

Marco Rangel

Power Culture Equity & Service

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Thoughts and Reflections

Going thru the process of recording my answers once again allowed me to see the changes from the beginning of the semester till now. This process helped me understand with more clarity the ways I speak and understand how I orally communicate. The first time listening to my own recording was a new learning process. Re-doing such activity was easier and fun as well. This also allowed me as well to me more confident and comfortable with myself when speaking.

There were many different aspects throughout the semester I thought were really interesting. We are judge based on color, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and other things. Many times we don't do anything to stop such discrimination against that targeted group. "One of the strongest video I felt most related to was Favela rising" this video reflects many things about humanity; perhaps one of the strongest video. Favela rising was a very interesting video that described many different social aspect that people go thru in a daily basis. "I can relate to this video perhaps more than other people in the class because I had friends that lived the "ghetto". Some of my friends I use to visit lived in the ghettos of Mexico their house consisted of cardboard and four people shared one bed; this is just a small description of what who they lived." This created a type of feeling and sadness inside. There were moments I wanted to help but there was nothing I could do. All this reflecting to the idea of privileged and marginalized people, some are born

with that advantage over others. Much of reflected in my service learning site in which I learned a numerous amount of things.

My service learning is a small grass roots program. Most of the money they receive is only from donations. The majority of this kids are seen as the marginalized by society, most of the parents have to work long hours in fields to provide an income to support their family. Growing up I related to most of what I see in my service site, but I had the fortune and the opportunity to only take step forward. Starting in the marginalized area taught me the truths about life and how harsh it can be to anyone. "Watching my parents working in the fields for long hours under the boiling sun and all the suffrage it takes and the sacrifice to work for the smallest amount of money was my inspiration." If there is anyone I would admire it would be my parents because even though I was in the marginalized side they made feel like I was in the privilege side. Having gone thru things like that and much more helps me relate to those who go thru the same thing, also helping them become better people. Which is the case in my service site, I have left so comfortable and enjoy attending CPY I still attend even though am done with my hours. "There comes a point that you do certain things because you enjoy it, and you don't do it because you're forced to."

"Although it may sound sad I believe racism will not end, there will always excite some type of discrimination." Over years there has always been some type of racism and competition to show power and authority. Relating back to the video about rap and how many times society labels people, and creates expectations since a young age. These type of issues have affected my life in a different way, opening my eyes and not judging people because of their sexual orientation. "Racism is being disrespectful or discriminating someone based on their skin or race", "as

well as racism, I believe sexism is the discrimination against someone in this case gender, which is typically in women.”

“My goals of service are helping others without expecting anything but satisfaction of knowing I helped others”. Many times people only help when they are interested in receiving something in return, not so much because it’s born from the heart. “Any type of help can be a service that helps society, regardless if it’s helping someone cross the street, helping them carry a bag of grocery, opening the door for someone can make a difference”. Small actions can be very important; in my opinion the smallest little service helps anybody. Many charity efforts are created to help people that need it the most because they marginalized within society, an injury or something we may be born with such; genetic disorder or disease. “Sometimes I see charity as something that doesn’t come from the heart, because people are expected to contribute or they do charity because of a tax return.”

CPY has been trying to influence students into becoming better people. After the death of the high school student which is was lead to the creation CPY, CPY leaders try and take students away from the streets and do something productive after school. CPY is a small that is slowly beginning to expand and make a change in the life of these children. I believe that anyone has the opportunity to create a change in the community regardless of how small the action is. Being in this class helped me understand many things. I have the power to change people’s lives. Overall this class taught me to embrace who I am and get out of my comfort zone. Help other regardless of who they are, where they come from or their races. No one should be discriminated for any reason, and even the simplest way of helping can change someone’s life. We have thought several things being placed in a box where if we leave that box, we are

discriminated, harassed, oppressed and many other things. People should have the right and not the privilege to be who they want. We are all born with different backgrounds but at the end I still believe we are all the same one race.