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Familia Vázquez

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Familia Vázquez

Kimberly Vázquez

In my family picture, I notice a whole lot of love. Others may notice a huge stereotypical Mexican family. Both observations are true. In the picture, you see my paternal grandfather, Grandpa Delfino, surrounded by all his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. We are all smiling, some laughing, some of the little ones are moving around. My whole family is a mixture, half of us are light-skinned while the others are dark-skinned. We come from a long line of Indio Tarasco descent mixed in with people from Spain, hence the skin color difference. Although our skin color is different, we all have the same physical features.

Never once have we thought we were different from one another. My family originated in Tendeaparacua, Michoacán. Our roots run deep there. We are proud of our mixed gene pool. We love hard, stick with one another, and never do we ever turn our backs on one another. This is strongly shown in the photograph. Yes, we're the typical huge Mexican family. We don't see ourselves as "different" because our family is our normal. Our normal is to be surrounded by lots of love, lots of laughter, and of course all our crazy selves.

We have a strong bloodline that won't die, same as our last name. The Vázquezes will be around for a long time due to the large number of males in my family. The males outnumber the females, three to one. Our last name will be passed down for generations to come. Every time I look at the photo, it makes me proud to say I'm a Vázquez. We are a hard loving, hard working, big family, and I couldn't be more proud of that. We were all raised on a strong foundation of love. We fight like cats and dogs but at the end of the day all we have is each other. Blood is thicker than water, as they say.

REFLECTION

Throughout the semester of ES 107 Chican@/Latin@ Lives we wrote multiple freewrites, all with a different theme. We could make it our own, use different format, flow, writing etc. This work led up to choosing three freewrites to edit and plan to submit to CouRaGeouS Cuentos. The freewrite I chose is titled “Familia Vázquez.”

“Familia Vázquez” was written based on a family picture. I’m extremely close to everyone on my paternal side. We see each other daily and never turn our backs on each other. In all honesty, writing this made me miss everyone, unfortunately I couldn’t see my whole family before I moved to Humboldt State. This freewrite was one of my favorites to write, it demonstrates the love in my family.

This semester helped me grow as a writer. I learned that I have a voice to be heard and I shouldn’t be afraid to let it out. We all go through our own situations and many of us relate to one another in some form. No one in class was ever alone, there always was someone who had been through a similar experience. We are all connected. I’ve learned to never be ashamed of where I come from or about my life’s story. The hardest moments in my life are pivotal events that have taught me the greatest of lessons.