

2011-2012 7th & 8th Grade Class Santa Fe School for the Arts & Sciences www.santafeschool.org





Santa Fe School for the Arts & Sciences is an independent Expeditionary Learning school for preschool through 8th grade. We are committed to academic excellence with a global perspective and a hands-on art & science enriched curriculum, in an environment of respect, inclusion and diversity.

We believe that students thrive when given opportunities to develop their personal talents, in a caring environment where each child has opportunities for self-expression and growth; and are challenged to meet rigorous academic and character standards.

We believe that learning needs to be challenging, engaging and connected to real life.

We believe in the power of compassion, citizenship and service to transform the lives of children and teens.

The 7th & 8th grade students who created this book have taken "Be the Change" to heart as they worked this year to make a difference in our community. Our year-long integrated expedition inspired the creation of this literary magazine and supported a student-led community wide literacy campaign.

Nothing is as inspiring as watching students take activism to a new level. This year, they eagerly learned about courageous activists and then applied the strategies of notables such as Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, Jane Goodall and Craig Keilburger to change our community for the better. They recognized their power as citizens, and were never daunted by the fact that they were teenagers.

Teachers: Geetha Holdsworth & Rayna Dineen



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Reflections on our Expedition "Be The Change"

"We must be the change we wish to see."
-Mahatma Gandhi

When we were given the questions for our Expedition, "Can one person change the world? Can one person make a difference?" Many of us were confident that yes, one person could make a difference. "But what kind of person would do that?" we wondered. As we continued learning about peace activists, we realized anyone could make a difference. It didn't matter their age, gender, race or anything else; they could all make a difference with everything they set their mind to. We think, more often than not, we underestimate ourselves (especially kids), but really, each and every one of us could make a difference.

In our Humanities and English Expedition this year, it was intriguing how much difference a single idea made. Like the idea of equality which played a major role in Gandhi's Quit India Movement, and the US Civil Rights Movement. All these events took place in different times and places, but the strength of this idea inspired everyone who fought for it, no matter when or where. It came across to us in such a strong way that we're beginning to think that all people can achieve other goals through action and perseverance.

We admired and pondered the wonders of great activists, and their firm beliefs in equality, freedom, and justice. Many of us were most fascinated by the roles children have played in history. Learning about inspiring people like Martin Luther King Jr., Gandhi, or Craig Kielburger has taught us that no matter what challenge we face, may it be our race, our gender, or our age, we can overcome it and fight for what's right.

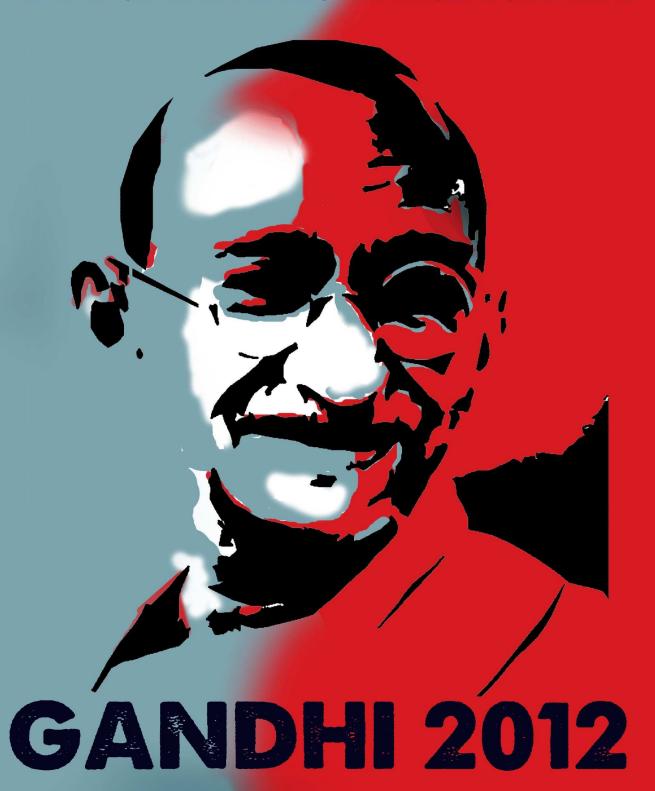
We watched documentaries about Gandhi, Dr. King, The Children's March and the Freedom Riders. After viewing and reading Dr. King's famous "I Have a Dream" speech, many of us could relate to those famous activists and their ability to speak out about our cause. We were impressed that activists like Gandhi and Dr. King used non-violent means to effectively achieve their goals.

Some of us grew up not really thinking we had the power to make a difference in the world. Some of us had never even heard the word activism! But now that we know what it is and how it's done, it is becoming a great passion for many of us. Our Expedition awakened the activist within us. Knowing that if we really try, we have the potential to change the world!

From Craig Kielberger, we learned that anyone can be a leader, from Mahatma Gandhi, we learned that to defy an unjust law is not a bad thing, and from Dr. King, we learned that you must morally rise above the evil in order to beat it. We now have these tools that we can use to change our community for the better.

-Written by SFSAS 7th and 8th Grade Students

AN EYE FOR AN EYE MAKES THE WHOLE WORLD BLIND







One day I hope people don't judge.

Not by your skin color, the way you talk, the way you dress, your religion,

or even disabilities.

If we could accomplish this, the world would be much more peaceful.

Everybody is the same.

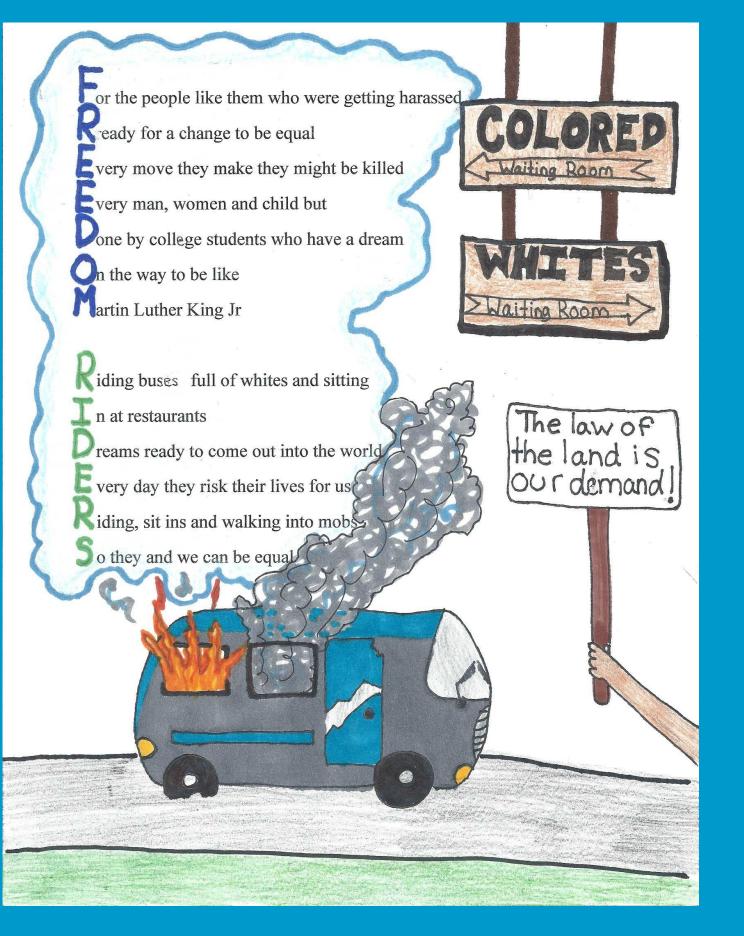
Animals don't judge each other, why should we?

Judging doesn't help anyone.

I sometimes wonder why people judge; is it to make themselves feel better?

Rigoberta Menchu







Freedom can be attained, without violence,

Freedom can be lost with a single shot,

We can't gain freedom with only silence,

So speak up loud boy, or heard you'll be not.

Screams of terror bounce off the whitened wall,

Blood of red trickle down the dirty ground,

"I love you," he says in a voice so small,

Invisible, just waiting to be found.

Shine like the sun, burn like the fire, and win.

Yell loud, go strong, fight to be the change,

Love your rivals; turn their scowl to a grin,

Peace and love blossoms, something very strange.

But they did it, like Martin Luther King, Freedom they have gained, freedom they all sing.

- Alisa

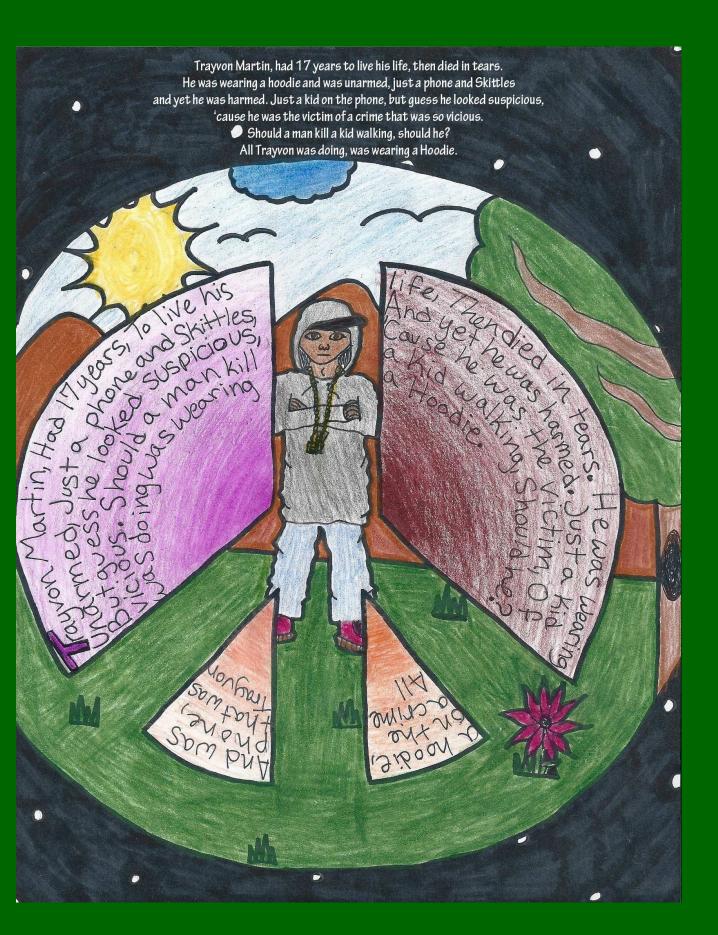
We the Children

"We wish to be treated equally and fairly, we wish to be part of the world around us as it grows and changes to evolve into the new world we are becoming the leaders of. We wish to know, to dream, to live, and to become. We the children of this world wish for acceptance and respect as we live and explore the world around us. We are the children; we are human beings.

Let the sunlight shine on every child, on every teenager, on every adult. Let it be so, that we shall all accept and acknowledge each other to be equal, unique, and creative as children and individual people. Let the young people in society change the way people look at things; let us open the other eye. Let the children explore and become, learn and find the wonders of the world. Let us sing our voices loud and clear; together."

-Tilcara



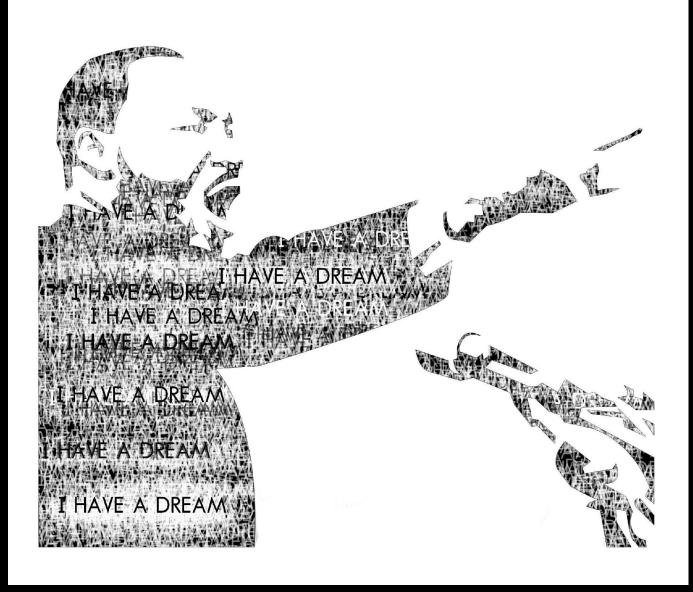




They can be free. All we need to do...

...is act.

I hope when I grow old,
I can change the future and make America a better place.
I hope that no one will put you down
and you can stand up for yourself just the way you are.

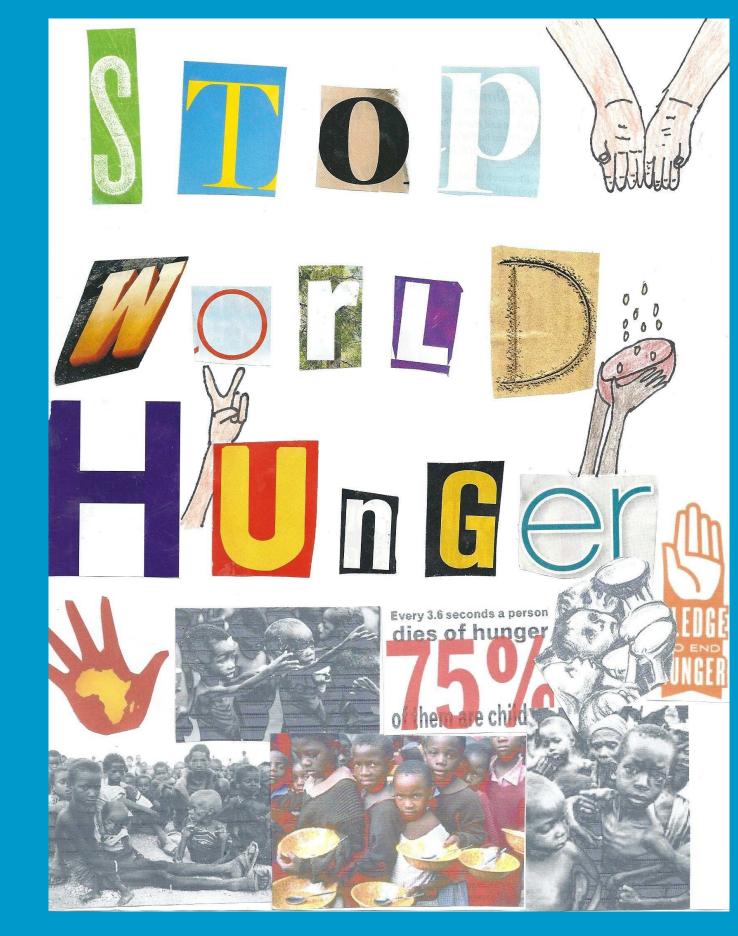


As Americans

As Americans, we are free, and the right to the pursuit of happiness is ours.

But this is currently untrue,
for there is no way for two men
or two women to be happy together.
They cannot be married and they are
now second class citizens.
What separates the gay man and the
straight man?
They look the same,
They are both American,
And they both deserve rights.









As I walk, I think,

These forests that I adore, these birds that so happily chirp,

Live

As I walk, I learn,

I see the newly born deer learn how to dip their heads and drink, How to smell danger in the air,

The small and fragile mice that scurry through the underbrush around my feet,

And I realize one thing, everything here

Lives.

As I walk, I see,

The wind brushing through the trees, their pine needles slowly falling to the ground,

The forts that my peers and I built last summer,

A small stream flows freely to my right, and a steep cliff casts shadows down onto me to the left.

The familiar sounds of human voices hit my ears,

As I walk, I know,

That without that great figure, these woods may not be here,



The birds may not be chirping,
The deer may not be drinking,
The mice may not be scurrying,
The forts may not be standing,
Nothing here, would be living,
And as I smile, I think,

Thank You John, Thank you for everything.

As I walk, I say,



"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks."

-John Muir



-Logan Luiz

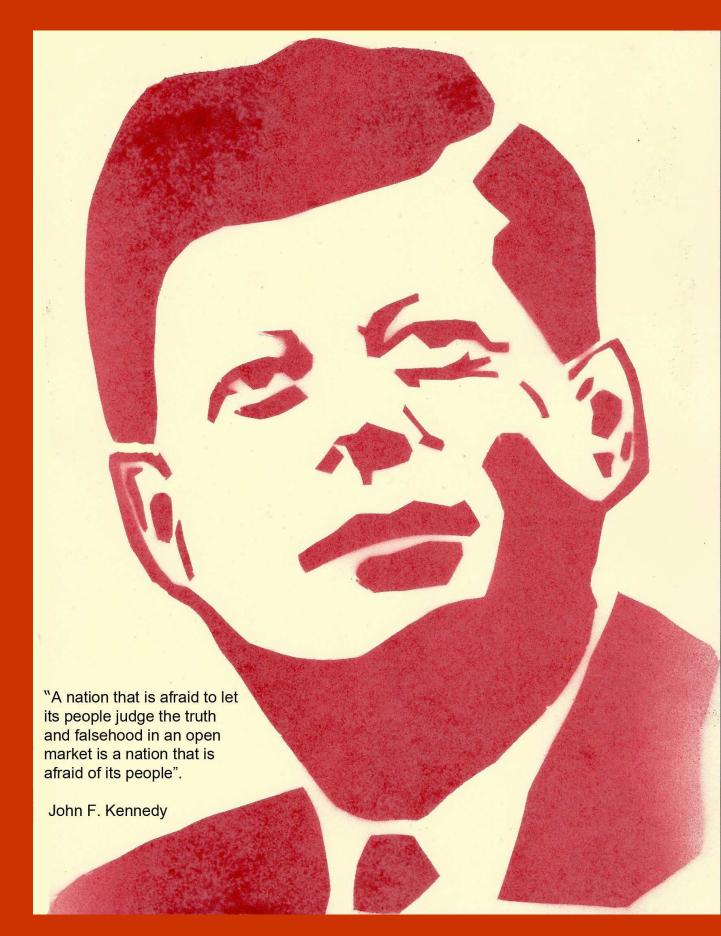


"Be the



that you wish to see in the world."

-Mahatma Gandhi





Free The Children

Have you ever thought of children just like you and me,

Working long hours kept in captivity, Hoping to one day be free from inequality.

Stolen from their families, Raped of their identities.

Thrown in carpet factories.

Child labor is a world wide crime,

Hoping to pay their debt but barely making a dime. As well as brick kilns.

Going unnoticed by the public,

A secretive torture made a young boy sick. Craig Kielburger from a small Canadian town, Learned about child labor and spread the word around.

Igbal Masih was a small Pakistani boy murdered, Speaking out against child labor hoping to be heard,

Front page news articles read.

Craig's eyes widened as the words planted a seed. Evaporated water fills them outside this jail. Something had to be done,

That's when Craig's journey begun.

A group he called Free The Children was his creation,

He started off informing people of his nation.

A little down the line,

Craig got a sign,

A trip to Asia was in store,

To learn about Child labor more.

Talking with real kids battling this issue everyday, It's made me believe to make a difference I agree. A way to actually see what the kids had to say.

When he arrived,

He saw most people deprived.

Child vendors,

None of them pretenders.

Heart wrenching situations for kids as young as six,

Not knowing about the real world,

Always surrounded by bricks.

Carpet looms were horrific too,

Forced to work with poor ventilation,

Inhaling harmful fumes without a clue.

Craig discovered dotting the scenery,

The terrible dangers of the fireworks factory.

One wrong move,

Flammable chemicals explode,

All children evacuating to the road.

Precautionary measures consist of two empty pails,

Taken against their will to provide for the people,

Most don't understand child laborers aren't treated equal.

Hoping to make a difference to stop this atrocity,

Craig took a stance proving his generosity.

Encouraging children to live "Me to We",

Telling youth they have a voice just like me.

A story like this one has inspired me to say,

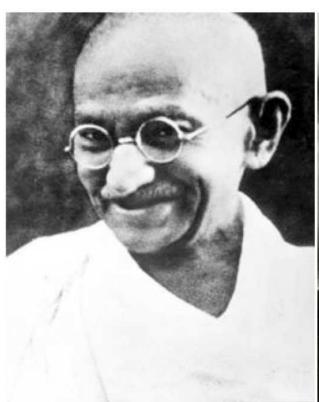
I want to change the world everyday.

If I hadn't read this book I don't know who I would be,











Whether it's sitting down to stand up,

Walking miles to get salt

Or

Speaking dreams....

Activism, is what's up.



Join Hands and Help Gay Rights!!!



"Who taught you to hate yourself?" asked Malcolm X. He was speaking the truth, only it's 50 years later and still halfway true. The government taught kids, and still teaches kids of color to hate their heritage/culture. I pray that one day my grandchildren will know that Black is beautiful and Hispanic is beautiful and Asian is beautiful and Native American is beautiful and that Latino is beautiful, that Central American is beautiful, that everyone is beautiful. I hope my kids know they don't need to straighten their hair or bleach their skin to feel beautiful.



They Are Human Too...

You and I and all people are immigrants here, we are a nation of immigrants by definition, and in every sense of these words. So should we deny our proud heritage so we can persecute these newer immigrants, who are just looking for hope, and for a chance at new life? Yes, Dr. King had a dream, a dream he shared with our great nation and the world at large, and a dream of freedom.

I have a new dream, for a new millennium, a new era, and a new world.

I bave a new vision ...

It is a vision of equality, of a flourishing America, of an America where we can all exist not as many together, but as one united.

It is a vision that no one will be judged by others because of how they dress, or talk or where they come from. My new vision is a simple request, and an appeal to the hearts and minds of the American people.

That we can all understand one another; that we can acknowledge each other as individuals and not as a set of empty names; that we can give all people the basic human rights they deserve...and I hope...just hope, that it is not my vision; I hope I share this vision with all of you, with "We the People", so that all of us can ensure we are "one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all..." for the unique and diverse races, for the unique individuals, for the human race...

"I Have A Dream Today..."

An Excerpt from A New Vision
by Brass Burapa



Rosa Parks

R iding on the city bus

O f course the driver made a fuss

S itting in the front was not allowed

A bout to move but she was too proud

P arks would stand up for her rights

A nd she would do so without a fight

R ight away the cops were called

K eeping composure to jail she was hauled

1913 - 2005

S he would stand up for her rights, and make a difference without a fight.





A BETTER OPPORTUNITY,

WE DID NOT HAVE THE LUCK OF OTHERS.

INSTEAD OF INHERITING RICHES AND JOY,

WE INHERIT DEBT AND PAIN,

WITH THAT WE DO NOT PUT OUR HEADS DOWN

BUT WORK MUCH HARDER, WITH PERSISTENCE AND HOPE

WE ARE FIGHTERS WITH DREAMS

OF BECOMING SOMEBODY INSTEAD OF BEING THE NOBODY

WE WERE OUR WHOLE LIVES

WE COME FOR A BETTER LIFE,

GAVE UP WHAT WE KNOW,
FAMILY, AND THE COUNTY WE LOVE EVEN THOUGH
IT COULDN'T OFFER US WHAT WE WANTED

WITH OUR HARD WORK, THE SWEAT ON OUR FOREHEAD, AND PAIN ON OUR BACK,

WE ARE TREATED LIKE CRIMINALS

AND SENT BACK TO OUR COUNTRIES OF BIRTH

SHATTERING LIKE THE MOST DELICATE GLASSES,

We Are America









BULLYING NOW

STAND UP . SPEAK OUT





Bullies Are:

- NOT COOL
- NOT FRIENDLY
- NOT POPULAR
- NOT RESPECTED
- NOT WELCOME
- ALL OF THE ABOVE





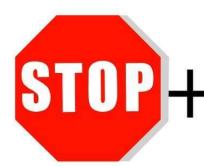
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE

I WILL I















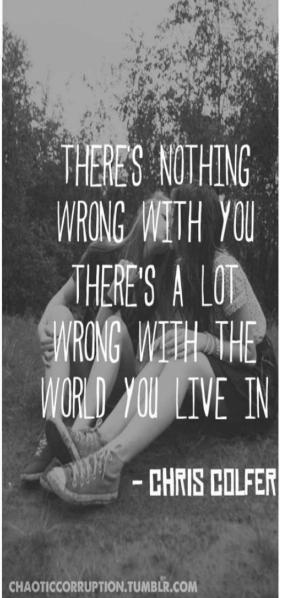




GAY IS OKAY









You are you and no one can change that

And love is love and no one can change that

Who you love is who you love and you can't help that,

Gay is okay

Why can't the world see that....TODAY?

SANTA FE NEW MEXICAN.com

City teens lead Hooked on Books project

By LAUREN

5/20/2012

I've always believed everyone has the ability to change the world, no matter how old they may be. It's one thing to look at the problems of society and take no action, and it's another to do something about them.

Gandhi said, "We need to be the change we wish to see in the world," and that's what a group of teens and I set out to do. I'm in eighth grade at Santa Fe School for the Arts & Sciences, and in September we decided to make a difference in our community.

One of the key elements to success in life is being literate, something with which our state struggles. We rank 49th out of 50 states in literacy and have a 63 percent graduation rate in Santa Fe. One of the reasons we're having so many high school dropouts is because many students struggle with basic literacy skills. If more people could read, they could get better jobs and make more money which in turn, would lead to less poverty.

Our solution to our state's reading issue is to get kids reading proficiently at an early age. By making reading cool and popular, more kids become willing to picking up a book rather than playing a video game or checking out Facebook. We thought if we created a wave of positive peer pressure, friends could impress upon their friends that reading is something kids should want to do.

We created a student-driven campaign called "Hooked on Books: Reel kids into reading," to empower the kids and teens of our generation to reach toward better possibilities for their future. We hold monthly contests based on books and reading, which gives kids the opportunity to win amazing prizes. Motivating nonreaders with prizes gives them an incentive to read a book and hopefully discover the magic of reading in the process. We have been

running this campaign since September, have held five competitions so far, with close to 1,000 participants in all. Our summer reading contest begins this week.

One way I take part in our campaign is by attending meetings every other weekend as part of a Youth United group. We are a group of middle and high school students from different schools who are the steering committee for Hooked on Books. We judge the contests, buy prizes, design the competitions, and much more. It's one way I like to positively impact my community, because as a part of a community, it's our responsibility to take care of it.

We have placed eight blue Hooked on Books shelves around town, and they are filled with free books that children or parents can take home. Folks can take, borrow or donate a book to these bookshelves. These bookshelves are in hospitals and public health clinics, the Division of Motor Vehicle offices and other places where children wait with their parents. We're also holding a two-week free intensive summer camp in July to help tutor kids in need of reading help.

If you'd like to support us, you can check out our website at www.nmallianceforliteracy.org, "like" us on Facebook, or donate books or money to help create a successful future for Santa Fe.

It's up to us to make a difference. As Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

Lauren is an eighth-grade student at Santa Fe School for the Arts and Sciences who is looking for ways to make a difference in the world.



Free and Equal





Government should let love spread.

All people are equal.

You can love whomever you want.

Rights are our freedom.

1 do believe in the right to marriage.

Gay pride.

Have courage.

Together we can make a change.

Souls shine brighter than the sun





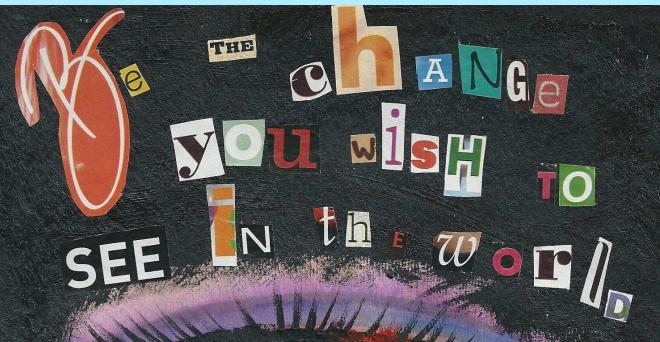


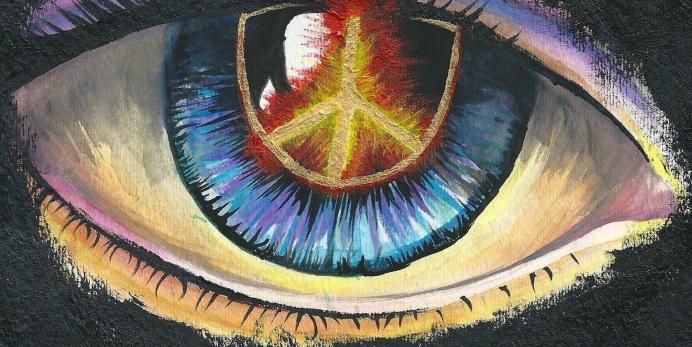
The funny thing about stereotypes is that many of them can be easily disproved. Stereotypes are like conspiracy theories- you can't truly believe them until you've seen them proved before your eyes. Take Native Americans for example. Many people believe all Native Americans are millionaires because many tribes own casinos, resorts, gas stations, and more businesses. Yes, many tribes own casinos and resorts, but to tell you the truth, a lot are the exact opposite of rich. In fact, one-third of the Native American population is recognized as poor. The Pine Ridge Native American reservation has even been named multiple times as the poorest place in the United States. The money we get from our casinos and businesses we use to help the pueblo. We put getting people water, helping people with groceries when a family member dies, running our government, or other basic community services first.

What I am about to tell you is true for not only Native Americans, but all non-Natives, African American, Mexican, Asian, Caucasian and all the other races as well. Racial stereotypes can be the rise or fall of someone and their dreams. Please think before you say or assume something about someone, whether it's based on his or her race or maybe even his or her social status. You may not think so, but just your thoughts of a typical race can matter a lot.



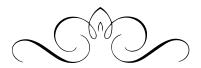






Mallacoma

gandh



Be The Change

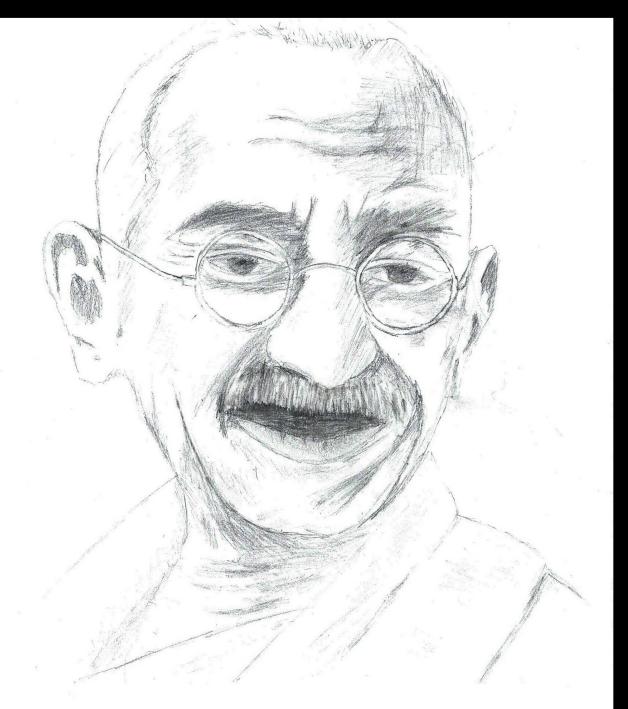
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Be The Change

