these days (2017). She goes on further to say that online communication, “puts everybody in a nonverbal disabled context, where body language, facial expression, and even the smallest kinds of vocal reactions are rendered invisible” (2017). Therefore, people need to get more practice getting their needs met in person and in real time, so they know how to function properly as an adult in professional, casual, and romantic settings.

Technology and social media are vital resources for our success in today’s times, however we must keep in mind the danger that they can bring to our lives. As our exposure is increasing anxiety, lowering self-esteem, and disrupting regular social interactions amongst adolescents and young adults, we must try to prohibit this from continuing. Every individual should be able to utilize these advancements as a beneficial tool, without weakening their relationships with others, or them self.

Resources
"Wealth is the ability to truly experience life." -- Henry David Thoreau. Many people believe that your happiness is directly correlated to the amount of income you make or the level of success you accumulate in your field. The more material goods you possess, the more likely you are to be a more well-rounded and amiable human being. Without the crippling threats of student debt, mortgages or credit card statements, these blissful individuals, are left to lead more productive and happier lives. This speculation has been conceptualized for decades, since the times of Rockefeller and Buffet. But does wealth really relate to happiness? The answer to that, astonishingly enough, is no.

“Money is the currency of transactions happiness is the currency of interactions!”- Dr. Kumar. The most significant disease that Americans are at high risk for in our nation says U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy, is social deprivation. Our lack of interaction and communication with other people is what is believed to be the biggest threat to our generation. Having money does not make you exempt from this staggering statistic. The wealth that we so desperately pray for and cling to is not nearly as essential has our development as a social world. A study done by Layard in 2005, drew a startling conclusion about the relation of income and happiness. Since 1950, the income in the US has nearly tripled, as you can see in the graph below. However, what is most surprising is that the levels of happiness have barely fluctuated; in fact, they have remained practically the same.
We are currently living in the Age of Disconnection, which has created a significant drop in our day to day socialization. As a result, many are being swallowed up by the consumable doom of isolation. Our inability to validate ourselves and our attributes, lead to us relying on wealth as our primary source of happiness. This ultimately results in our justification that money = happiness. Wealth is not measured by the quality of social alliances and relationships formed, but rather by financial means.

Money, much like water is a resource that we need to remain secure and safe in our lives. Without either, we would succumb the dehydration or homelessness. The way I choose to look at it is, the more water we have does not make us appear happier. A surplus of water does not make us superior to those around us. Having an adequate amount of water, enough to relieve us of the stress of searching for a source for each sip we drink is, keeps us fulfilled. Why does the same not apply to money? Why would money, which in comparison is as invaluable as water, be more applicable to happiness in surplus? The same can be said for chocolate. Chocolate has become a necessity in people’s lives. Not having access to it in the future, causing anxiety and stress for those who have become dependent on this delicious treat. Buy chocolate, like water and wealth does not dictate one’s happiness. Once we have reached our physiological and security needs, as pointed out in Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs, the next step is to seek to belong. The first two steps do not encompass all that we need to be happy. The following steps of love and belonging, esteem, and self-actualization are what makes for a truly “happy” person.
What is Math Literacy?

By Ansley Wong

We often hear people say “I am not a math person.” However, we rarely hear people say “I am not a reader” or “I am not a writer”. So, why do people constantly say “I am not a math person”? There is a socially constructed idea that only certain types of people can be good at mathematics. This construct very much shapes our lives. However, we should not let it. We must shape our own lives by challenging ourselves when others say that we are not good enough. As teachers, it is important to fuel the passion within our students. One way of doing so is by having students consider themselves literate in mathematics where they can confidently and effectively use math concepts.

When we think about literacy, we typically think about reading and writing within the English Language Arts subject. In fact, Merriam-Webster defines literacy as the ability to read and write. However, literacy is much more than that. It is the way in which we use language to make meaning of the things around us. It does not have to be just a practice we do in our English Language Arts classes. Literacy is everywhere, even in science, technology, and mathematics. So what does math literacy exactly entail?

Math literacy means to have the ability to problem solve, reason, and analyze information. Although it is important for students to understand how to compute mathematics problems, students should also be able to understand the language of mathematics such as “sum”, meaning an answer to an addition problem. Math includes language in other ways as well. Students need to understand how to use numbers and formulas to help them solve real world problems. More importantly, students use language when describing their mathematical thinking in how they solve a problem.

Just like authentic literacy in reading and writing, authentic literacy should be done in mathematics as well. Students need to stop thinking that math is something only used in the classroom. Math is everywhere and it used in each and every day of our lives. We use it when cooking, exercising, landscaping, driving, and even drawing. The lack of motivation and confidence in mathematics comes in the way of achieving math literacy. It is important as teachers to have a positive view on mathematics and allow students to see the value of being math literate.

By understanding math literacy, one can grow to appreciate the use of mathematics in their daily lives. Math is not something we dread doing but a practice that we can utilize every day just like reading and writing. By using language, we can create meaning and formulate our thinking behind the process of completing a mathematics problem. Math literacy brings creativity to a subject we might otherwise consider boring or mundane. We need to move beyond the numbers to make mathematics enjoyable.
The Wage Gap Between Genders is Unacceptable
By Kiaya Estes and Jaime Gutierrez

The gender wage gap is “the difference between the amount of money paid to women and men, often for doing the same work”(dictionary.cambridge.org) Why do women receive the same job title and tasks but earn less?

Many women suffer from the gender wage gap everyday. When people are asked about the wage gap they respond with, “oh I thought that it was resolved a long time ago.” But unfortunately it is still alive in society today.

We interviewed a Yorba Middle School instructor from the after school Sparks Campfire Program on this topic to see what a hard-working women has to say about it.

Q: What are the main causes of the gender wage gap?
A: I actually don’t know.

Q: What do you think the wage difference is?
A: I think women make around $0.70 for every $1 men make.

In fact, women do actually make around this amount! They make a pitiful $.79 for every $1.00 a man makes! This is unbelievable!

Q: “Do you believe that the gender-wage gap is currently alive in society?”
A: “Yes I think it is.”

Q: “Have you ever experienced the gender-wage gap between you and a co-worker?”
A: “Yes, when I worked at a grocery store.”

Q: “Why do you think the gender-wage gap exists?”

A: “Women have always made less or just cooked and cleaned at home. But women struggle more than men, yet they earn less.”

Q: “Do you have any suggestions on how to start solving the gender-wage gap?”

A: “Bosses can do evaluations to see if you deserve a raise.”

Still, why should women have to earn a raise, but men just get more without earning it? It’s because supposedly men work harder even though women have to go through feeling like they don’t do enough at work, just because they make less than men for the same job position.

Women have always been treated like they can’t do anything except stay at home and take care of the household and their children. Women shouldn’t NEED to earn a raise they should just make the same amount from the beginning, it’s just sexist and we don’t understand, do you? Why should women have to work even harder than before just to make an average amount of money? This is why single moms don’t have the money for transportation to and from school, extracurricular activities, new clothing, and they don’t even have enough for groceries! And not to mention rent and other bills. Some don’t even have enough money to support their children, and because of this their children get taken away by the government! It’s hard for single moms to pay for all of these necessities that help take care of their children. Some moms do get help from the government by receiving food stamps but that doesn’t do very much. Yes, it does help but what does it help with? Encouraging the wage gap between men and women? All the government is saying is that they have to help, just because they don’t give enough money to support women and their children!

In the end, many women work just as hard as men and are brave, strong, and intelligent. Women should make no less than a man that holds the same position. Women need to stand up for what they believe in and fight for what’s right!
Dear Sisters
By Chloe Kardasopoulos

With the start of the new year, 300 Hollywood actresses, agents, lawyers, and other prominent women released a unifying initiative, called Time’s Up, to combat the systemic and established sexual harassment present in the workforce, regardless of economic demographic. A legal defense fund supporting women with skim finances, legislation penalizing companies guilty of harassment, and a statement of solidarity with women present at the Golden Globes to wear black are just a sample of some of Time’s Up goals for this upcoming year.

Tick, tock.

In an open letter, the movement’s fiery and outspoken founders rooted their passion in a fight against the normalization of female abuse: “The struggle for women to break in, to rise up the ranks and to simply be heard and acknowledged in male-dominated workplaces must end; time’s up on this impenetrable monopoly,” says the letter.

Tick, tock.

In a poll published by ABC News and The Washington Post, more than half of American women admitted to experiencing sexual harassment in the workplace. Waitresses being grabbed, actresses trading sexual favors for key roles, and young business women intimidated by their bosses characterize yet do not define the breadth of this issue currently pervading our nation. Not to mention a Huffington Post survey revealing 71 percent of sexual harassment cases that never get reported as women fear retaliation, losing their jobs, and simply resolve such abuse as normal. This is the state of our nation as several eyes scan these words and must digest a horrific truth of abuse. A nation supposedly grounded in equal rights and liberties for all its citizens.

Tick, tock.

To explicate on one formerly mentioned objective, Time’s Up supporter Tina Tchen, Michelle Obama’s former chief-of-staff, is forefronting the Legal Defense Fund, with over $13 million in donations already. This fund will aide women without the financial means to defend themselves from sexual misconduct in the workplace nevermind the balance of reporting issues.

Tick. tock.
Shonda Rhimes, an executive TV producer and key supporter explained her necessary resilience as difficulties arise hindering forward progress: “We’re a bunch of women used to getting stuff done,” she said. “And we’re getting stuff done.”

Time’s Up.