Happy 4th of July!

By Andrea Mercado

For a long time I've been mistreated by my own skin color. It is painful to generalize, but in this nation, my color is seen as less valuable than another's businesses. We even look at each other's eyes and skin in a value judgment. My experiences with the Black Lives Movement were the opposite of what I had experienced in the past. My experience was that Black Lives Mattered.

I decided to join the Black Lives Movement. I was a vocal activist for change. I wrote letters to my local government. I wore Black lives matter shirts and was inspired by what I was witnessing. I have to say, I was satisfied with my new found self. My sense of identity was on fire. Black people here in the Bay Area have been more open to the Black Lives Movement. The Black Lives Movement has demonstrated it is more powerful than any opposition. We have the support of black people all over the world. We know our experiences are real.

We have to remember that black people have been mistreated for hundreds of years. I know that as a someone of color, I have been treated differently than other people. There are a lot of people who have had similar experiences. The Black Lives Movement has done a lot to change the world. I know that we have a long way to go.

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