An Unforgettable Act of Kindness

Wearing face coverings, excessively using hand sanitizer, staying apart from our loved ones, and getting vaccinated are some of the most relevant acts of kindness seen nowadays. With the continuing spread of Coronavirus, many people are making so many sacrifices that that would impact others and keep them safe. This consideration and kindness signifies hope in the current and following generations that though people may have different goals and places they want to get to, it is important to not forget these core values that define us as humans who live in the same society.

Acts of generosity and kindness are what keep positivity in people’s lives and can improve their quality of life. As it is normal not to have great days every single day, a simple gesture can turn a person's day around. There have been countless times where I have been included in pay it forward lines, and it never fails to amaze me that in the world of violence and hatred, there are still genuine people out there shedding positivity by being selfless and doing things for others.

Living in Hawaii, it is refreshing to see that people genuinely care about each other although they may be strangers. Nicknamed the Aloha state, the residents of Hawaii seemed to have an established bond with anyone new they meet from the islands. Meeting someone always feels like you know them, their family, or their friend. Contrasting to people on the mainland, locals create a sense of belonging and an indiscriminate atmosphere felt within the state.

One of the most touching acts of kindness I have received that I will never forget happened over a decade ago when I was in kindergarten. It was the middle of the school year when my mom was diagnosed with cancer, which resulted in frequently missing school to visit my mom in the hospital in Oahu. This entire time, my teachers had known what was going on in
my personal life and they were very supportive and understanding of my situation. Little after a month of missing school and receiving treatment, my mom had passed suddenly and unexpectedly. Being five years old at the time, I was in a fragile state in between sort of understanding what had happened and not knowing why it happened. It took a while to get back home and back to school, but when I had returned, all the students in my class had written cards and given me gifts in an effort to offer me support and a meaningful gesture that would hopefully lift my spirits a little. All I specifically remember from this was getting a lot of hugs and stuffed animals from friends and teachers. I could not have been more appreciative. This showed me that I unknowingly had a support system at my elementary school that genuinely cared for me. Looking back eleven years later, I am glad to finally be able to fully appreciate this impactful act of kindness that helped me through a very difficult period of my life.

Though it may not be as transparent as it sounds, simple and random acts of generosity and affection can impact someone in more ways than known. It is important that us as humans keep in mind that everyone lives a different life and some may have it more difficult than others. Although privilege is inevitable, the more advantages someone has can translate to the amount of good deeds they can do for others. This simple concept of kindness plays a larger role in our lives than commonly known and it is immensely important to do what you can for others while you have the chance to do so.