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Dear Society

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Dear Society

Abstract

"I can not wait to study abroad" multiple friends tell me

All I do is shake my head and reply "mhm I can not wait either"

I lied to them

I can not go out of the country, I can not explore the world

I am stuck in one place

This place is known as the United States of America that one day they said will bring the American Dream for my family

I wake up each day and I live in a world of fear, mistrust, and silence..." [excerpt]

Keywords

Gettysburg, Gettysburg College, humanity, Immigration, latinx, status, The Butterfly Coalition, undocumented immigrants, undocumented immigration

Disciplines

Civic and Community Engagement

Comments

Surge is a student blog at Gettysburg College where systemic issues of justice matter. Posts are originally published at surgegettysburg.wordpress.com Through stories and reflection, these blog entries relate personal experiences to larger issues of equity, demonstrating that -isms are structural problems, not actions defined by individual prejudice. We intend to popularize justice, helping each other to recognize our biases and unlearn the untruths.

SURGE

[VERB] : to move suddenly or powerfully forward or upward

DEAR SOCIETY

October 25, 2019

"I can not wait to study abroad" multiple friends tell me
All I do is shake my head and reply "mhm I can not wait either"
I lied to them
I can not go out of the country, I can not explore the world
I am stuck in one place
This place is known as the United States of America that one day they said will bring the American Dream for my family
I wake up each day and I live in a world of fear, mistrust, and silence
I am not able to vote, not able to protest without fearing arrest, or simply tell others my experience because I was told to stay silent
That same silence kept me vulnerable and naive
At first I never knew my status in this country
My mom would always tell me to simply say I have papers
And as a little girl, I followed along to the point I thought I was a citizen
As a proud first gen, female, latina college student who you see put a smile on everyday
I still fear my mom, sister, or I can be deported any time and any day
These are the thoughts I constantly have to deal with every single second of the day
My mom is a hardworking woman who wants nothing more than seeing her daughters succeed
My sisters are the most intelligent and best role models who want nothing more than demonstrate to society they deserve to be here
And I work twice as hard, sleep less, worry more, and plan every step I take because society has placed a label on me that I carry everywhere with me
Dear society, I hope one day you will stop calling my people criminals, drug dealers, illegals because my people can also be advocates, lawyers, doctors, engineers, dentists, entrepreneurs, congressmans, congresswomans, presidents, CEOs
So, I ask anyone reading this to take a step back in life and say to themselves we are all humans.

Anonymous