

Expression through Art

Imagine leaving behind your home, friends, and everything familiar to go somewhere completely new. This is what many people face when immigrating. Immigration is when people move from one country to another, and it has been an important part of history for a very long time. It's not just about moving; it's about searching for better opportunities, starting fresh, ect. It's about courage, resilience, and the hope for a better future. This is what Felisha believed she would find when she immigrated. And, This was a big deal to Felisha. She wanted a better pay, better schooling, and more.

Now that I've talked about the basics of immigration I'm going to dive-deeper more into what Felisha experienced. Felisha was born in Malaysia and then immigrated to England, then came to America. She experienced some racism along the way, things such as telling her to go back to her country, in the interview she said "it was hard, and rough, this experience wasn't the best," which I can understand, since those things are hard to deal with, and hard to recover from, which was one of the big-impacts of migrating for her, which resulted in her taking a toll, and remember this happens to many people, people face challenges such as racism, not being able to vote, access to health care, cultural diversity, ect. At the start of her process of immigration she didn't feel valued as much, tho she expressed herself through art, which helped her, she also gained friends, and she learned how to talk about it with them, and overall this helped her to feel like she was wanted, felt as if she belonged, she didn't feel un-welcomed as she did at the start ,she started to feel more comfortable as she settled in.

Life in Malaysia was tough for her. She dreamed of coming to the US for better working conditions and the chance to earn more money. However, because her main goal was to improve her financial situation, she didn't have much money at the time. Saving up for plane tickets was a challenge, especially with the cost of meeting her basic needs. Despite these obstacles, she eventually managed to gather enough funds to make the move. Even after immigrating to America, she still misses her old home. The transition was difficult, but she has learned to adapt to her new surroundings, and adjust. Otherwise her life in England was fairly good, she didn't face as many challenges, also considering she came for schooling, and education. But she still faced the racism, just like in her home country, but otherwise she loved it there, she enjoyed

meeting people, learning new things, she loved learning about languages, also, while the time she was there she learned how to speak English; she knows 3 languages, and she is apart of the trilingual community.

In conclusion, Felisha's journey of immigration highlights the challenges and resilience many individuals face when seeking a better life.