

Describe the community you belong to and your place in it (a certain community or a group is typically defined by shared race, geography, ethnicity, intellectual heritage, religion, cuisine, ideology or any other defining aspect).

I would like to start this application essay by stating the obvious: I am the child of immigrants. Even though I was born in the United States of America, my parents moved from Mexico twenty years ago. My dad got a job offer and my family decided to relocate. Even though I was born and raised in America, I still feel a strong connection to Mexico. What is more, my grandparents live there, and we visit them as often as possible.

Nowadays a lot of people in power are trying to make people who represent different ethnicities and have different cultural background feel as distant from one another as possible. There is no need to highlight how wrong and counterproductive it is. Unity and being able to live in a tolerant community are the key to success.

Yet, it is not what I want to focus on in my application essay. I would like to emphasize the importance of having a rich cultural background for my personal growth and for the realization of who I am in this huge world. I consider myself very lucky to be able to experience two totally different cultures, to connect with people in different parts of the world, to share experiences with two different communities and to speak two languages fluently.

Due to having all this diverse background, I have been able to grow as a person. I have learned how beneficial it is to have both American and Mexican roots, as well as how easy it is to be tolerant towards other races and ethnicities when I myself represent two of them. I have learned that people should be appreciated for who they are. As a society, we need to be more interested in listening to other people's stories, especially when these people are immigrants. They have a lot to tell. They have a lot to share. Their knowledge should be celebrated. Their experience should be learned from. We need to be

able to listen more. We need to learn how to talk to people who come from different communities. This way, we will manage to succeed and rise as human beings.

When it comes to defying my own place in my community and the world, I used to feel as if I was at the crossroads of two different worlds. I no longer feel that way. I feel that I am a significant part of both communities: American and Mexican. They have blended inside and have helped me become a better person.