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### Racial Autobiography

I was taught that everyone is created equal in God's eyes, regardless of skin color. One of the finest lessons I ever received as a child was that. I never questioned a person whose skin tone was different from mine. We have a variety of skin tones in my native Honduras, including dark, light, and white. It was common for me when I first arrived in the United States to observe people with skin of varied colors. I didn't understand the importance of race until I immigrated to the US. For me, race has never been a deciding issue. Although I consider you to be equal notwithstanding your color, life isn't quite pleasant. I've come to realize that many people have significant privileges because of the color of their skin. Since many people don't believe they have equal opportunity, our country strives for equality.

My earliest memory is that when I first arrived in the United States, people would frequently ask me why I didn't look like my mother, siblings, or other family members. They are white, although I am brown, and my father is also that color. However, they all have green eyes, although I don't, making me incredibly different from them. I always grew up feeling odd and wanting to be like them because people or friends would approach me asking me random questions about my looks and I was viewed differently. When I asked my mother why I look different from them, she will respond, "Because God made you unique and special," which is always reassuring to me. Even till this day, I still get questioned but I thank God, it doesn't

bother me anymore. It upsets me much that racism is still prevalent today after witnessing and hearing it both inside and outside of school. Additionally, I frequently witness racism toward my black coworkers at work since they are perceived as inferior to my other white employees.

The period I learn the most about race and diversity was “The Civil Rights Act of 1964: A Long Struggle for Freedom” when I was in high school. Even though this happened years ago, there is still racism today. Few months ago, an 18-year-old is suspected of opening fire at a Buffalo supermarket with the Black community as his primary target in a mass shooting that happened in Buffalo, New York. He allegedly published a White nationalist manifesto online, drove nearly 200 miles to the shop, and live-streamed the attack, which resulted in the deaths of 10 people and the injuries of three more. This incident was a clear-cut case of racist hate crime. There have been several events that has caught my attention and still find it upsetting and chocking that there is still racism, hate and rejection after all these years that has passed. In God's divine image, mankind was created particularly. We have a variety of body types, including many distinct sizes and colors of skin. I'm aware that not everyone has the same mindset on this view but although we are all unique, this does not make us distinct from one another. I prefer to think that these awful occurrences take place for an awakening because I really believe that God has a purpose for everything. A call to action for us to act and motivate others to effect change.

Supporting other people's perspectives and having difficult talks about racial injustice are two ways to acknowledge privilege and combat racism. We cannot avoid talking about injustice and prejudice out of concern that we might "get it wrong." Learn how racism still has an impact on our society and act. For me, the main goal of racial justice is to achieve human equality for all people. No matter what color our skin is, we can all come together and treat one another as brothers and sisters.