
ELI STUDENT VOICES

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Puerto Rican Satos: Their Search for the American Dream

Diana Acevedo

R/W 60

(1st Place)

It is incredible how people here in the United States take care of their pets, especially dogs. They have the opportunity to be treated like humans breaking the barrier of species. Many of these dogs live better than humans with commodities like spas and expensive high quality food to pet schools and five star hotels. Unfortunately, not every dog in the world has this comfort, even the love or care of someone. Even though they live on a tropical island, their lifestyle is worse than in a desert or even the Antarctic. That's a *sato's* life: homeless dogs in Puerto Rico. Some of these dogs are abandoned, others born and raised on the streets. "It's believed there are over 200,000 stray dogs in Puerto Rico. They are mutts," said Nora Angstead, officer from Rosenberg Animal Control (Zagrzecki).

When you are driving on highways like I-75 or Florida's Turnpike, like any other state, it is usual to see some road killed wild animals like opossums or raccoons. Maybe that doesn't affect you but, what about a dog? In Puerto Rico, instead of opossums' or raccoons' rotten corpses in the street, we have cats and dogs. So, if you're bored driving from one place to another in Puerto Rico you can get entertained counting dead cats and dogs on the street. If you drive highways like PR-30 from Caguas to Humacao, in just 45 minutes you can easily find 10 dead dogs and if you pass there every day you can learn all the process of decomposition. Interesting isn't it? But, what if that "dead thing" was your dog? You probably wouldn't like to see how it disappears or just goes to be dust again. Strays dogs in Puerto Rico are like squirrels in the United States; they are everywhere. Unfortunately most of them live their last seconds of life agonizing in a middle of a street after being hit by a car.

That is only one of the many things that could happen to *satos*. They also suffer of starvation and isolation. They are nomads who walk everywhere in search of food in the dumpsters with the intense Caribbean sun over their coats. More of them are born "free," others begin their stray life thanks to the negligence of owners who don't want to take care of their pets anymore or didn't spay their pets leaving their offspring on the streets. They are in danger of people's cruelty and brutality against them. These *satos* are kicked, poisoned or even burned by these senseless people and they can't defend themselves. Only the society with their laws can punish these vandals.

Law 67 in Puerto Rico defends animal rights and also sanctions by a fine of approximately \$300.00 or jail. In 2002, law 304 emended this law to raise fines to \$5000. This law should be respected but it seems that nobody follows it or even worse, nobody knows about it. If the people know, they don't care; just a small group of greathearted people care about these helpless beings. Also there are no designated police officers to handle this problem compared to here in the United States because the Puerto Rican government is more focused in drugs and criminality problems than stray dogs. The Humane Society of Puerto Rico says, "Unintentional cruelty can usually be resolved through education," (law 67) but apparently there's no one who can teach that.

There are not too many shelters for that large number of dogs. By law, every municipality in Puerto Rico should have a shelter but there are only six shelters for all the 78 municipalities. Even in the veterinary office there are at least three *satos* rescued by someone that pays for their medical attention. These doggies, after their treatment, are available for adoption. That means that vet's offices are also used as animal shelters because all shelters in Puerto Rico are overpopulated. Rescued dogs still suffer in the shelter, living long days inside small kennels waiting for their "pet guardian" but these "dog breed racist" people prefer paying big amounts of money for a breed dog with funny names like *Bichon Frise* or *Shih-Tzu* instead of mutts called with the despicable name of *Sato*. So, the fastest solution for this problem is euthanasia.

Many organizations are trying to save these canines of been killed on the street or in shelters but it is hard work. First, this is voluntary work which means that there's no money involved. It will cost a lot of money to cure these stray animals and most organizations don't have enough money to pay for medicines and treatments. Not too many people in Puerto Rico expend their money on their pets and even less on one that doesn't belong to them. Also, there are too many homeless dogs and there are not enough people who want to adopt them. A possible solution of this problem is sending them to shelters in other states of the United States. Non-profit organizations like Save a *Sato* does this kind of thing: rescuing dogs from the streets and giving them "a new opportunity in life."

"I read a lot about how hard their lives are in Puerto Rico. It just affected me so much. I had to do something. If I had a farm, I'd have more," said Marianna Massa, who got her dog Peluso at an animal shelter in Salem MA (Brook, 2003). Peluso was one of 14,000 Puerto Rican stray dogs that are transported to the United States by the Save a *Sato* organization. Forget about American puppies, get Latin ones. Now these Latin puppies can live as Americans with all the luxury and comfort. The best of all is that they are loved and pampered so they don't suffer anymore.

Satos, like human immigrants, go to the states to get a better lifestyle. It seems that dogs have this American dream too: a life without breed racism, without any restriction. But, if we educate the Puerto Rican society about all the responsibilities of taking care of a pet or if we use the amount of money to create more shelters in the island instead of using it to bring these dogs to the States, that four-legged American dream could be possible without emigration. By the way, Puerto Rico is part of the United States, which means that these animals are Americans too, but they don't know that. That's a funny reason to let these hairy pals live the American dream in their home place. Awareness and education are the best possible solution to this problem. If you see someone who does some animal cruelty, do not call the police, call the Humane Society. Forget about dog breeds, save a *sato* and take care of it. He or she will be thankful and you will get the best friend you could imagine for free.

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Dream or Reality?

Yuriy Nikitin

R/W 30

(2nd Place)

The sky is very blue, and the wind is in my face. I am moving easily through the air. I look to my left and see an eagle. I am flying, and I want this feeling to continue forever. Then I wake up.

It is 10:00 a.m. and I'm at the Russian Air Force aerodrome. Today in the morning, I will make my first flight all alone. I got up early because I had my childhood dream, my dream of flying with the eagles, and it woke me up.

At 12:30 p.m. I'm allowed to get into my plane. I sit in my plane and smell the jet fuel. I get permission to take off for my first flight. I'm very excited, but I don't lose control of my feelings. I have to keep my concentration. The time comes, and I finally take off. The sky is very blue, and I remember this blue sky from my dream. I look to my left and see an eagle. I'm flying, but this time it is not a dream. It is reality. It is the realization of my childhood dream. After one hour of flying with the eagles, I have to return to the aerodrome. Farewell my eagle. It is time for this real flight to end, and I must land.

In the evening, when I go to bed, I can't sleep. Only after midnight do I fall asleep and see again the blue sky and the eagle of my childhood. Am I asleep, or am I awake?

Don't Worry

Banky Wisaratana

R/W 30

One month ago, I arrived to the United States of America. It was the first time for me in the US. I was excited when I came to Minneapolis Airport. I saw many people from other countries. I thought this was a good opportunity for me.

On Jan. 6, I came to register at the ELI office. What they spoke, I didn't understand. I thought maybe I was too excited when I talked with someone who spoke English. Classes began on January 15th. I am in level 30 in all of my classes. It is the best for me. I have Reading/Writing and Grammar class in the morning, and Listening/Speaking in the afternoon. Before class everyday, I am talking with my classmates. We are practicing speaking phrases between us such as "how are you doing? What's up? How about last night?" Now I don't fear to talk with someone. So I sometimes make a mistake. I think only "Don't worry."

Finally, I'm very happy. I have a lot of friends here. Most of my friends come from Asia same as me. I will write about my close friends next time.

How to Be a Winner

Carolina Alvite

R/W 400

You don't need to win to be a winner; you just need to do your best and know to take the opportunities in your life. In my life, I always wanted to study marine mammals, but I did my University so far from the ocean. There wasn't anyone who did research about these animals. So, I found one woman who studied animal behavior, and her species focus was the capybara. I started to work with her and researched these animals. In my last year at University, I did a wonderful final research paper about the capybara's feeding behavior. It wasn't what I really want to study, but I did a good job and learned a lot of things about behavior methodology and how to do a good research project. So, when I finished my University, my research supervisor recommended me for a job on the northeast coast of Brazil, to research manatees, the most endangered marine mammal in Brazil. Despite the fact that I didn't want to study capybara, this work showed me the way to find a job with marine mammals and achieve a dream.

The Changing Role of Women

Sheng-Chien Yu (Catherine)

R/W 41

From ancient times to the present, women have been expected to depend on men or their families. Women do not

always play the role of housewives now, even though women still need to organize lots of domestic chores. What causes the changing role of women? Three of the principal causes are: education, occupation, and social status.

First of all, education is the foundation of everything. In the past, people thought only men should be educated, and women should just follow men. Education has been popularized in many countries these years; most people can go to school to get even higher education. For example, the ratio of females to males is almost equal in Taiwan's university now. Women get a lot of knowledge from school; moreover, they understand the world is vast. Life is not only family but also other things are worth doing.

In addition, when you have excellent skills or education, you get an occupation easily. You will get achievement from your job. Furthermore, you earn remuneration from your occupation and you are economically independent. When women work hard, their working abilities and efficiency are approved. They will be promoted at the office. Women do not always do those routine and simple jobs. For instance, there are many women, outstanding and competent, who become the leaders of companies or play decisive roles.

Finally, the social status of women should be promoted when they possess enough capabilities. For example, the first female vice president of Taiwan was elected in 2000. Besides, one-third of the councilors on the Taipei City Council are women. Moreover, Shirley M. Tilghman, a biochemistry professor, became the first female president of Princeton University in 2001. Princeton University has been established for two hundred seventy-seven years.

In summary, the role of women has changed. Women are able to receive complete and substantial education. Moreover, they will develop their advantages and wisdom in their occupation. Finally, women will be promoted in social status. For all these of reasons, I believe that the women's role has changed dramatically even though they still have to take care of their families.

Winner and Winning

Sandra Hoyos

R/W 400

There are three reasons why I think life is like the practice of sports. First, when you start to play any sport, you do it for pleasure, like a baby who chooses her or his activities only for attraction, and your only interest is winning and enjoying. Second, when you choose any sport to practice, you start to meet problems and difficulties. If you don't control yourself, maybe it will be the cause of obstacles like a handicapping in sports, but you can strengthen yourself through practice in life and in sports. Then those which at one time were your insecurities later can become your fortress. Finally, you're all that you build into your life. Like in sports, all you do will be the result of your effort.

The Ways of Life

Yong Sik Kim

R/W 400

There are various ways in leading a life. It is never easy to choose some ways of life because life is very complicated. The happiest man is the one who lives worthily. It is the most successful life, I think. I dare to say some ways of life. First of all, a man ought to be honest. A proverb says that honesty is the best policy. In Korea, some businessman who makes a long march flushed with victories was finally ruined on account of his lie. Also, one ought to be modest. To stoop is to conquer. Self-conceit is the shortcut to ruin. As a matter of course, one should lower oneself. The third factor is that one ought to think about everything and behave affirmatively. Even though a person undergoes a lot of hardships and privations, he should endure and overcome. The fourth way is never to give oneself over to despair. Never give up! As long as there is life, there is hope. I cannot forget Seri Park who is a famous golf player. A ball she hit fell just beside a pond; she stepped in and hit the ball successfully. Finally she won the title in that tournament. At that time we, all Koreans, were deeply impressed by what she did. The fifth is that one ought to live with self-confidence. If one does not have self-confidence, he will almost always lose, for it is driving force in life. Finally, one ought to have a lot of good friends. In particular, when in need, his friends are able to help and save him. A faithful friend is a kind of blessing in life, especially for a man who works in a firm or other organization. The above is only my personal opinion. In conclusion, a man should live by his principles in order to succeed in his life.

Advantages of Studying in the U.S. for International Students

Hassan Mozahab

R/W 40

Many young people do not want to be away from their home countries. However, there are a lot of people coming to the U.S. each year to continue their education at universities and college. The reason is the high quality of the academic programs in American colleges and universities compared to the educational systems of other countries. Although international students have many difficulties living in the U.S., where language, culture, and even beliefs are different from what they have been raised with, most international students prepare for their careers by studying in the United States. Being an international student in America has brought three advantages to my life: having the chance to attend Building Construction school, increasing my job opportunities in the world, and gaining knowledge about different cultures.

The most important advantage of going to college in the U.S. for me is having the chance to major in Building Construction, which was almost impossible when I was in my country because of the limited capacity at the university. In my country, Iran, students have the chance to take the annual

entrance exams of universities. The difficulty of these exams, because of the very limited capacity of universities compared to the high number of applicants, makes secondary education merely a dream for a lot of students. Since I came to the U.S., this dream is coming true.

Another benefit that attending university in the U.S. has brought me is increasing my job opportunities around the world. By studying in English, which is an international language, I will be able to communicate and share my knowledge better with people from other countries. This will enhance my chance of being hired by many international companies, since most of them need bilingual employees who know English. In addition, studying in an American university gives me knowledge of the latest technology in the world. All these benefits from studying in the U.S. upgrade my job opportunities.

Becoming familiar with other people's culture is also an advantage of attending university in America. During almost a year in America at the University of Florida's English Language Institute, I have made many friends from different parts of the world including China, Spain, America, etc. Communicating with these friends, I have learned a lot about their behavior, beliefs, and norms that they culturally hold. For example, most Spanish students hug and kiss each other whenever they meet. They usually go out in a group and even study more in groups. They are happy people with kind hearts that hold their relationship very well even with non-Spanish students. Besides Spanish culture, I have become familiar with other cultures as well because of studying at the English Language Institute.

Overall, I will experience three advantages from attending college in the U.S. These benefits include, most importantly, the chance to study Building Construction, increasing my opportunities of having a better job in this competitive world, and also gaining information about other cultures. Since studying in the U.S. is beneficial in a variety of ways for all people around the world, I encourage everyone to experience a period of time studying in an American college or university.

An Unforgettable Day

Mariana Zavala
R/W 30

When I was sixteen years old, my family gave me a very nice gift. The best one that I ever received. It was a ticket for a travel around many exotic islands on a luxury ship, so I immediately went to the mall to buy bathing suits, shorts, and many items for the beach (sun block, sandals, etc.). Then I went to my house, and my sisters helped me to pack my things. That night I couldn't sleep because I was excited. I was thinking about everything, the ship, the food, and guys that I was going to meet.

The next morning, I woke up early. It was 4 a.m. However, we lost the car keys and that made us late to the airport. I thought that I would never get on the plane, but I made it. When I got on the plane, I met a lot of young people

who were going on the trip, too. After many hours, we arrived to Miami, and we took the ship. It was amazing. It was huge and very nice. My room was pretty nice too, with a blue marine color on the walls. That night all the people on the ship had a special diner in the main restaurant. Then we went to the discothèque inside the ship and we spent all the night talking, laughing, and dancing.

Finally, we went to sleep. That was my best day in my life. This day was a lot of fun. I met many interesting people and one special guy that right now is my lovely boyfriend. I will never forget this day.

My Birthday

Pietro Menegaldo Scionti
R/W 30

My best day was the day of July 3, 2002. That day was my birthday and my graduation, too. On July 3, I woke up at 7:00 a.m. I used to go to my school every day, but that day was my birthday, so I went to my friend's house instead, and we saw the Football World Cup.

Then at 11:00 a.m., we went to school to practice our graduation ceremony. At 3:00 p.m., everyone left to his house to get ready. At 7:00 p.m., we returned to school, and we went to the graduation ceremony. After that, the graduation party started and the fun began! I was very excited because my teachers and friends had a surprise for me. They did a video with pictures of me since I was little until present. My mother and I cried a lot after watching the video; it was great!

Finally, we went to the nightclub. My family, friends, girlfriend, and my teachers were there. The club was opened just for us, but now I have a problem because I can't remember anything after that! I just remember that the next day I woke up at my best friend's house. All in all, that was my best day in my life.

The Ways Colors Affect You and Me

Kaori Yamamoto
R/W 400

There are a number of colors, which affect our daily lives and feelings. We live surrounded by color. First, weather changes everyday. The orange sun makes me feel cheerful and happy. The blue sky makes me healthy. The white clouds make me feel fresh. But gray weather makes me feel sad. In the spring, we can see bright trees. They have various greens. Here, in Gainesville we can see many green leaves and colorful flowers. I love it here because I can't see greens like these in Tokyo because it is surrounded by many gray buildings. Colors do affect our daily lives. In other words, we can coordinate our lifestyles with colors, and this is second point. For example, room lights affect our condition. If I want to be calm in my room, I can change my room light to darker colors. And, I can arrange or harmonize colors in my room. Colors are usually important for coordinating. That's also true about our clothes. Clothes decide a day's mood. We can choose some colors by

daily feelings. In Japan, we have to wear black suits to a funeral. It's bad manners to wear any color except black. On the other hand, we can wear white or colorful dress in a wedding. In addition, colors sometimes will affect others' first impression of use. They express one's character. Personally, my favorite color is green. I'm collecting all sorts of green goods. Anything is good for me if it's green. I wonder why I like green so much, but I do wear green somewhere everyday. Green makes me stay calm. It has an effect of healing. Finally, I like natural colors too like the Gainesville greens. It's also a pleasure to take pictures of natural colors. When I take a picture in the market, I need colorful fruits and vegetables. It's more attractive and fresh if colorful. And it's my pleasure to eat those colorful foods too. Our daily lives really need fresh colors!!

Then, when we cheer for the Gators, we wear blue and orange costumes. We can cheer in a body. Blue and orange gives us a feeling of identification. In that moment, we can become united. That's team COLOR. Go Gators!

Men in Black

Banky Wisaratana

R/W 30

This month is a month of love. Everyone has known that for a long time. It's my first Valentine's Day in the U.S. I had a new experience.

My American's friend asked me out. He told me about a plan for the weekend. We usually meet each other everyday and talk together. He helped my Thai friends and me at the ELI. He wanted to be a conversation partner with us. Then, the plan this week was to go to the party in somewhere. We agreed with him. On Friday the 14th, we met at his home around 11 P.M. We left to the party at midnight. First, we visited his friend at another party. When we arrived to the first party, I couldn't believe my eyes. It was a punk party. Most of guys were wearing clothes in a punk style. "HI, come in!" said the owner of the house. So, we all said "Hi" to him. He looked at me and asked, "Are you Thai?" I was very surprised. Then he kept on speaking "I'm Thai, too." He was Thai-American. I talk to him for about 30 minutes. I was very confused because he wanted to speak Thai, but I wanted to speak English. After that, my friend told me "We gonna go now" although I wanted to stay on. At the other party, it looked like a dark warehouse. Suddenly, I heard a sound of music. A lot of people walked in. We paid \$4.00 per person to enter the party. It was very interesting, many guys danced, many guys drank, we danced and drank a lot of beer, too. After 25 minutes, we saw men in black come in. They went straight to the DJ. They looked around and said something to him. He turned off sound of music immediately. We have seen these men in black before. Oh my god! They were police officers. They stopped the party and hurt my heart.

How to Correctly Clean Your Contact Lenses

Sheng-Chien Yu (Catherine)

R/W 41

Nothing is more important than our health especially our eyes. More and more people prefer to wear contact lenses because it is pleasing to the eye and convenient. The eye is one of the body's vital organs which is very tender. Air pollution is a critical problem today. The air contaminates our contact lenses too. It is very important to know how to correctly clean your contact lenses. There are some steps to follow in order to clean your contact lenses. They are easy and important when you follow this procedure.

First of all, you must choose a bottle of contact lens solution. It should agree with you. Before you take off your contact lenses, you had better wash your hands carefully. When you take off one of the lenses, you can put it in the center of your palm. Next, drop two drops of contact lens solution on the lens. Meanwhile, you could use the ring finger of the other hand to rub and clean your contact lens about thirty seconds. Rinse your lens thoroughly with the contact lens solution. Do you know why I choose my ring finger to rub the lens? Because I think we usually use our thumb, forefinger, and middle finger. Their skin is rougher than ring finger's and little finger's. However, the little finger is not convenient to use so I always use my ring finger to rub and clean my contact lens.

For the next step, you should rub and clean other side of the same lens. You drop two drops of contact lens solution again. You still use the ring finger to rub it. After that, you put some contact lens solution in the lens case and transfer the cleaned lens to the case. Make sure the solution covers the lens.

Finally, take off your other contact lens. You just use the same procedure to rub, clean, and store it. From then on, you had better wait for six hours to overnight. It is proceeding with the disinfection. For additional comfort, place one to two drops of contact lens solution on the inner surface of the lenses before wearing the cleaned contact lenses.

Do not forget you must take off your contact lenses every day otherwise it will harm you eyes. The critical step of cleaning contact lenses is rubbing it with your finger. The contact lens is the technological product which brings convenience and comfort for humans. Moreover, health is the most important thing. Just keep good habits and correct cleaning procedure, and you will have health and convenience simultaneously.

Arts of My Life

Tanapan Wisaratana

R/W 30

A long time ago, I was born into the world. My family was very happy because they got a son. They expected me, so I grew up with love. When I was young, they took me to many places such as science museums, aircraft museums, zoos, etc. They helped me in everything. They wanted me to be an astronaut in the future.

At the age of twelve, I was attending a science program at my high school, as my father and my mother hoped. The last semester at my high school, my friends and I went to see a movie. The story of the movie was about how to be an artist. At the end of the movie, I thought I wanted to change my life to the way of arts and leave science behind. After that, I came home. I talked about the movie, and I told them, my father and my mother, about my intentions in life. They were the best family in the world. They understood me. Two years later, I went to the best university in Thailand, Chulalongkorn University, and enrolled in the College of Arts. My family was proud of me.

I graduated from the university when I was twenty-two. I started to work at Index Promotion Event in a position of Art Director. It was a big event company, so they had a lot of big projects. Six months later, my boss gave me a new project. It was a big project from Lux, a consumer product from Unilever Thailand Company. They wanted to make a big event for launching a new product. We, my company, created this project in the name of The Longest Catwalk of Lux. It meant that we would set it up someplace and make it big.

On the day of event, we invited the best models, in total 111 women, who would walk on a catwalk. I was working for the back stage crew. During that time, a lot of beautiful women walked into the back stage and waited there for the beginning of the show. I never saw a bigger beauty than this one. I thought this was the real beauty. These women were a beauty of art in my life. Oh! I love them.

Overcome Yourself

Mika Nozawa

R/W 400

To overcome yourself is the most important challenge in everything. First of all, when I was student, I really didn't like English. I did not expect to come to U.S.A. at that time, but since then I have accompanied my husband to live in the U.S.A. I could have chosen to stay at home, but I chose to come to the E.L.I. I wanted to overcome English. As a result, I have made friends with people from different cultures. Moreover, I have many opportunities to keep in touch with them. I now want to know about other countries. In addition, never giving up is also important to overcoming yourself. When I was student, I belonged to a lacrosse club, but my house was far from school. I thought I should give up, but my friends encouraged me, and I

continued in this club. I have many good friends from this club. All these challenges and experiences have changed my life.

Terrible Day

Do Hee Kim

R/W 30

I have a bad memory about a car accident. If my memory serves me right, I was six years old. Sunday morning, I went somewhere with my sisters by car. My sister and the driver were sitting in the front. My other sisters and I were in the back of the car. I sat in the middle. When we were coming home, it suddenly happened. On the intersection, we took off as soon as the light changed green. At the same time, a big truck hit the side of our car. Our car was crushed on that side. My oldest sister fell senseless on me. I thought that my sister died. All glass pieces flew onto my other sister, so her face was bleeding. My other sister hit her head on the front windshield because she didn't wear a seatbelt. I was crying. People from the road helped us. We went to near a hospital, but they were closed, so we got a taxi and went to a hospital. I really don't remember exactly that situation. I think I was fine, but my sisters very hurt. Fortunately, we all survived.

Later, my mom and dad came to the hospital. They seemed very shocked. I don't remember anything after that. Anyway, that day was a terrible day. I don't want to remember it. I learned that you always have to be careful about everything. People must always wear seatbelts. Nowadays, we are happy and healthy.

Chicken Soup

Yuriy Nikitin

R/W 30

Since I was a child, I have loved chicken soup. Even now, when I'm sick or not feeling well, my stomach calls to me "ku-ka-re-ku." It's like a long distance call from my childhood. Until I eat chicken soup, I have no satisfaction. As I eagerly gulp down my liquid of life, my feelings resurrect. It is amazing how small childhood impressions can be such a big comfort in adulthood.

Achieving Success

Lucy Anny Daza Ariza

R/W 400

There are several very important factors in achieving success. When you want something you must be a passionate person about that and you must work every day in order to get what you want, so the first important thing is to be passionate. That means you must think and think every day about that and do the best you can. One example about me is that I wish to talk English soon. I think and think every day about the best way to reach it. The second thing is never to give up in spite of obstacles or things that make your ride difficult. For example in

some circumstances I feel I never will speak English soon because I don't understand when people talk to me, but isn't a obstacle because I know I learn a little more English every day. These are the reasons that we always need to work for our aspirations.

My Love!

Banky Wisaratana

R/W 30

On Friday February 7th at noon, my friends and I had planned to go to Butler Plaza after our last class. We wanted to see a movie. We took a bus at the bus stop close to the ELI. After about 15 minutes, we arrived there. At first, we looked for a restaurant and decided to eat lunch at China King. It's Chinese food similar to Thai food. We went shopping at Ross shop and Dollar Tree before we bought our tickets. We stood in front of a Regal Cinemas Theatre, and thought about which movie we want to see. We voted and decided to see How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days. It's a romantic comedy. The actor who plays in this movie, I have seen him in another movie before. He's a good actor. The movie's very funny. We love movies like these ones. Especially actress Kate Hudson, she's very cute. I love her. When the movie finished, we went to our homes, but I didn't go home alone. I went home with Kate Hudson, my love.

The Process of Effort

Jung Yun Lee

R/W 400

Many peoples run to get success, but success isn't everything in life. Actually success is just one of the results from what you did. Surely successful result makes us more happy than a failed result. Recently we worship just the result, and not the process. It can cause us to miss many important things in our life. There is some proverb about achieving success, consisting of 99% effort and 1% fortune. It exactly describes success. This proverb means that most of our success is based on effort. We think that effort is only the process for getting good result. However effort in the process itself is important regardless of the result. Of course, we can raise our success possibilities through effort, but you can get more things through the process of effort. In this process, we can get the wisdom of life. You get more benefits doing your best in daily life than only desiring success.

Disposing of Garbage

Sheng-Chien Yu (Catherine)

R/W 41

People generate a lot of garbage everyday. If your habits resemble those of average Americans, you generate about four pounds of solid trash per day. This adds up to big trouble for the environment. People are generating waste products

faster than nature can break them down and using up resources faster than they can be replaced. Therefore, recycling and reuse are very important for disposing of garbage.

First, I think we have to reuse before recycling. For example, I carry cloth bags with me wherever I go. I put my goods in the bags and reuse them.

In addition, some garbage should be recycled. For instance, when I drop off soda and milk bottles, cardboard, glass, paper, and cans, I put them in different garbage bins. Also, plastic grocery bags can be easily reused as trashcan liners. That is easy to do.

In summary, we have only one earth. Although we cannot avoid generating garbage everyday, we should reduce the amount of garbage we produce. It is better to reuse and recycle what we have.

Thanks from the Editor

Thank you students for allowing us to share your writing. I hope you enjoy reading your fellow students' essays. Also thanks to Noreen Baker and the HUB for arranging the gift certificates, to Todd Allen for publicizing this issue of Student Voices, to the Reading/Writing instructors for supporting their students in their writing, and to Karen Eberly, Darion Hutchinson and the Forbes family for reading and evaluating the entries.

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