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Sikhs in America

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Sikhs in America

Sikhs, just like other minority groups in the United States, have been victims of hate crime since they arrived in America a century ago. They have been stared at, killed, screamed at, shot, and beaten up. In addition to that, they have never been fully heard (SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES INSTITUTE, 2017). The issue with many minority communities in America is that sometimes they remain silent for long, and they forget how to speak up when their rights are violated. The feeling of being watched by others, the stares, the beards, and turbans have not made it easy for Sikhs in American society.

Though the turban is a source of pride for the Sikhs, it has contributed to their tribulations (CBC News, 2019). Whether in the education or work setup, the existing systems have not made life easy for the Sikh community in America. Their children with turbans in school experience bullying. In addition to that, the multicultural education environment has not adequately prepared teachers for a continuously dynamic society. "Many teachers have had little preparation for working in culturally diverse classrooms and little exposure to existing critiques of multicultural education." (Shariff, 2008). In addition to that, many Sikhs find themselves stuck between two worlds; to stick with their native culture or adopt the American way of life. The film paints a picture of the struggles for identity (PBS KVIE, 2009). The big beards and turbans result in increased cases of racial profiling. Despite their tribulations, the Sikhs, just like other minority groups, have remained steadfast in the doctrines of their religious beliefs (SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES INSTITUTE, 2017). That is why they have maintained their identity in a dynamic and fast-paced American society.

The Sikhs' tenets include justice, faith, love, and service to humanity and have kept them resilient even in the face of persecution. As American society continues to be dynamic, many

people will lose their ethnic identities (CBC News, 2019). However, the Sikhs in America are determined to continue maintaining their distinctive Sikh personality, humbly and unashamedly.

Brief Summary of the Assignment

This assignment was not just about responding to the documentary about Sikhs in America, but it included their tribulations, experiences, and persecution. The Sikhs have experienced many injustices since leaving their native homes and arriving in countries like Canada and America, where their native cultures clash with the American culture. In addition to that, the assignment highlights a society that has faced a class struggle in a fast-paced and dynamic world, where they are racially profiled based on their turbans and beards. Their children have also found life difficult, especially in an ill-prepared education system to handle school cultural diversity. Regardless, the Sikh community has fought to maintain and preserve its identity.

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