

# Students should not make fun of those with little English

While I was sitting in class, I watched as all the boys made fun of the new kid in our class. Not long after, I saw the new kid crying.

I came up to her and asked why she was crying and she just stared at me. Then I realized she didn't speak properly or hardly understand and that's why the boys were making fun of her.

She just immigrated to Canada and her English is not so good.

To tell you the truth, my mother went through the same thing when she was in school. She had just immigrated to Canada when she was 14 years old in 1980. My nanny, who takes care of us, moved and immigrated to Canada 1990 at the age of 51.

Because of how little English my mom knew, she was constantly made fun of, but on the other hand, it was different for my nanny. You see, she spoke her English pretty well and was hardly made fun of because making fun of people in her school and country was not tolerated.

At school, my mom had to take English as a Second Language. She didn't mind the people making fun of her because, shortly after, they would laugh it off. Most of the

## SCHOOL ESSAYS ON RACISM

time, however, it's hurtful.

After experiencing how hard it was to cope with people, my mom didn't just turn around and make fun of others. No, she would be kind-hearted and help them when in need. She would constantly give food to the homeless, give away clothes we don't need and donate money.

For my mom and nanny, it wasn't hard for them to find a job because when my mom first moved to Canada, she says, "My brother owns a restaurant and that's where I first worked and first learned my English." For my nanny, she got a job as a caregiver at our house.

My next question for them was, "Do you think there are too many people in Canada these days?"

My mom said Canada, compared to China or Hong Kong, is not all that big or all that populated.

My nanny says, "There are many immigrants coming to Canada now and more and more come each day and Canada, compared to where she came from (Philippines), is a lot of people."

I believe there are too many people in Canada. Either some people move out or we expand this land.

People like to come to Canada, because family lives here or for job opportunities or just to see the sights. That's why people are moving to Canada these days and that's why there are too many people in this country.

My next question for them is if they ever treated anyone in a different and bad way in their lives. They both said, "Of course not."

My mom said even though the people in her class and school made fun of her, does not give the right to make fun of others. She also says, "Treat people like how you want to be treated." This is completely true. If you want to be treated well, you have to treat others well and, if you don't, then you will be treated badly.

So, remember, if you have a new kid in your class, please don't make fun of him. He has feelings, too.

Just because your English is 100 times better does not give you the right to make fun of others.

AMY LAI  
MARKHAM

# Drink other beverages for moderation

From page 17.

Markham says, "I personally think Coke is bad, so I hardly drink it, but when I look around the cafeteria, I see everyone drinking it."

"Moderation means no more than one or two 12-ounce servings per day. It also means that we must drink other beverages, such as water, milk and juice," says health and nutrition

expert Lynn Grieger.

No matter what, our bodies need juice and milk for a healthy, balanced lifestyle.

If you are looking for a thirst quencher, why not have water? Soda has high doses of sugar and carbonated water, which actually make you more thirsty. Got milk?

Courtney Yip attends Unionville High School.



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