

Help Make America Compassionate

By
Keira Nakamura

Dear Senator Kamala Harris,

For Japanese Americans, life in the United States has not always been easy. My grandparents and great-grandparents were forced into internment camps during World War II just because they were Japanese. They had harsh living conditions and had to give up everything they owned except for what they could carry, even though they had done nothing wrong. When I was younger, I heard about this story from my great-grandmother and I was horrified. Why were people so prejudiced just because someone has a different background? All of this confused me. As the new senator from California, I hope that you can help ensure that discrimination against others is no longer such a huge issue among people.

With a new President of the United States of America, changes in the government are bound to happen. A deportation act for undocumented immigrants is currently an issue, along with banning refugees from the Middle East from entering the United States. It is evident that President Donald Trump believes that all Muslims are associated with terrorism even if it is obvious that Islam is not a violent religion. Many of the immigrants from the Middle East are seeking safety here, in the U.S. However, if the government deports these refugees back, we are putting them in harm's way. People from these countries are willingly put into internment camps in hopes of being able to go to a new country, and that means they really want to come here if those internment camps are as terrible as the ones my ancestors were forced into.

I think we should help these refugees because the living conditions they are currently in are not suitable for an adequate lifestyle. If we just send them back to their home countries after such a long, tedious process, what is to say about us? All of this discrimination is turning people against each other, and recently, many have been detrimentally affected from this. Innocent people are being killed because they look like they could be from the Middle East, so helping everyone accept each other should be a top priority.

I know that if enough people help with this cause, we can make a change for the better. I truly hope that you will be able to help advocate for helping refugees and undocumented immigrants because the U.S. should not make the same mistakes that have been made in the past.

Sincerely,
Keira Nakamura