

Race in College Admissions Is a No No

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Staff Writers

Just last year, Harvard University faced a lawsuit claiming that it discriminated against Asian-American applicants. Though the school denied this, affirmative action has been the topic of many discussions. With regard to college applications in general, affirmative action is applied in order to increase diversity in schools. However, it can be viewed as unjust to those who are applying to schools with better scholastic records than the applicants who were accepted via affirmative action diversity algorithms.

Colleges and Universities should not consider race as a deciding factor when evaluating applications. This is patently unfair and divisive. It is in fact the same discrimination that inspired affirmative action in the first place.

Often those who are higher achievers are unfairly passed over when their applications for colleges are reviewed and evaluated in favor of an outdated racially motivated selection process that attempts to spread diversification across the student population. Affirmative Action is the knee jerk reaction by government officials attempting to

spread opportunity across the masses in an effort to be fair and erase historical injustices. Affirmative Action was meant to be altruistic but has outlived its purpose and in fact has created reverse discrimination in the end.

When schools do not have enough racial diversity they are forced to meet

to socioeconomic factors they cannot change. However, it essentially causes inequality due to the race factor which by definition, is racist. Colleges should be prioritizing students who are better achievers in their high school career and not just because they are minorities. Colleges should begin considering moving away from affirmative action to accept students who deserve a place in their schools.

Competition can be fierce at the collegiate level and there are many ethnic groups now to consider when applying Affirmative Action guidelines. Eventually, college boards will be challenged on the methodology used to create the diversification. Specific ethnic groups may challenge fairness of the diversification ratios in an effort to gain more representation on school campuses but there are already campuses that segregate by race with regard to dormitory living assignments. This discrimination can have a very negative impact on campus harmony.

Affirmative Action has run its course. There are so many more ethnic groups in the country today than when affirmative action was originally implemented, including those for whom a diversification algorithm would be problematic.

In the end, the only discriminating factor should be the students ability to learn.



their requirements by turning away students who are part of a majority demographic in favor of those who are not. Even if they are not as well accomplished. This is an unethical process because many of the students being turned away have truly worked to get where they are academically.

People may argue that Affirmative Action brings equity to many students struggling to achieve academically due



The Decrease in School Spirit

JANET YU

Opinions Editor

As a senior at Alhambra High School for the past four years, I have noticed that there has been a tremendous decrease in school spirit. Fewer people are joining clubs or showing up to dances. I mean, look at the turnout for Sadies. Only about 150 people showed up! That is at least 100 people fewer than last year. At Homecoming, barely anyone danced and everyone was complaining about how boring it was, despite the amazing decorations and music that played in the background thanks to ASB. In addition, people join clubs but do not actually do anything in it. Like why join a service club if you are not going to show up to meetings or actually go to services?

Sure, school should be a place where students learn and try to do their best in order to get into a good college, but do not people want to have fun and make good memories in high school? It is time that people stop complaining about how boring our events are and actually go to things. People need to learn to actually socialize and do things in clubs instead of joining them just for the sake of putting them on college applications.

No Blame for Selfies

CURTIS LEE

Staff Writer

The increasing use of social media and online entertainment has been seen as both a catalyst and a prohibitor to human connection. In the rise of the 2016 presidential elections, there have been accusations of political ignorance. More specifically, ignorance due to the excessive use of online applications that deter millennials from learning the current events from Capitol Hill. The cause of this century's problem is not found in social media but rather in apathy.

Applications like Snapchat and Instagram are platforms that allow for individuals to share what they want. However, the platform is open to anything that the guidelines do not deem inappropriate or threatening. This includes political ideas and movements that can gain more momentum online. Similar to the rise in popularity of the television, presidents streamed campaign messages on these channels.

According to the Census Bureau, there has been an increase of voters from the 2000-2012 presidential elections. The majority of the increase was seen in African Americans, Asians and Latinos. A rise in movements related to social injustices are largely successful due to online support and promotion.

Voter and political apathy is the more prominent issue with the younger generations. Whether this is due to insufficient confidence in voting or genuine lack of interest, both issues can be addressed instead of merely blaming social media for the lack of interest in politics.

Moor GRAPHICS BY JENNIFER SU

New Legislation Bans Abortion Referrals

RUBY LA
Staff Writer

A new regulation by the Trump Administration was announced by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as a part of Title X, a government family planning program that serves four million people. The purpose of Title X is to promote positive birth outcomes and healthy families by allowing individuals to decide on the number and spacing of their children.

This regulation prevents taxpayer-funded family planning clinics from referring patients for abortions, if they wish to continue receiving taxpayer subsidies. A subsidy is a sum of money granted by the government to assist an industry or business so that the price of service can remain low. The implementation of the regulation is not ethical since these clinics are needed by teens and young parents who require assistance on matters of family planning.

The new regulation from the Trump Administration only affects clinics and programs which are funded by the taxpayers' money. Programs like Planned Parenthood serve about 41 percent of Title X patients and tend to receive 60

million dollars annually for funding, which allows the program to provide aid at a lower cost. As a result, they will have to comply with the new rule which prohibits abortions as a method of family planning. The rule also states that abortion counseling or referrals would not longer be required. How-



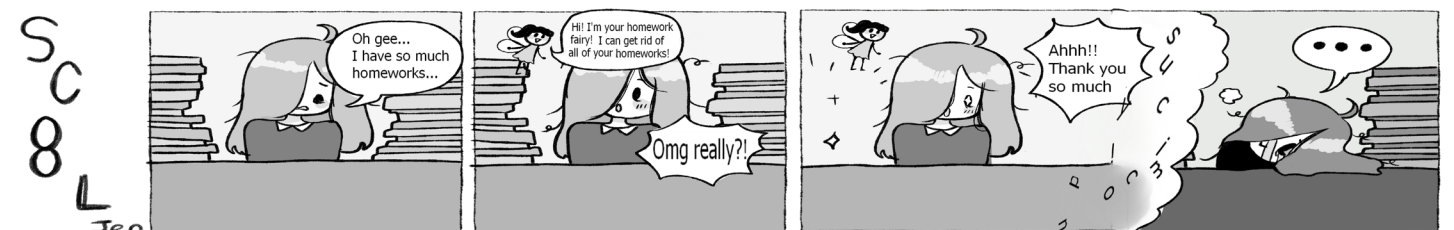
ever, it is required that there should be a clear financial and physical separation between Title X funded projects and programs or facilities where abortion is a method of family planning.

Despite the good intentions, for example the prevention of the loss of human life, the new regulation would ultimately harm patients overall. The reason this

would harm them is because some Title X patients are teenagers or members of low-income families and the option of abortion would be better for them to take. Teenagers who have been impregnated should be given the option to have an abortion. This is because their unborn child will provide difficulties in the future for its parents since it will be hard for these teens to attend school, get an education and attend college while trying to care for a child. According to USA Today, it costs a family 233,610 dollars to take care of a single child from birth to age 18. Low-income families do not make a lot of money, so it is better for them to be given the option of abortion to prevent further hardships like debt since they will not make enough to provide for themselves and their children.

The implementation of this rule is unethical and unjust since it also prevents people who need abortions for life-saving medical reasons from getting them. Some abortions are also for unviable pregnancies.

The regulation, although it may be initially meant to have good intentions and preserve human life, is not an ethical idea in regards to families or women who may suffer complications due to pregnancy.



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