

## **ELECTION REFLECTIONS\_SOCY224: WHY ARE WE STILL TALKING ABOUT RACE?**

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### **SCHEDULE OF QUESTIONS:**

1. What are your views on the 2016 election results? Why did Trump win and why did Clinton lose?
2. What are your thoughts on where President-elect Trump will take the country? Will the outcome be positive or negative?
3. What are the implications for racial progress or racial reversal on our country?

### **STUDENT 1**

I think Trump's victory and Hillary's defeat can be viewed as the accumulation as several factors. One factor is people feeling frustrated the government didn't represent them and wasn't paying attention to them and the only way that the only way to get the government's attention was to nominate someone who had no experience and was truly an outsider. I also think part of the problem was Hillary was an uninspiring candidate who failed to strike anyone as genuine, which stood in contrast to Trump, who always spoke unfiltered.

One thing that does concern me about this election is how it will embolden Trump's supporters into thinking that Trump's behavior is okay. I have already read about examples of people threatening people with hijabs and saying things like "Trump's going to deport you." I can't see any way that Trump being elected won't been a huge increase in negative sentiment for everyone who isn't a white, Christian, straight male. As for Trump's actual policies, I anticipate he won't be as radical as he promised, just because it isn't practical. The amount of money required to deport literally every illegal immigrant would be immense and Trump would likely need to raise taxes to cover it. I do however worry about the LGBT community given Mike Pence's track record with it for Indiana.

I think the exit poll breakdowns make it clear that Trump was elected by white people, not POC. Blacks, latinos, Asians and other non-whites all were supporting Clinton, while whites were supporting Trump. It made it pretty clear that Trump's rhetoric was appealing to whites and not really any other race. I feel like it is impossible to see any outcome where a president who is only supported by one race will be able to make racial progress in this country, because he was not supported by them.

## **STUDENT 2**

My views on the 2016 election results is shocked, and I am almost in disbelief, but the results were still expected. Trump won because America, mainly white voters, were punishing the country for electing a Black man as the president in 2008. 66% of white women voted for Donald Trump, which means that although he had incredibly sexist statements, that white women put their race before their gender in order to protect "Whiteness." Trump won because voters didn't show out when they needed to. A lot of people were indifferent or disliked both candidates, so they decided not to exercise their right to vote. Nearly 50% of registered voters did not vote in the election, so that is a huge issue. Trump won because he is the depiction of many mindsets of people in the United States of America. Clinton lost because I feel like she put so much effort into appealing to the Black vote that she ultimately forgot to appeal to her own demographic. The millennials outstandingly for the most part voted Clinton overall, but the fact is that the millennials aren't the only people voting in the election. I don't believe that the United States was ready to see a woman in office, especially after all the back lash that came from putting a Black man in office. I think this was the country's way of reprimanding us by ultimately deciding that they were going to go back to what they thought was "great." Also, Clinton received the popular vote, but the electoral votes went to Trump, so that is why Clinton lost.

My thoughts on where Trump will take the country is not hopeful. I am very much fearful for the society we are going to be facing now. Although the people who voted for Trump have always been here, and they wouldn't have disappeared anyways if Trump didn't win, those people now have the confidence to act on their racist thoughts and discriminatory beliefs because he won. They now can see that you can have all of those irrational thoughts and still succeed. They see that it is okay to be like Trump. The outcome will be completely negative. I cannot see any possible outcome that is positive from Trump being elected.

The implications for racial reversal on our country is obvious. We have retrograded. That hope that we were maybe closer to reaching equality has disappeared. The claim that we got a Black president so race isn't an issue anymore doesn't hold any weight. This shows for the people who constantly wanted to argue that we were a color blind society and that race didn't matter that it does. We aren't far removed from Jim Crow or slavery, and it is showing. The people that were alive during the Civil Rights Era/ Jim Crow... still here. And if they are still here, that means that their ideologies are still here. Our society has been this unjust and discriminatory, but with the election of Trump, all of our flaws as a country have been revealed.

## **STUDENT 3**

I know I'm not alone in feeling completely sick, exhausted, disheartened and afraid. Those are my "views" on the election results. I feel so sick and horrible. I feel like everything I could type for this op-ed would only serve to make feelings worse for everyone who is already mentally and emotionally barely holding on after this. Trump won and Clinton lost because Trump had charisma and was understood by his voting base to be somebody who shared their beliefs and would fight for them, which very few people actually felt about

Hillary, but she was chosen as the candidate by the DNC in spite of this. I can't find the strength to blame Hillary for running even though she knew the momentum was behind another candidate, because even Bernie supporters were scared he wouldn't be able to defeat Trump. Nobody thought somebody with views so far left of the average voter would actually succeed but I don't think Trump's views are that far left of the average voter at all. I think they're spot on.

Trump ran a campaign based on bigotry, white supremacy, christian supremacy, and patriarchy, and he won. I feel scared that those things will always win. I have been reading a lot of commentary on what this says about white supremacists no longer being afraid to show up and come out of the woodwork, and I know they were barely afraid before. Everyone who is a part of a marginalized group that has fought for what few rights we do have knows what this could mean and how quickly it could happen.

I don't know how "racial progress" can operate in the face of this and it feels so devastating to think of what this could mean. Republicans who backed Trump now controlling the white house, house and senate for the first time since 1929 means something after this kind of race and after the kind of things that have been said about every group already facing persecution in this country during this election. I keep reading about how organizing is more important now than ever but it's so hard not to just lay down and go to sleep. It's hard to face this, even together. There is no reality in which Donald Trump and Mike Pence being the leaders of our country has a positive outcome. This is going to be so hard and there is going to be so much pain involved for everyone on the side of justice in this fight. There are checks and balances in place for a reason but democracy got us here and I don't know how it's going to get us out. I don't know how we are going to get ourselves out.

#### **STUDENT 4**

I thought the 2016 election was definitely surprising because of how much Trump's margin of victory was. I think Trump won because the American people believed in him the most and did not trust Hillary Clinton to be the champion of American people. I think it says a lot that social media and other media really pushed for Hillary to win but we know that this did not happen. I think this election says a lot more about Hillary than it says about Trump. There is no disregarding the fact that the American people wanted Trump and it's impressive how he won with all the negative publicity. On the other hand all the negative publicity towards Trump may have also forced the American people's hand because they were tired of hearing all this slander about Trump when Hillary was just as if not more crooked.

I think Trump will be good for our country because so many policies he says make sense and he has been falsely portrayed in an extremely negative light. Trump is an extremely successful business man and to be that he must know how to work well with all people. Thus, I think Trump will leave his presidency with America in a much better condition it is in now. Trump said yesterday during his commencement speech that he wants to unite all religions and people and make the forgotten man forgotten no more. I think this will have positive implications for our country because I truly think we will be more united than ever.

and the American dream will be renewed. While many people do not like Trump, I think he is good and he overcame more than anyone in campaign history.

### **STUDENT 5**

I am very uneasy with the results and I am nervous on what's to come. I am more nervous about the fact that Trump is able to appoint supreme court justices who have the potential of being closed minded and conservative and repealing laws that have made strides in the lgbt community and for women. I think Trump won for a few different reasons. The country swings from years of democrat leaders to republican leaders so this is just the republican's time. The people want change from the Obama administration and many equate four more years of Hillary Clinton as another four years of Obama. I also feel as though if Clinton's ads weren't so focused on discrediting Trump's character and expressed her platform and policies that the election would've turned out differently. I think she relied too heavily on people doing the moral thing rather than channel into policies which should've been focused more on anyways. I also feel like people took for granted that Clinton was going to win so they decided it was less important to vote and stayed at home. Trump supporters are also more passionate about their candidate so they were more likely to go vote.

There will be no way to know whether Trump will be a good president or a bad president until he takes office and starts running the country. I hope for all of our sakes that he is a good president. Trump in my eyes is unfit to be president, he is unexperienced, he talks out of his mouth so I am nervous he will say the wrong thing to offend other countries and further alienate the United States. Hopefully the things he said about helping the middle class will be true and he will find ways to help the country and ways Clinton wouldn't.

I think this election has brought to view what most of us already know that racism is still alive in our country, but instead of hidden racism or racism that is harder to pinpoint I can see people being more upfront in their actions and simply not care about prejudice statements or hurtful words. I don't think there will be any reversal in the sense of race because it has never gone away, the only thing I can think would be institutional racism becoming more of a problem but we all know it already is. I am more concerned about the negative impacts on women, lgbt, muslim and immigrant communities how having a president who is against equality of all people will play out.

### **STUDENT 6**

I am honestly horrified at the election results. I had so much faith that this country would not elect to the highest office a man whose rhetoric is downright dangerous to the foundation of our country. As a minority in this country, I am offended and scared by the language he employs to talk about women, minorities, Muslims, and immigrants.

Both of the candidates were extremely flawed. I think Trump won because he appealed to the white working class. This demographic showed up to vote for him. I think they saw in Trump what everyone has been talking about, that idea of a political outsider who will

“give them their country back.” They want jobs back, the country to be safe, etc, and Trump appealed to them by making bold and outrageous statements/promises that most people found offensive. But Trump didn't need the minority vote to win because of turnout amongst the white vote.

I think Hillary lost because she wasn't able to connect with enough voters. She just wasn't likable enough. Despite her long track record of dedicated service to this country and her undeniable qualifications for president, she could not connect to enough voters. She couldn't shake her image of being dishonest with all the scandals that went on. Ultimately, I think she lost because of deep divisions within the country and the party, and so people did not vote for her, choosing to vote for a third party or not at all. After all, many people felt strongly about Bernie and believed he was never given a good chance because of Hillary's connections.

For the sake of the country, I hope Trump is successful, despite his lack of qualifications for the job. If he does not change his rhetoric and the way he engages and speaks about minorities and women in this country, I think the overall social impact will be negative. He uses derogatory language, inspires fear and hate. The language he has used over the course of his campaign is not going to unite the country in the face of such deep divisions. He basically set the example that we tolerate bigotry and hate, by name calling and employing offensive and degrading language. I think this is so dangerous for our country. Those who dismiss his language as simply telling it like it is fail to see how offensive his language is to minorities and women, as well as those who share in sentiment that is language is simply inappropriate. Those who dismiss his language as simply not being politically correct fail to see the larger, more dangerous implications of accepting this type of rhetoric, in my opinion. It's not about being politically correct, it's about making sure this country is inclusive for all. Ultimately, I view this as a deep setback for racial progress in this country and it's truly sad.

## **STUDENT 7**

I'm not quite surprised, but I also wasn't really expecting it. I really believe that the DNC's involvement is the cause of Trump's win. Forcing a candidate while weeding another one out did not help the Democrats. Instead of giving both democratic candidates equal coverage, they selectively weeded out the one that was more favored by the similarly-sided public. It says a lot about how money and power work in the US. The DNC did very much skew the election by making one candidate obsolete.

I think Trump is, among several social conflicts, going to kill our economy, and undo a lot of the work that was done under the Obama Administration. The fact that anyone was requesting that Trump to be in office says a lot about our culture. Trump's presidency will make it easy to allow racial conflict to increase.

## **STUDENT 8**

I feel like I was torn in half with the results of this year's election. On one hand I was shocked and disappointed with the results, but on the other hand, I had a strong feeling that this was going to be the outcomes. It honestly breaks my heart to realize how many votes Trump got, even in states that have historically always been democrat. States such as Ohio, Michigan, and Pennsylvania really surprised me with the amount of Trump support it had. I think that the main reason why Trump won was because of all the scandal that has recently been emphasized over Clinton. Also there were so many silent Trump supporters that voted for him due to the fact that Bernie Sanders was not elected to be the democratic candidate. Not many of us realized that these individuals began to support Trump as a protest to no having their candidate elected.

I honestly want to stay positive and give Trump a chance to prove what he can do, but with how he has ran his campaign it just seems that he is going to bring this country to chaos. It's scary to think that a man with such short temperament has the codes to our countries nuclear weapons and can start a war whenever he feels like it. It's scary to think that a racist, sexist, homophobic man, with zero background in politics is now in control of our future.

This election has made us move backwards as a society instead of progressing for a better tomorrow. Trumps ran a campaign fueled on pure discrimination against many communities in the U.S. and has given people thumbs up to be openly prejudiced at greater amplitudes. I'm afraid for what is to come for people who are not White, CIS, middle-upper class males.

## **STUDENT 9**

This has been the most depressing election that I've witnessed to date. I don't feel safe anymore, and I am legitimately scared for a lot of my friends whose identities have been attacked by Donald Trump. I've cried countless times, and I've felt sick ever since I heard the news. I can see that gerrymandering (of course) played a huge role in certain states being lost by Hilary Clinton. It is also clear that, once again, the Electoral College is a joke and prevents democracy from doing its job. Hilary Clinton won the popular vote, but because of a system that was built to protect wealthy white landowners, she was unable to secure the presidency. Trump won because America's population is still majority white. He campaigned and reached out to white uneducated voters, and because they are so prevalent, he won. He spoke to their racist, xenophobic, misogynist, and hateful ideals, and they got out and voted in droves.

If the Republicans hadn't gained control of both the Senate and the House, I would say he'd absolutely take it nowhere, or he'd drive us right into hell. However, his party has control over Congress, and even though not all Republicans agree with what he wants to do, many still do, so his hateful and immoral policies stand a pretty good chance of being possible. This is overall a very negative thing for every non-white, non-male identifying American. For anyone to say that they can look past Trump's racism, sexism, and xenophobia, they are



clearly standing at a point of great privilege and have no real working knowledge of how his words alone have already had an impact on the safety and lives of so many people.

America has always been racist. Full stop. We've done an ok job in more recent years in covering it up, and those who are racists have kept kind of quiet for the most part, but Trump has given these people a platform and a voice to spew their hatred and ideas of supremacy and oppression. Though he cannot undo every policy that has been put into place to improve the lives of minorities, his candidacy, and now his election, has truly exposed racist America for what it always has been. God damns America.

## **STUDENT 10**

What are my views on the election....I can honestly say that for the first time in a long time that I am proud to be an American. The reason Mr. Trump won is simple for numerous reasons. One of the main reason for Mr. Trump's victory is because the silent majority is alive and well in America. The silent majority is sick and tired of this over political correctness of the far left, these are hardworking men and women who have been put in the backseat of the government's priority list in the favor of elites. Mr. Trump has also expressed his desire to bring Americans together and encourage bipartisanship throughout the legislature, this is the opposite of Mrs. Clinton. President Obama has said his legacy will only be great if Clinton won the election, which would have meant another four years of Obama policies and little to no effort to reach bipartisanship. Mrs. Clinton lost for the simple fact that she is the bought, establishment candidate who has no one else's interests at heart except for her own and the American people are sick and tired of these types of career politicians.

Mr. Trump will only take the country in a better direction and I believe that to be fact. We live in a time of democratic policies that have increased national debt, hurt college students, set race relations back, and created the most divided country that America has ever seen. Mr. Trump is going to simplify the tax plan, so these giant corporations (who are apparently so terrible) will not be able to take advantage of loopholes. The tax burden on low to middle class Americans is brutal and Mr. Trump plans to abolish these tax plans which will exponentially assist individuals in our age bracket.

I think race relations will improve drastically under Mr. Trump as well. When looking at the election results, Mr. Trump pulled more minority votes from African Americans and Hispanics than both Mr. Romney and McCain. The mainstream media has reiterated this rhetoric that he is some racist white supremacist and this is simply not true and I challenge someone to find an example of this type of behavior. I must clarify by saying that Mr. Trump never said he would ban all Muslims, he simply proposed a halt on immigration for areas of the world compromised by terrorism until a proper vetting system is in place, and I believe that national security takes priority over virtually all aspects of foreign policy. To generalize this as well, Mr. Trump welcomed all individuals into his historic campaign, that does not sound like someone who would regress race relations.

To conclude, Mr. Trump's victory was unexpected, unprecedented and I could not be more excited for the future of America. President Obama promised change 8 years ago, but the change that followed was terrible for America, the change that will follow Mr. Trump's presidency will be great for ALL Americans, mark my words.

### **STUDENT 11**

I was personally surprised by the results of the 2016 election. Initially, many news outlets predicted that Clinton would win the election. Because of this, I also assumed that Clinton would ultimately defeat Trump. I believe that Trump ended up winning for a few reasons. First, I believe that many people simply trust Clinton less than they do Trump. Recently, scandals involving Clinton's emails have surfaced, causing many people to lose their trust in her. In addition, there may be people who have not liked the way she has preformed her duties as Secretary of State. Another reason why people may have voted Trump over Clinton is that they believe Trump will bring positive change to America. Many people endorse some of Trump's ideas about the way we should handle current problems such as economic issues. Also, Trump may have gained more votes simply because he ran as a Republican. In the elections, some states always swing certain ways, such as the Republicans always winning Texas. Personally, I believe it is too early to tell which way Trump will take the U.S. While I have heard many of his ideas over the past year, I find it difficult to imagine how they will be implemented. Once I see how Trump handles certain situations as President, I will be able to tell how positive or negative his time in office will be. Similar to this, I believe it is too early to tell what the implications will be for racial progress in the U.S. Only once I hear more about Trump's ideas will I be able to make an opinion on the possible implications regarding these issues.

### **STUDENT 12**

I am very sad and disappointed with the election results. I genuinely did not think Trump had any chance at winning. So, when he did, I was in shock. I think he won for a few reasons. The first reason being because the majority of America is made up with baby boomers. Election statistics showed that Hillary won the majority of the states when only looking at votes of people between the ages of 18-25. However, the older generation makes up the majority of the population and is still more conservative than us. As well, within the Democratic Party, there was still a divide because of Bernie Sanders and some of the votes that could have gone to Hillary went to Gary Johnson. Next, there are many uneducated people in America who only know what is said through the media. Therefore, these people mostly voted for Trump. This is well shown in Florida. Although Florida went Republican, if you look at where Hillary won the vote it was in the major cities or towns where Universities are. I as well think there are certain reasons Hillary lost. I think the email scandal caused many Americans to doubt her and have little trust in her. I also think many people did not want to be able to call her the first female President even though I don't agree with that statement.



I think President-elect Donald Trump will take this country many steps backward. With the Obama administration, America accomplished so much with health care, LGBTQ rights, women's rights, and so much more. However, I think Trump is going to retract as much as he can which is going to take our country one step backward. I truly hope the congress will reject his request of putting up a wall and such harsh immigration however it can be possible. As well, with such a negative attitude towards the country, I am concerned he will only harm it.

There are many implications that there will be racial reversal on our country. Again, America made such progress and showed hope for the future when Obama was President. However, Trump is the exact opposite. He has made several racist comments and has the mentality to serve the upper class. And for that, people are nervous for the country.

### **STUDENT 13**

Waking up this morning to learn that Donald Trump is the President-elect was shocking to say the least. I was almost 100% certain that Hillary would be our next president but I clearly underestimated the trump campaign and supporters. Donald Trumps platform in my opinion goes against what America stands for. The US is supposedly this melting pot where people should feel safe being different and looking different and Trump combatting this gained him a large audience who must have had similar feelings.

I believe part of the reason for Trumps win is unfortunately because he is a man. It goes along with the discussion of how women can be more experienced and more educated but still receive less than a man does. I believe a big reason as to why Clinton lost is because of voter turn out. It was said multiple times that Clinton did not generate the same amount of voter participation as Obama did. This was shocking to me because of how critical I feel this election was. Where were the people who supported Obama 4 nd 8 years ago? With a candidate as far right as Donald Trump being in the running, it seems unlikely that they would switch sides, so did they just choose not to vote? Either way, it is disappointing.

I am unsure of the direction Trump will take this country. I hear a lot of people saying not to fear because the bi partisan system still allows for checks and balances that will keep things on track, which is an understandable point. However, both the house and the senate are majority republican and it is likely that the next appointed supreme court justice will be too, which is where I hear people become unsure again. I do have faith the the bi partisan system will do its job however and keep Trump in check.

But Trump himself is really the least of my worries. What scares me more is the crowd that Trump attracts. Trump's rallies were often horrible places to be if you were a member of the minority groups. They often incited hate and involved violence against peaceful individuals. Whether or not Trump endorses the behavior of his supporters, he still creates a platform on which people feel comfortable voicing their hatred of others in destructive ways.

I think this election may affect racial progress in a way that some people may may feel that their opinions of others will not necessarily need to be kept to themselves. However, I think

as long as minority groups keep in mind the progress that has been made and remain strong minded about their rights and their positions in this country, racial progress will be preserved.

#### **STUDENT 14**

i was very disappointed by the outcome of this election. I think Trump won because there are many people in America who share the same intolerant beliefs as Trump. I saw a reporter on CNN talking about how Trump winning was 'white-lash' and I agree. Times are changing and the fact that we could even have a Black president followed by a woman presidential candidate is more change than many people would like. Many people want "America back," from whom, I'm not sure. But it seems to me that they want an America that excludes minorities. This election just shed light that racism is not dead like many people like to claim. Many of the people who voted for Trump were uneducated white people who voted for him simply because he shares the same negative views on minorities as they do. Trump is inexperienced, unqualified, sexually assaults women, spreads hate and bigotry, yet he is still elected? On top of all that experts have predicted that his policies would be horrible for our economy so the fact that he won as far as I am concerned has everything to do with the fact that many people in America are prejudice and racist against minorities. Clinton lost because people do not trust her. I also think that the fact that she is a woman put her at a disadvantage as well.

I think that he will take the country to a very negative place. It has only been one day since he has been elected and there is already a spirit of hopelessness, fear, and sadness going around. So far Trump has done nothing but spread hate so I doubt that that will change.

I think the this has huge implications to racial progress. Nothing about what Trump has been saying thus far promotes any type of racial equality.

#### **STUDENT 15**

What are your views on the 2016 election results? Why did Trump win and why did Clinton lose?

I do not agree with the election results, but I have to accept them. Clinton won the country's popular vote, however Trump won the Electoral College because he won the popular vote in the right states. I also think Trump won because he knew how to appeal to the masses a lot better than Clinton. While Clinton was a lot more logical, Trump targeted the populations that many candidates often ignore, and I think that gave him a leg up in this race.

What are your thoughts on where President-elect Trump will take the country? Will the outcome be positive or negative?

It is honestly really hard to tell where Trump will take this country, however, I believe that the outcome is likely to be negative. There are many things that he has proposed, and there is a list of things that he would like to repeal that I think made this country better and improved our society as a whole. It is scary to think about the actions he may take as President, but we have to remember that there is a system of checks and balances that will hopefully make the outcome a little less dreadful.

What are the implications for racial progress or racial reversal on our country?

Throughout the entire campaign, racial progress has been slowly reversing. It would be ignorant to say that we lived in a post-racial society prior to this election, however, I like to think that we were at a better place than we will be during this term. Many platforms that Trump ran on were racist and sexist, along with many other things, and he and his supporters are against many of the things and people that I think make this country great. While the racism may not be coming directly from him, our society will be greatly impacted when it comes to such issues.

## **STUDENT 16**

The election results really make me scared and worried for the future of our country. In the past ten or so years we have made incredible progress in becoming more accepting, whether it be LGBTQ rights, abortion rights, or attempts to eliminate racism. However, with the election of Trump, especially with his vice president being Pence, this progress can be completely overturned and set the country back. The country would have had more hope if the Senate or House were majority Democrat, but with an entirely Republican Congress and Executive branch, they can do a lot of damage. The victory of Trump is really just a reflection of the predominately white voter base.

I think many people voted for Trump due to his blunt nature and the fact that he is not the typical politician who prances around issues. While this sometimes may be a realistic reason to vote for a candidate, Trump takes this bluntness to an extreme and just says whatever is on his mind. This includes the vulgar, sexist, and racist comments that he has said in regards to women, Muslims, and people with disabilities. I think the only thing we can hope for at this point is that he was all talk in regards to all of the ludicrous things he discussed while running for office and will either not follow through with them or will face legal resistance from rational human beings in positions of power.

It saddens me to see that kids went to school today in fear that their families or their friends will be forced out of this country for their origins or beliefs. It saddens me to think that Trump, a bigot and racist misogynist, will be the face of the nation and will possibly be mistakenly seen as a role model by millions of young children. I am angry that people will be able to validate their bullying actions by pointing to the President's actions and believing it is acceptable because Trump did it.

## **STUDENT 17**

I thought it was a very close race between Trump and Hillary. I was edge and was shocked when Trump one. I felt that America was trying to say something. To be honest, I am unsure of how Trump will be in office. I personally voted for Hillary, and when she lost, I was unsure how Trump would be as our next president. I think Trump's win was due to the majority of the nation needed a president that could "take control". Also, I feel that America needed a change, or someone who promised change. I feel that many people could relate to Trump and how he could appeal to others. I know a lot of people did not want to vote because they thought both candidates were not fit. Clinton lost because I felt that some people thought the democratic party was somehow corrupt, Clinton was a liar and for using a private email. Other people might have thought Clinton did not connect with the voters. Trump was able to discuss things that were what the people were thinking.

I am hopefully that Trump is successful within his presidential term. His views on women, and other issues, is something I can never agree with and I hope he doesn't take it into extreme. If he does take it to a negative place, for reelection, I believe a lot of people would turn against him. I think his hateful view on other races is what scares me the most. I feel that instead of creating peace, he might just turn everyone against each other. I feel that people who didn't vote for Trump and those who did, will continue to be against each other.

I feel that there will not be racial progress. Trump appealed to mostly Whites and conservatives. I feel that he already turned people against each other. I think he tried to appeal for more screening for Muslims, which I think is prejudice. I think screening for just them is unfair. Instead of screening for just Muslims, I would understand if he wanted to increase security and lessen any mishaps again. However, his views on certain groups makes me believe that there will not be any racial progress.

## **STUDENT 18**

Living in Maryland means most people around me are Democrats, however, I come from a family of Republicans and when looking into my values I found most fall within the Republican beliefs. This never seemed to be a very large topic of discussion until the most recent election when it became almost a crime to disagree with someone's political opinions. I personally would prefer not to talk about politics as I think this is a personal matter and it does not need to be discussed because everyone should agree to disagree, as it is rare that you will be able to change anyone's opinion. However, for the last few months I have been unable to check any form of social media without seeing something about the election. This is fine because I am proud so many people my age are starting to follow politics and very proud people my age are out there voting and helping to make a difference. This starts to become a problem when people are only forming their opinions based off of social media rather than actually following politics and watching the debate.

I believe that Trump won and Clinton did not for many reasons. When it came to pre-election polls Clinton was in the lead in part due to many people not wanting to admit that

they were voting for Trump. While Trump has made many comments that are out of line and offensive to many he has also shown plans for many great things and is a very strong businessman which is very important for a country in such large debt. Yes, he has made mistakes and played this system but he admits to these. I personally believe that Clinton only spoke of being a feminist and being all for women's rights to get her ahead in the election because her previous actions do not appear to follow through with those words. I believe a lot of people did not vote that said they were going to and this is a large reason to why Trump won. Many people my age that spoke of the election on social media did not go out and vote and therefore they should not be actively speaking about the election.

I believe President-elect Trump will take this country with a positive outcome. I also believe that he is solely the face of the government and he does not have that much power in the overall view of things. However, when listening to his speech last night it appears that he has many great ideas and if he does in fact follow through with his plans then this country will come out stronger and better for it's citizens.

In terms of racial progress or racial reversal I don't think there will be much change as fault of him being president. I think others will act out because he is president and people will then say it is his doing. But again, he is only the face of this country and cannot change much without the rest of congress. I do not think there will make too much of a change. I do think everyone should simply accept this and not continue to throw Anti-Trump rallies and things of those nature until they see him act as president and see how it is.

## **STUDENT 19**

The 2016 United States election was engaging and nail biting for both the Democrats and Republicans. For my first time voting, I can say that both of these candidates were not completely ideal. My roommates and I have contradicting beliefs, but we put them aside to watch the election together. After watching the news the past couple months, It was obvious that both candidates were not appealing to majority of the country. I believe that Trump won, because he was able to persuade enough voters to take majority of the swing states. I also believe that people are wondering what Trump is capable of to be our next president. Since he has no experience in politics, I think people are skeptical of what he is capable of doing as a leader. I also firmly believe that the reopening of the email scandal did not help Hillary to win enough votes. I think people were afraid of both candidates, and I think either president would have caused chaos the next morning.

Honestly, I just want to be positive for Trump. Although I do not accept his past behavior and comments, I want to try my best to be positive. As an American I do not wish for any United States president to fail. As a U.S. citizen, I think it is important that all of us Americans try and give Trump a chance. Regardless of who becomes president, republican, or democrat, I think it is our duty to support and back any candidate. I am very optimistic and curious of where Donald Trump can take our economy and the future of the United States.

For the future racial progress, I really am not sure what to expect. I pray and hope that we can unite as one. Although some of Donald Trump's past comments were racist and sexist, I can only pray that he as a president will help pull this country together, rather than to continue to divide it.

## **STUDENT 20**

Trump won because people are frustrated. People want change and Trump seems much more likely to do that than Hillary. Obama won in 2008 on the same thing: Hope and Change. We lost so many jobs overseas due to bad trade deals over the past twenty years. The result was a lot of things becoming cheaper for us, but there was a cost: jobs. Most of the jobs lost were blue-collar jobs, and blue-collared workers have been the most ignored demographic in recent history. Everyone sees them as these lower-class, uneducated, racist rednecks in the Midwest. Some even call them white trash. Rednecks and hillbillies are the last group of people that it's socially acceptable to mock. Trump's primary appeal was to this demographic mostly with his stance on trade.

He was also a true outsider. His own party tried to stop him but they could not. In the end, it was him against Clinton. Trump had major character flaws, but people didn't care. They wanted change. They did not want to vote for another corrupt politician. People were also especially annoyed with how utterly biased the media was this election. I thought that the "liberal media" was just another talking point on the right, but it is completely true. They were trying so hard to elect Hillary. The WikiLeaks proved Clinton's collusion with the media. Trump owes nothing to anyone as he exploited the media to fund his campaign, so he has no ties with Wall Street, big corporations, or foreign countries. Meanwhile, Hillary was the exact opposite.

A lot of people said that Trump won because racism, sexism, xenophobia, etc. I just don't think that's true. People really do not like being told what to do, so when you have people saying to vote for Hillary because she's a woman and it's sexist not to, or you are a deplorable bigot if you vote for Trump, they will ignore you. The silent majority is annoyed with political correctness. They are annoyed they can't support a candidate without being called racist. This isn't even unique to Trump. Everything that Trump has been called, Romney and McCain was also called that too – yes everything. With that in mind, it just seems like everything is racist to the point where that word just lost all meaning (Hurricane Matthew was called racist). Trump had a higher percentage of women, Latinos, and blacks than Romney did in 2012. There is a racial divide in the two major parties, so any Republican victory is going to have more white votes and fewer minority votes. Does that make the party inherently racist? It's also important to remember that many Democrats – who voted for Obama – joined the Republican Party because they became the party of the poor.

Our country is so divided right now based on political affiliation so I don't see race relations getting better under Hillary or Trump. Until we are tolerant to different opinions, race relations won't get better. For example, it is not safe to openly support Trump in California. It's physically not safe. Everyone demonizes Trump supporters that violence against them



is justified since it's for the greater good. Even the DNC paid people to incite violence at his rallies.

## **STUDENT 21**

What are your views on the 2016 election results? Why did Trump win and why did Clinton lose?

Although I personally prefer Donald Trump than Hilary Clinton, I was surprised by the result of the election. During the three debates, Hilary was more calm and her words were proper and convincing. I describe Clinton as a professional politician. She knows how to build a better public image and how to increase her appeal. Stars from Hollywood, Clinton's former opponent Bernie Sanders and president Obama advocate the vote for Clinton. She also could have been the first female president if she wins. Clinton was supposed to win the election with great support. However, she was exposed to be a liar. Trump said lots of bad words, which may lead to people's anger. But he also promised to lead the country back to greatness. He also took advantage of people's fear of the terrorism. I have to say that Trump is not as good as Clinton. But I think that people prefer a businessman who say improper words sometimes that a "politician" who makes promises that can never come true and lies all the time. Therefore, Trump did not win the election. Clinton give the positon of president to Trump herself.

What are your thoughts on where President-elect Trump will take the country? Will the outcome be positive or negative?

First I think he will abandon Obamacare. The health care may be cheaper but I don't know how much will the new health care cover the fee of our treatment. He may also do something on immigration and deport a group of people. And he will "build a wall" on the border. Taxes may be less for us. Trump may break the ice between Russia and US, which may not be a good thing for most Americans. LGBT people may be harmed in the future. Muslims may be harmed in the future. Republicans are the majority in the congress so they may not support issues like gun control and abortion, which I think is a bad thing. Some outcomes will be negative but I think there will be some positive outcomes too.

What are the implications for racial progress or racial reversal on our country?

I don't think that there are racial progress and I don't think there are any racial reversal. I know that Trump said something bad about Muslims and women. But I'm sure that people didn't choose because he racially insulted some group of people. People are just choosing a relative better candidate from the two candidates "who are not so good". Trump's words and his opinions are just his personal point of view, which cannot representative the whole country. Trump may issue some policies, which may lead to some racial reversal movements in the future. But the law doesn't mean people's willing and thoughts. At least for now, first working day of our new president, I cannot tell whether there are any implications for racial progress of racial reversal.

## **STUDENT 22**

I am extremely disappointed by the results of this election. I feel as if I am not going to be represented in the government like I should be, and neither will racial or sexual minorities. I have been very emotional about this all day, and I feel very uneasy about our future as a country. I do not really understand how this happened, and I think this is because of where we live. UMD is in a diverse, and generally liberal bubble. I tend to forget that other parts of America are very different and possibly a little less progressive than the DMV. This is why Trump won, and also the fact that 40% of voters were 45-60 years old, while only 19% of the voters were 18-29 year olds. Many people also did not vote, which was a huge part of the problem.

I am afraid for where he could take this country, and not even politically. He will socially set this country further back, and he is currently (while he's not even in office) causing minorities to feel unsafe here. I ultimately believe the outcome will be negative, because of the ignorant, racially hostile environments he is fostering. I do not think Hillary was the ideal choice, but I do think she would have been a good role model for little girls, since as women we have come so far. Now with Trump as president, things like planned parenthood and abortion are possibly going to be taken away from us by WHITE MALES, a recurring theme in history.

Racial progress will be slowed, if not stopped by Trump's election. Those who were already liberal, and those who already were pro-racial equality will not change their views, however those who could have been changed are going to be swayed by the growing racial hostility. I watched a video on the KKK today and the things this man was saying made me sick. They were also seen on a bridge in North Carolina. Trump may not outwardly support these hateful groups, but he lets them endorse him, and he almost gives them "approval" with his racist and sexist views. Racism is still very much alive America, it's time to acknowledge its existence and make changes.

I'm sorry if I offended anyone with this post, I am just upset and I used this as a way to voice how I was feeling.

## **STUDENT 23**

This is the most shocking election I have ever witnessed. I believe Trump won because he was able to unify a large group of people by promoting hateful ideologies that were shared by the majority of American citizens. What made it shocking to most is that these people, often referred to as the silent majority, were actually stupid enough to see this through.

The reason Hillary lost is because of 2 reasons in my opinion: first, the amount of white woman who voted against her, and second, the people who didn't vote at all. It has been said that there was a significantly smaller turnout of voters for this years election compared to the last, so the people who are mad about Trump being president but didn't vote, are apart of the problem.

I think Donald's inexperience will hurt him most, and I see him setting our country back in a major way by the end of his term. This is the same man who when asked what he would do to bridge the racial gap in America, he replied, "Law and Order." The racial gap will only increase, foreign relations will deteriorate even more, and I see an economic downturn in our near future.

This election has many people wearing their racist and sexist views on their sleeves, and are proud to have a leader who shares these views. I believe our President-elects' views reflect the true virtues of this nation. And for all the Republicans who expect minorities to look past blatant racism & who say stuff like "you should actually do research on his policies" are just as stupid as him. Most white Republicans can say this with a straight face simply because racism does not, and never will, affect them! Trump ran an entire campaign without once telling his supporters how he was going to accomplish any of the nonsense he was spewing. In fact, I give Trump credit...for finessing the entire nation. He did the impossible. I just hope we all survive.

#### **STUDENT 24**

For the 2016 election, I was not shocked that Trump won. However, I was still saddened and disgusted when I saw the results from the polls coming in. I think that Trump's win and Clinton's loss happened for a couple of reasons. I believe that there was an overwhelming amount of Trump supporters who were excited and made sure to vote for him; Trump supporters have been very vocal throughout the election, and they made sure their voices were heard. On the other hand, there was an underwhelming amount of support on the democratic side, especially after Bernie Sanders lost the primaries. People did not want to vote for Hillary, so a lot of democratic voters simply did not vote. This combination, plus other factors, led to the election of Donald Trump.

I think that Donald Trump will take the country in a more negative direction. I am scared because he has no political/military background, and he has not had a solid platform all election season. The debates simply consisted of him dodging questions and bashing Hillary Clinton, without providing any insight into what he plans to really do for this country. The only thing that we know for sure is that he uses fear tactics to gain support, and his only plan is to deport people and build walls. Also, he is picking 1-3 seats on the Supreme Court, which could really impact the country in a negative way. There is a lot at stake in this country right now, and I do not feel confident in his abilities to handle it well.

There is definitely going to be more charged racial issues now that he is president. People are honestly scared for their safety and their future, which should not be the case. I think that his presidency will provide his supporters with the idea that it is okay to act out of hate and fear, which means more violence and threats towards minorities. Donald Trump represents the racism, sexism, homophobia, islamophobia, and rape culture that is already very prevalent in this country, but he has just been more explicit about it.

## **STUDENT 25**

I am deeply disturbed, to say the least. There are many things that I am now having to be worried about. I am worried for myself as a woman and I am worried for my friends and classmates who fall into any category other than white male. I worry for the young girls who have no one to look up to in the highest office of our country. I am worried that they are going to grow up like me, cynical and pessimistic about the idea of seeing themselves in high governmental positions. Teachers can now continue to tell their young female students that they will never be president, just as they told me. And those young girls will start to believe it, too as they watch young boys picked for positions they clearly should have won as they grow up. I also worry about the effects that Trump has already had on our youth because of his rhetoric; it is called the Trump Effect. I worry because Melania Trump is no FLOTUS I want to idolize; she doesn't even represent America in the slightest. I worry for those who now feel that their ideas and feelings about minorities and women are now mainstream and the majority. I am worried because the KKK openly supports our new leader, which sends a message to others that they are not welcome. Those feelings should not have a place in our society. Not now, not ever.

Trump won because he mobilized a group of people based on fear; fear based on a lack of understanding of other groups of people. Not all of his supporters are like that, but that is the group of people that got him elected. He mobilized people who hate Washington and hate the system. He mobilized people who felt the government was corrupt. He was also able to win because of who his opponent was. He is lucky, as Vice President Joe Biden would have run him out of his political business.

With a red presidency and a red legislative body, I feel that more is going to happen. There is not going to be the same stalemate and blockage that President Obama has faced, but I also do not view this as a good thing. Trump has the chance to steer this country off course, whether he does it or not.

With every progression, we have historically been met with an equal force of backlash. At this moment, and hopefully up until January 20, we will continue to progress. However, under Trump, I am afraid that we will regress. Knowing a sentiment of intimidation and hate is growing more vocal, we must continue to be a force to be reckoned with. As a white woman, I have the ability to overlook the racism his campaign has run on, and I won't face any consequences. But I won't overlook; we didn't come this far to be pushed back into the 1900s. Time to fight like hell.

## **STUDENT 26**

I do not think that the 2016 election results are surprising at all. It seems much easier to organize and embolden masses of people behind slogans of hatred and ignorance. Trump appealed to the ugly sides of American citizens, and made them feel normal for holding their prejudiced views on immigrants (latino and muslims) and pretty much anything they did not know much about. Trump won because he openly displayed his sexism, racism, and general ignorance, which made people feel like he represented the average American

(which is the saddest part about all of this). Clinton lost because she was successfully demonized through the email scandal, and this gave the perfect excuse for those who did not want to seem outwardly racist/bigoted to vote Trump. There were also those who did not believe political correctness was something that a president should maintain, however, Trump was beyond political correctness. He makes broad judgements based on stereotypes which is the reason this country has never been great in the first place.

I can't imagine anything positive will come of his Presidency. There has been nothing that he has done thus far for anyone who is less privileged than him. He rejects affordable healthcare, women's right to choice, environmental welfare, and any issue that doesn't directly affect him. I cannot tell the future, but I am definitely pessimistic. With either candidate, the Black community was going to suffer, but with Trump, many other communities will suffer with us.

I firmly believe that racial reversal will be the only implication from this election. The entire premise of Trump's campaign was to make America great "again." But America has only ever been great for white men, so any reflection of the past is simply a reversal in racial progression. Only privileged people can be complacent with mirroring the good ole days when the economy was booming at the expense of black bodies and general morality. But that is America. Cowardice and hatred have always been disguised in our false sense of freedom and unity. We are the most hypocritical contradiction to ever exist.

## **STUDENT 27**

Initially, I was shocked, but thinking more about it, I can't say I'm surprised. After having a Black president for two terms, it seems predictable that there would be a backlash. After slavery was ended, there was a brief period of working towards equality and then life regressed back to the way it was more or less. While our country may have improved slowly since that time, we follow the same pattern of back-tracking for every step forward. Besides that pattern however, I think there are also people who may disagree with Trump's views of discrimination but still voted for him for his policies. One comment I saw on Facebook said that this person was genuinely excited to see that Trump was elected due to his policies and what that would mean in their life. As for why Clinton lost, I think it was due to the location of the people who supported her, and that the electoral college system worked out such that she lost; her base of support didn't extend to the swing states.

Honestly, I'm not sure. I'd like to think optimistically, but I have no idea about where Trump plans to take the country. Most of his policies I've heard about are about building the wall and making immigration laws even more strict, neither of which appeal to me. But perhaps it's because of the rhetoric that I've heard, and he might actually have some decent policies. Honestly, I don't know.

I think there will be racial reversal in our country, or at least stagnation on that front. Even if Trump does not continue using discriminatory language (which I don't think will happen), the discourse during this election was hateful enough that people who support a racist ideology feel comfortable expressing their attitudes, verbally or actively, regardless

of the impact on other people. And even if policies don't worsen structural racism, I think people will feel less social pressure to hide internal attitudes of racism.

## **STUDENT 28**

I was deeply disappointed. When I got home, I was busy with other things and I didn't start checking results until over an hour after the polls had closed, and I received a great shock. I nervously, almost manically, toggled between various forms of social media and the live google updates of the polls watching state after state fall in. I went to bed after Pennsylvania went red, and woke up to the results. I really wonder where the extra 15 million people that voted President Obama into office in 2008 went. It seems like a pattern of history has played out: when given the choice of a competent, educated, well read woman and a man without experience, the good-ole-boy is given the benefit of the doubt because people think that they might as well give him a shot and see what he does.

I really believe that Trump won because of fear. The same way that whites voted against their own interests during reconstruction, Trump was able to galvanize people in hatred, misogyny, and vitriol.

Clinton was elected by the people. She lost the presidency because of the electoral college. It might have been that people thought Clinton would win without their vote so they stayed home, or that people who otherwise would have voted for her didn't feel connected to her or that they could trust her.

I would like to believe that Trump will be a success regardless of my political beliefs about him, however, I can't help but think that the United States population just gave someone with a class C drivers license control of a spaceship carrying all of us. I hope for a positive outcome, that somehow he presses the right buttons and we don't crash.

I am trying to keep away from speaking what I really think about what he means for the racial climate in this country. Words have power. Regardless of what I think, I want racial progress to continue. I want people to become even more organized and energized. This is an opportunity to join each other and press forward.

## **STUDENT 29**

I was pretty upset about the result of the 2016 election. I think Trump won by adopting a set of political positions, few if any of which he spoke about in enough detail to demonstrate he actually understood them, and almost none of which he'd displayed real commitment to in any other period of his high-profile life. And he won with appeals to racism, misogyny, belligerence, and perhaps above all, cruelty and retribution. He won as likely the most popular candidate among white nationalists and anti-Semites in a generation. He won by demonizing Muslims and his non-white critics to the point of incitement, and by corrupting absolutely everyone — from the people in his inner circle, to the people who ultimately voted for him — through his mere proximity to them.



Trump may boost the economic system of America. But Trump's win leaves hundreds of thousands of young immigrants who benefited from the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, program, with an uncertain future. More than 700,000 young immigrants like Martinez have been shielded from deportation and allowed to work because of DACA. During the campaign Trump promised to end the program soon after taking office. It is definitely a negative outcome.

Americans do a terrible job of teaching our history, and an even worse job of teaching our awful racial history. By and large, slavery is treated with appropriate horror, but everything after that is passed over and ignored. For a lot of young white people, I think, racism has become completely untethered from history. They've been taught "colorblindness" sans a sense of what it means to grow up in a country where white supremacy was once the ruling ideology.

### **STUDENT 30**

I am not enthused or excited in the least bit about the election results. I don't know how to feel about the way people voted though. Judging someone on their political views was something I was taught not to do. However, Trump's rhetoric, both spoken and inferred, are indisputably divisive and offensive towards all minorities. When the KKK is publicly supporting him, chanting his racist fucking slogan, you can't act like it's just another political view.

I think he won because of his ability to excite white, middle class and working class citizens, both male and female by promising them a return to less diverse era where whites had more power in society. The number of white, uneducated working class citizens who ignored acting in their own interest and voted for him instead is an astounding number, but that always happens with ultra-conservatives in the Republican party.

I don't know where he will lead the country. I am sure nothing will be done in the least bit when it comes to criminal justice reform, global warming, Civil Rights, or education reform. His promises of extra policing and deportation, if fulfilled, will lead to civil unrest and rightfully so. Any policies that keep certain groups at disadvantage will be kept, and most likely built upon. Generally, negative is how I see his term going, but since this is actually happening now, I'm just hoping for the best.

Both Trump and Pence views on race and sexuality are so distorted and offensive, I definitely see us entering a reversal period. Racial issues are rooted deep in this country and he, along with his supporters, believe tougher policing and better jails will stop the violence in this country. There won't be any fixing of racial issues while these two are in office.

### **STUDENT 31**

I came into this election year not really knowing anything about either candidate let alone the political system or how it works. I did not have any idea of what kind of economy we

have or what we need to do for health care in this country. The only thing I really did know, was my ethics and morals. I knew it was not okay to say half of the thing Donald Trump said or did. I also knew that Hilary Clinton seemed like a good candidate. Due to my lack of knowledge of politics and the meaning of each candidates views, I was left to decide who was the better candidate based on how each one acted during speeches and debates. As election time became months away, I decided that it was important for me to form a strong opinion on one of the candidates. Meanwhile I have important people in my life telling me to do A, or telling me to vote for B because of this or that. This lead to strewed ideas about each candidate that were both incomplete and distorted based on my relationship with that person. I started to read numerous article that were obviously bias one way or the other, and I could never really find the outright facts or truth about either candidate. I read about the corruption and lies behind the Clinton succession and I read about the lies and bigotry behind Mr. Trump. When I bring these things up to these important people in my life, it always seemed that they had a way to dismount these allegations or find a way to convince me otherwise. Basically, no matter what I tried to learn on my own, it didn't have any affect. I think that the problems that I faced during this election are similar to a majority of the voters out there. They seem to form their opinions about either candidate or even the political system as a whole by following a chain of illegitimate pieces of information or details that are only one part of the truth. Unfortunately politics is a hard area to find only the facts and everyone will always hold an opinion. That being said, I think PEOPLE DO NOT DESERVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE unless they actually understand the government and how certain aspects of it impact the people. Only then can one factor in their own beliefs and morals into their decision about who should be the next President of The United States.

I am not quite sure where Donald Trump will take this country. I am sure his main goal is not to destroy our country or he would not have run for President. I think we just have to wait and see and if anything, give him all the support he can get from us. I did not vote for him to be honest, but I think bitterness will only get us stuck in the mud. We have to help guide him as he helps to guide our country and hopefully make the changes that we the people need. Whether it was him or Clinton who won, I would say the same thing.

No one can say for certain. Donald Trump has shown that he has differing opinions than many on this issue and we will have to just wait and see. Like I said above, I do not think his goal is to separate us as a people and to revert certain progress that we have made (in most cases). If you disagree with him, then there is no point in complaining or rioting. The only thing that would make sense would be to help him. Respectfully others and do not cause any disturbances in the peace and help him transition into power. The less stress he has, hopefully the better things we will. The only thing we can do now is wait and see.

### **STUDENT 32**

Hearing the election results left me in complete and utter shock. Scrolling through Facebook this morning and reading my friends' emotional posts about the election results filled me with sadness and disbelief. I was not expecting to be overcome with so much anxiety! I believe Trump was not an appealing candidate because of his view on a variety of

social issues. However, I think his views on how to build a better economy and lower taxes may have been a strong reason why people voted for him. During his campaign, he was very clear-cut in what he wanted to achieve as president. I think his approach to politics was different from past political candidates, which may have contributed to his overall appeal as future president. Also, police opened up an investigation involving suspicious activity of Clinton. This did not help Clinton to be seen as a trustworthy and reliable runner for president. Unfortunately, I do not think a positive outcome will result in Trump's presidency. Especially in regards to social issues, his election has already caused uproar in the LGBTQ community and other unrepresented groups of people. In class we discussed how racial relations have improved since Obama's presidency. I believe racial progress will not continue to improve as a result of Trump's presidency. The election results show an overwhelming majority of black voters who have voted for Clinton. This is a clear indication that blacks and other minority groups do not feel that Trump will not focus on the current racial dilemmas of America.

### **STUDENT 33**

At first I felt that Hillary was going to win without a doubt but something in the back of my mind was telling me that Trump was going to somehow win the swing states he needed to become president. I think Trump won because a lot of people were not happy with these two candidates so they just decided not to vote which gave Trump the edge in the states that he needed to win. The total number of voters from this year were lower than the number of voters when President Obama ran for office. It's shocking that there is no requirements to become President and that pretty much anyone with money and some sort of power within the media can run for president. I think Hillary lost because her main focus was to get the minority voters on her side when she already received support from many people that represented the minority groups. Also I think some Americans couldn't handle the fact of having a female president because they are so used to the males being the authoritative figures for this country. I do not know where Trump will take the country but hopefully he will straighten up and watch what he says about certain ethnic groups because he is now in a high power position that can affect many people's lives. I am hoping the outcome can be positive even though his being elected started out negative.

### **STUDENT 34**

1. I am utterly disgusted with the 2016 election results. I am more disgusted and disappointed in this country. Going to admit, I was fighting back tears at the announcement of our president-elect. Donald Trump won because of the electors that despite his vile nature, and in disregard of the popular vote, decided he's the victor. Clinton lost because our system failed us. Polls clearly show that Hilary Clinton won the final popular vote by 202,340 votes. However, Donald Trump won the Presidency by 51 Electoral College votes. The people chose Clinton but the Power Structure chose Trump.
2. President-elect Trump will and has already started to divide the country. We need a president who will bring our country together, not someone who will divide us by race or religion, which Trump has done. From character to policy perspective, the outcome

of this president-elect can only be negative. Trump's platform profoundly endangers the most fundamental American values of fairness and equality for all. I am worried about hate crimes, Supreme Court justices, equal protections, gun control, health/planned parenthood, refugee resettlement, and the economy. This election has shown me that there is no morality in our political process and that is a terrifying reality. We have just elected a candidate endorsed by the KKK. The freedoms we cherish and the constitutional values and principles our country was founded on are in jeopardy. The future of our country is truly at stake.

3. What upsets me most is that we have struggled for so many years to overcome discrimination. We can disagree on the issues but we cannot respect a candidate who runs on bigotry and Donald Trump has made bigotry the foundation of his campaign. Our strength as a nation is our diversity. Trump has made it clear throughout this election that he is not accepting of the diverse makeup of this country by his insults towards Mexicans and Latinos, Muslims, and women. I am a BLACK, MUSLIM WOMAN and I am truly scared. We have turned back the clock on racial progress. Once again, America has continued to fail women, minorities, Muslims and immigrants, and the LGBTQ community. Finding out the country that I love so dearly doesn't even care about me is not necessarily a shocking eye opener for me but simply a sad reminder.

### **STUDENT 35**

Ever since the presidential candidates were announced, I had a very bad feeling that Trump was going to win. Reasons are because people refused to vote for either candidates and people refused to vote in for Trump and thus not voting. Although Clinton did get the most popular vote, Trump did get enough electoral votes to win the election. I have seen on social media, people claiming that they do not need to exercise their right to vote because it is obvious that Clinton would win because who would vote Trump.

His opinions about building the wall and exiling the minorities were definitely scary and caused a lot of people to be fearful of the future. However, I really do believe half the things he said were to get people riled up. I do think people should still be careful and cautious of what could come because he seems like a very unexpected man. I personally think it will have a negative outcome because of the white supremacy election he led and the immoral platform he had. I cannot say I am mad for Trump getting elected, because obviously people did believe in his abilities for their own personal reasons. But I am extremely disappointed in America for thinking that a man with no respectability towards woman, racist attitudes, multiple "alleged" sexual assaults, and a white supremacy mindset is fit for a role like the President of the United States. After everything we have learned in school, from our parents, and on the news, people choose to support someone who is against everything we are taught. What blows my mind are millennials who support Trump. These millennials are students who we were in the same U.S. History class as us, who learned about the unfortunate racist events back in the day and still supports someone who continues to share the same mindset as those before us. This scares me for people that aren't part of this White supremacy because we have gotten so far to make America a land of opportunity for people regardless of where they have come from, and these peoples' rights may be taken

away in a few months. Of course there is still racism in the country, but having a man like Trump as President is not going to improve what we have all been working on for all these years. With Trump, we are going to take a giant leap back.

### **STUDENT 36**

Regarding the 2016 election. I was a little surprised that Republicans will now be in the majority in the Senate and in the House. I was also surprised and saddened by the number of Americans who took this election and their right to vote as a joke. 15,000 votes for a dead gorilla? 10,000 votes for Hennessy?

As far as President-elect Trump, no surprise at all. I hate to be one of those people but, I saw it coming. Although its disheartening, frustrating, and scary for many, I believe this needed to happen. President-elect Trump is a reflection of the hearts of many American people. For years on end, we have seen history repeat itself because a majority of the American people were in denial that racism is still alive and refused to recognize how racism has been institutionalized. Yes, it does suck that people, like Trump and many of his supporters carry such views, but it is about time this issue of institutionalized racism, and so many other issues, get exposed with the hope that the American people would finally address and deal with the 300 year old elephant in the room. For so long people have tried oh so hard to deny and argue against the very apparent presence of racism and discrimination in America, but at this point you would have to literally be living under a rock to not recognize it.

The hard truth is, everyone who voted for Trump isn't a bigot, racist, homophobe, xenophobe, or Islamophobe, nor do they support those things, but there is also no denying that a great number of his supporters are. President-elect Trump is one of the few people who is bold enough to step out and publicly share his twisted views unapologetically. Despite how offensive, rude, and disgusting Trump's opinions and actions can be, we at least know exactly where he stands and the state of his heart, unlike Hillary; That was one of her greatest weaknesses. She proved herself to be untrustworthy in several ways. In addition to that, about 70% of white evangelical votes went to the GOP. This makes sense because Hillary's views on abortion are ridiculous so of course white evangelicals would see it fit to choose Trump over someone who pushes hard for the shedding of innocent blood. I personally have African-Americans friends who decided to vote for Trump over Hillary. Wait. What? Yes. Statistical data shows that there are more abortion clinics in poor minority neighborhoods than "white" developed and urban neighborhoods. More African-Americans are murdered through abortion than there are African Americans dying from heart disease, cancer, or even black on black / police on black / white on black crime. Hillary wanted to fund the growth and provide even easier access to these abortion clinics in these poor black neighborhoods. Sounds a lot like black genocide to me. Therefore, as an African-American I can understand why people within the African-American community chose not to vote for her when Trump is against abortion for the most part. Yes, some people base their entire decision on one deal breaker issue. Not the wisest thing, but that's just the truth of the matter.



Hillary is also highly familiar with politics, being politically correct, and knowing the right things to say at the right time. Meanwhile, Trump keeps it raw. Many Americans were tired of the political lingo and constant rhetoric. They felt like they were being overlooked and their issues were not being heard. So of course they would be drawn to vote for someone who comes off as the average American that is tired of the current state of the 'union' and passionate about change. The exit polls also show that most of Trump's supporters are white. I think we can all agree that many of these white voters are simply terrified and crippled by fear; so much so that Trump seemed to be the best option in light of their terror.

As crazy as this may sound, I do see a positive outcome. I'm an immigrant and I'm black, but there's nothing within me compelling me to be afraid, angry, frustrated, or without peace. However, I do feel for those who feel that way and I am in no way trying to undermine those feelings. They are valid. Completely valid. From yesterday night alone, I saw how deeply cut this pain is in the hearts of many Americans and I sympathize greatly with those who are emotionally overwhelmed right now; But in light of it all, I see it this way: Trump is only a man. He is not God. Yes he will hold great authority as president of this nation, but he honestly will not be able to execute many of the outrageously wild things he has said. I am sure that Trump is also aware of the various riots of hate that have broken out against him in the past 24 hours. Some say he doesn't care, but if he really wants to make America great as he claims, my hope is that he would humble himself, recognize his wrongdoings, genuinely apologize, and yield himself to be used for great service as the next president of the United States.

Regardless, things are going to be okay. Let the pain endure for the night, but in the morning let's choose to be the change we want to see. There is power in unity and there is power in numbers. But even more than that, there is power in love. Hate towards Trump won't compel him to do any better. Imagine what it would look like for the least deserving (Trump) to be commissioned into office with honor, love, and respect despite the fact that he doesn't deserve it at all. Love is the hardest thing to do, but it's the greatest force. Does that mean the non-violent and peaceful protests should stop? No. We should continue passionately advocating for justice and equality, but let's use wisdom.

I can't explain it and many people won't understand, but I truly have hope and I am choosing to actively be the change I desire to see.

### **STUDENT 37**

I don't even know how or where to begin with this Op Ed. I am utterly disappointed and I have so many feelings and thoughts right now that I am exhausted from this election. Trump won because many people decided to ignore moral standards in hopes of a better economy instead. Trump won because many people from rural areas who usually don't go out to vote, voted this year. Trump won because of a white lash against the fact that President Obama who is an African American has been in the office for 8 years. The fact that Trump won just shows how divided this country is. Many thought Trump was not going to win because many didn't publically say they were going to vote Trump. It was a vast majority of hidden votes for Trump. Clinton lost because some people do not trust her



because of the email scandal. Also she lost because some do not want to see a female president which is so sexist. Again, Clinton lost because so many people decided to vote for a misogynist, homophobic, and xenophobic man.

Obviously in a matter of just a few minutes after the announcement of Trump being elected as President, people started protesting. This just shows the dangerous state the country is in. People are filled with fear. Many people mourned today. So far it seems as the outcome is negative and many of the things Trump has said in the past scares people because there are many actions he is willing to take when he is in office that will effect a lot of people in a negative way. He is willing to throw away Obama's legacy on the first day. I'm afraid he will also try to take DACA away. This means latinos from my community would not have the privilege to go to college anymore. Instead of having racial progress we are moving back. Trump's views and ideas are scary, but what is even scarier is that there are people who agree with his sexist and racist views. I knew there was hate in this country but yesterday I realized its so much more than what I thought. Yesterday I realized hate runs real deep in this country. The KKK is celebrating, the kkk. Just let that sink in. Clearly this is a racial reverse. We had racially progressed when the first African American President was elected, but we just moved a step back. Even children know this. Many Latino children, when asked about Trump they think he is a bad man that will send their families out of the US. This country is supposed to be the land of opportunity but right now many are in fear and are disappointed. I think now we have to progress by standing up for what we believe in and try to work together and be united to progress again. Words cant describe how I am feeling. This isn't just about which party won or lost, this is about the lives of many people that are in risk. Prayer is needed for the country right now.

### **STUDENT 38**

The results of the election were surprising to me, but reflecting on the overall feelings of groups within our country I can see an explanation for the process. Many rural white people in the U.S. feel negatively about the current economic situation of the country and were looking for change in this election. Hillary did not offer them change. I however am disappointed in our country's inability to produce a leader who vows to protect the rights of all citizens. I am hurting alongside all of those around me who feel pain caused by the election of a leader who spews hatred and reinforces the many isms we are working against and I don't see how he can represent us all.

What I have seen of Trump is his influence in playing on the emotions of fear and using many of the principles we have been talking about in class to reinforce the power of the in-group, and distance the out-group by using stereotypes and prejudicial attitudes to make them the "other". I don't see how this can be a positive outcome, but perhaps we as citizens will find a way to organize and educate each other rather than permit this racist ideology to continue to oppress.

The implications are that once again racism enters into the institution that creates laws and serves as an image for our country. It seems that racism in the situation of Trump seems more overt, whereas we have been studying the growth of "symbolic racism". Will be we able to combat this in a different way?

### **STUDENT 39**

The 2016 election results put me in a large state of disbelief and disappointment--and will for quite some time. To keep it simple, Trump won because he won the majority of electoral votes and Clinton didn't. I have done an immense amount of grieving for this topic and it's upsetting. But we have to stay strong and stick together as a nation. It's a setback for our nation and times like these we must come together to stick up for what is right. Trump will take this country and digress the progress that President Obama has done for all of us. It's baffling to wrap my mind around this election because of those who can blatantly support a man who disrespects the disabled, who is racist, sexist, and homophobic. He has blatantly offended so many groups of people during his campaign trail and there are people who still stand by that and voted for that--which astounds me. The outcome will be negative.

We have grown as a nation, especially in regards to racial progress. Of course, there is still room for more improvement, but Donald Trump as our president will result in racial reversal.

It's truly not the time or a place where this election should've depended on what party we were raised around or raised to be. It was about having the decency and common sense to know between what is RIGHT and WRONG. And the results are seriously disturbing. At the end of the day, I will continue to be hopeful and be much more involved in these processes.

### **STUDENT 40**

I am honestly still in disbelief of the election results. When Trump was first running, I thought it was a joke. I never in a million years would have thought that he would be the next president of the United States. I think it is a huge wake up call for our country. The fact that Donald Trump was even nominated showed us the true feelings of America, the deep-rooted systemic racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, islamophobia, etc. This election has exposed all of the issues we thought America had gotten past. I can honestly say I am truly embarrassed for our country right now. Our country had taken two steps forward and ten steps back. The fact that we let a candidate who is racist, misogynistic take hold of our country is mind boggling. The reason why I think Hilary Clinton lost is because many people did not vote. They assumed that Trump would lose so they did not exercise their civil right to go out and vote. Also, just from speaking with my peers, some say that their vote did not matter. This is completely false. Every vote matters. I also think that the case with the emails turned a lot of people off. Many people called Hillary a liar, criminal, etc. But Trump has a court case for sexual assault and child rape in December so it does not really make any sense. If Hillary Clinton was elected, the entire country and the future would be changed forever in terms of women's rights. Trump represents the polar opposite of change in America, rather he represents moving backwards. We went from having an African American president to one of the biggest racists in America. Our country could not find it in their hearts to elect a female president. Trumps ignorance and disrespect towards women, immigrants, minorities, people with disabilities, veterans, the LGBTQT community and other groups of people is unbelievable. Everything that Trump stands for is what is dividing the country not uniting it. I am honestly scared for the future of our country.

## STUDENT 41

What are your views on the 2016 election results? Why did Trump win and why did Clinton lose?

I want to first start by saying I am very sad, disappointed and utterly shocked by the outcome of this election. I have never seen so much blatant disrespect and racist attitudes in my life. I was aware of racial attitudes that existed in America but Trump's campaign has allowed for this type of egregious behavior to be outwardly acceptable and done unapologetically. I understand everyone is given the right to vote the way they want; however, in my opinion the people who voted for not only set our country back 60-70 years. I think many of us can get past a few 100 or even a few thousand people who share the same views, racist outlooks, and bigotry as Donald Trump, but when the results come in and you find out there are millions of people who share the same woes as Trump, as a minority, you suddenly realize the world you live in is not as equal or as color blind as they claim to be. There are so many reasons why Donald Trump won and Hillary Clinton lost. I believe the misguided information from media outlets made Clinton supporters believe she was leading in the polls so people didn't feel the need to come out, by contrast I think Trump supporters feared losing so they filled the polls and voted. I think there are more people in America than we know actually support and white supremacy and Trump became their voice. I think Hillary could have appealed to working class blue collar Americans. There's no one reason why Trump won and Hillary lost there are many reasons why America made this terrible decision.

What are your thoughts on where President-elect Trump will take the country? Will the outcome be positive or negative?

In many respects I don't see Trump fulfilling any of the promises he made to the Americans that voted for him. My mind is still trying to process what just happened in our country, how did we elect a person that has absolutely no political background on any level. I am slightly hopeful that he can not implement all the nonsense policies he addressed during his speeches because there are representatives that understand how the political arena works. At this point, I don't know where this country will look like in four years. There is so much uncertainty that is looming after this presidential election.

What are the implications for racial progress or racial reversal on our country?

Trump ran his campaign on degrading, belittling, insulting, and blatant disrespect of all minority groups. His rallies were filled with people who cheered when he made disgusting and disrespectful comments about people of other races, gender, ethnic backgrounds, and cultural differences. His supporters were vicious and aggressive towards blacks and other minority groups. Many of the encounters that took place among his supporters and minorities were very reminiscent of incidences we've all seen happen in movies or films during the civil rights era. Even some of the policies he wants reinstated further discriminate against people of color and solidify racial institutions in America, like stop and frisk. I believe by Donald Trump being chosen to be America's Commander in Chief shows racial reversal.

## **STUDENT 42**

My view on the 2016 election results is pretty disappointed. I hoped Clinton would be the president for next year. Unfortunately, it could not be happened. When I was watching the results I could not believe my eyes. Absolutely the result was shocking. I doubted possibility of Trump's being elected. However, I kind of predicted that Trump could be elected. Since the United States is consisted of many Whites comparing to Blacks, Asians, Mexicans or etc Trump's win could be observed. Unlike Clinton, Trump tends to say that he would make the United States better for the Whites not for other races. He mentioned so many things that are based on racism, sexism, and other negative -isms. Those stimulative speech might give impression to people. But I believe that those who are educated and have a belief in equality would not support Trump's speech. According to result from the election, Clinton got much more voters but due to our special voting system she could not win. Having more electrical votes, Trump could win this election. In addition, sexism people might against with Clinton.

My thoughts on where President-elect Trump will take the nation positively on the economic side. With numerous experiences of business, Trump would be able to provoke active economy. On the other hand, because Trump is such a racist and sexist, minor group and females can suffer from those discriminations. The thing that I worry about is that young teenagers could learn from Trump and think like Trump. We the human beings all have equal rights and we are deserved to be treated well. Besides those social conflicts, other things would work pretty well because not only he but also other senators and politicians make the decisions together.

The implications for racial progress or racial reversal on our country would be harsh. Having dominant thinking about White superiority, Trump would segregate colored people and females. I feel like we would go back to the century when colored and females were discriminated. It sounds ridiculous but for now according to what Trump said, I could imagine.

## **STUDENT 43**

I admit that I am not happy with the results. I think Trump won because of many factors. One was that there were more people who hated Clinton so much that they wanted to vote for Trump. There were people who were tired of the typical political candidate with corruption. Also Trump also won because of our electoral college system. Hilary won the popular vote but because of the way the president elect is actually decided, Trump got more votes.

I don't think Trump can take this country in a positive direction. Throughout his whole campaign he was only "proposing" policy that would benefit a small part of the country. But the thing is he is a republican president with a republican congress and he will probably appoint a conservative leaning judge. He will have an easy time getting what he wants done and I think that is the problem. For the half of the country that does not agree with his views, it will take a hell of a lot more work to get the polices that they want since they are not really represented in the government anymore. I don't think this outcome would be

positive because there were so many divides that came about through this election process and I don't think those can be fixed in the 4 years that Trump will be president.

I want to be optimistic and think that there won't be any regression in the racial progression of our country but the thing is I don't think that there will be any progress from this point. This election brought to the light the people who still held those backwards beliefs and it gave them a platform. They respected Trump because he said everything that he wanted to say and as a result, they felt that it was their chance to say everything they want.

All in all I don't think that a Trump presidency will be a good thing for our country but I do have hope that we won't completely fail in these next 4 years.

#### **STUDENT 44**

My views on the 2016 election results are that I am incredibly disappointed. I think that Trump won because of the true beliefs of some of the Americans in this country and their support towards him. The "silent majority" as they are now calling it I think accounted for a lot of these votes. These are people that did support Trump throughout the election, but did so privately and did not voice their opinions on him as openly or public as others. I also think Trump won because of the way the Electoral College is set up in the US. While Clinton won the popular vote, this did not matter in the long run. While I do not know all of the details or completely understand the Electoral College, I think a number of Americans have been frustrated with this process for several years. Looking at the turnouts in relation to race and seeing that white men and women represented the overwhelming majority of votes for Trump, I think this played a role too. There was certainly an assumption that Trump's clearly sexist behavior being addressed by Clinton ensured that she would get the vote of white women, but this sadly was not the case. I think that we have to truly ask why this is the case, as we have seen Trump on numerous occasions exhibit behavior that does not favor women, but certain women have no issue with it. One of the very good points that Dr. Ray discussed in a panel for one of my classes today was that this might have to do with the fact that families for the most part look to get every family member on the same page so they can all vote for the same candidate. If white men had these discussions with their families and had wives that originally were against Trump, this pressure from family members could have affected their decision.

I truly do hope that Trump will take this country in a positive place and not continue to spew vitriol and hate, but it is going to be very hard to keep this hope if I continue to see these patterns. I unfortunately think that there is a large possibility that the outcome will be negative because electing anyone into the White House who has no prior political experience whatsoever is very dangerous. Trump also, in my opinion, has never explicitly provided a concrete plan for his presidency. I consistently hear about how he's going to make this country great, but never hear anything specific about it, and the fact that many people are simply taking his word for it is concerning.

I think there are very heavy implications for racial reversal. I say this because I am aware of things like the fact that he was endorsed by the KKK. I think that his policies regarding



immigration are deeply troubling for many Latino Americans and members of the Muslim community. His hateful, divisive rhetoric has a great, dangerous impact on those listening to and supporting him, and while the damage has been done and we've seen things happen like people of color being physically attacked at his rallies (and him encouraging it), I feel that it can get even worse. What is more alarming about any and all of his actions is the complete lack of accountability after the fact, and I see no empathy or sense of morality whatsoever. I have heard him speak of "The Good Ole Days" and, as a black female, glorifying these difficult times for minorities and using them as example to encourage his supporters to act violently is terrifying. I absolutely see this as indirectly encouraging white supremacist beliefs, and feel that there is a definite possibility we will go back in progress by several decades by the time he has finished his presidency. I think that those in minority communities, specifically those that are Latino and/or Muslim, have already experienced a sense of fear after hearing Trump's hateful language towards them, and the fact that it could very easily turn into violence at this point is absolutely terrible. To, conclude, as I said to begin with, Trump was elected because there are many Americans that agree with his statements, so it is just a reminder of the dangers of living in a "colorblind" society or pretending that because we have made progress in this country over several hundred years, we can just stop here. There is still a lot of work to do, and hopefully one of the only good things to come out of this election result will be Americans realizing how much racism still truly exists in this country. People who have these ideologies now have a platform and someone holding one of the highest powers in this country to look up to and encourage them. There is still so much progress to be made.

#### **STUDENT 45**

The results of the 2016 election really showed me how we really don't have as much control over our own lives as we think we do. Trump's victory shows how gullible society as a whole still is. Donald Trump won not because he had most of the public's support, but because the government and Congress as a whole didn't want to see another Democrat in office. Hillary Clinton lost for several reasons. First, she lost because there is still a lot of sexism in this country. Some people could not bare to see a female president in office, while others just felt she was not capable to run this country. While I don't agree with some of President-elect Trump's stances on immigration, and some of his social views, I do believe he can somewhat help the country with its deficit. He has experience running many businesses, and America has and always will be to me at least one big business. So I believe the outcome of his presidency will be somewhat positive, but if he can't work with other countries, how he communicates with the masses, and how sensitivity towards certain racial issues then this will simply be four years of hell. It is crazy to me to see how a person who has been accused of abusing and groping women, tax evasion, and just cruel treatment to people could be even considered to be president and LEADER of the free world. It's also mind blowing when I think about how Hillary won the popular vote, meaning majority of the people in the United States voted for her, but she still did not win the presidency. As a young voter and a millennial, I wonder does our vote really matter? Or is the action and the right for the people to vote just a way to comfort us to make us feel we have a choice in the matter of who is leading us?



#### **STUDENT 46**

I am in complete disbelief about the results of the election, but I cannot say I am surprised. I didn't expect this outcome, but I can see the many reasons why Donald Trump won over Hillary. Though Donald Trump's qualifications do not match Hillary's, he was something different and appealed to people looking for change. Another factor is people's inability to see a woman with the position of president. Overall, the results of this election make me fearful.

Trump's path for the country is somewhat unclear to me, but his racist and sexist remarks definitely make me nervous. Not only is it nerve wrecking for him to have such a powerful position, but it's also nerve wrecking that so many people in our country support him. I think that could possibly be the most negative outcome. Our country could move backwards instead of forward in several ways because he has people that agree with him.

The racial implications for our country are looking more like racial reversal than progress. The election of Obama led to the blind belief that racism was over in our country, but I believe the election of Trump proves that it was not. Racist people and groups, such as the KKK, have stepped back out and feel as if their behaviors are okay again. I don't think racial discrimination will be legal or institutional like it has been in the past, but I do believe that amongst the people and in communities we will clearly see racism again.

#### **STUDENT 47**

After finding out the results for the 2016 election I can say that I was in total shock and disbelief. I believe a large factor in Trump's win and Clinton's loss was the lack of voting or the indifferent voters. The large number of voters who decided to either vote for another candidate except the two or simply write in their own nomination. Americans that did not care for one of the two made those choices which could have strongly moved the votes in either direction. I was shocked by the amount of white women that chose to vote for Trump over Clinton. I believe that the choice to vote for a white male over voting for our first potential women president came as a huge shock to me.

I can say that I am very nervous and unsure about where this country is headed once President-elect Trump takes office. I believe that just simply by the actions and words that have already been displayed by Trump that outcomes can only be negative. The racist, sexist, homophobic, etc. remarks and actions shown by Trump is leaving me very uneasy with how he is going to treat our country. I am very nervous that this election will lead to a divide of our country.

It is obvious that the implications for racial reversal are already in motion. We have went from electing our first African American president in 2008 to now electing Trump into office. The polls have show that the largest backing of Trump was white americans. The comments and statements made by Trump in his election project a potential of racial reversal for our country. I am hoping that those statements made do not end up being shown through his actions and choices in office. It is difficult to say now what type of difference Trump will bring our country in but we can only hope that it is one of positivity.

## **STUDENT 48**

My views on the 2016 election results are that they are utterly ridiculous. I can't believe that a man who has offended so many different racial, ethnic, and religious groups has won the presidency of the United States. Moreover, I can't believe that a man who basically said that it was okay to sexually assault women. Although someone may agree with his ideas for policy, I just think that a vote for him is a vote for bigotry to run rampant in this country. Whether or not he truly believed his rhetoric or was just using it to appeal to certain demographics, it has triggered the underlying bigotry that is within the hearts and minds of America. I think Trump won because of the lackluster efforts from the Clinton campaign as well as the fact that many Americans were tired of the status quo politicians. I think that the Trump campaign was more cognizant of the votes that they needed to get to swing traditionally blue states in their favor.

I don't think that this new President-elect will further the country that much simply because Republicans usually tend to advocate for smaller government and fewer services that are provided or subsidized by the government. In my opinion, this enforces the idea of capitalism as a way to leave people behind in terms of education, health care, and many other aspects of life. As a result, I think that Trump's presidency will reverse many of the policies that were implemented under the Obama administration that contributed to a more equitable society. As far as racial progress, the only direction that I can see this going in is a negative one. I believe that Trump normalized the spewing of hatred once again, so I believe that this will influence his followers as well as racist people in general to be intentionally hateful.

## **STUDENT 49**

Bluntly, I am dissatisfied with the results of the 2016 presidential election. Seeing the caricature of a man, Donald Trump, winning a nomination for president, let alone winning the whole election, was shocking. It's something that I did not really understand, or possibly did not want to understand, because it seemed so ridiculous to me. Trump was able to arouse strong feelings of xenophobia, bigotry, sexism, and white supremacy that had been shamed by mainstream media and politicians in our recent history as a country. In doing so, he gave a voice to so many white Americans who did not like their ways of life being infringed upon in the name of equity and progress. He really was able to show the true character of the American people. The citizens of the United States have often proved themselves to be divided between democrats and republicans, but this election showed how deep that divide really was. And while Clinton won the popular vote by the slightest margin, Trump was able to target states like Wisconsin and Michigan and beat out Clinton in the electoral vote.

I have no idea what to expect from our new president. With a republican majority in both houses, he could have a very easy time implementing policies he has talked about. Will he follow through with the wall and a ban on Muslims? I sure hope not, and part of me thinks that's just impossible. But that part of me also thought Donald Trump, a business man and a reality TV star, could not come close to being my president. I feel that many of his initiatives could reverse the progress made by our current president; his policies could

infringe on a woman's right to privacy, increase discrimination in the workplace, and undo the Affordable Care Act. I see this as two steps back for our country. These next four years will definitely be a time for the American people to reevaluate their values and their investment in the political process.

When the leader of your country declares that stop-and-frisk policing helped to reduce crime, you cannot help but think that his presence can only hurt racial progress. The chief of NYPD in a statement confirmed that stop-and-frisk was ineffective in reducing crime, and studies on the policy show an extremely racially disproportionate implementation of the policy by police officers. It will be hard for President Trump to identify with causes like the Black Lives Matter movement and support their wishes because he cannot relate. A man who had the resources to build a financial empire cannot possibly understand how it feels to grow up in a society with so many institutions working against your progress as an individual. I do fear for what may come of our new president, and I hope that many people will be able to recognize President Trump for the man he truly is. I soon hope to have a more determined and positive outlook for the future of this country, but at this point in time, I am still in shock and deeply dismayed.

## **STUDENT 50**

I honestly cannot put into words what I feel right now. I am so disappointed and ashamed and afraid for our country. It feels as though I am mourning like I just lost my best friend. All day I've been crying on and off and I know a lot of other people have too. I am completely shocked by the outcome of the election. Every major poll and media sources seemed confident that Clinton would beat Trump by a landslide. It didn't even seem like a real option. I thought Hillary had it in the bag. These results showed me that I was so incredibly naive. I trusted too much in the American people. At a rally I was at tonight, a speaker said how CNN reported that voter turn outs for the black and Hispanic communities were below where they should have been and that is how Trump won. However, that is not the case. White people voted for Trump and they are solely responsible. Trump played into the deeply embedded racist, sexist, homophobic, xenophobic, amongst other things, qualities of Americans and it brought out America's true colors.

I have absolutely no faith that Trump will do any good for this country. He's is, without a doubt, going to take this country back decades when it comes to marriage equality, reproductive rights, and healthcare. The only thing he has going for him is his "extensive" knowledge of business and that maybe he can help the economy. Even though there is so much evidence that goes against this claim because of all his failed business attempts, such as his presence in Atlantic City, which completely destroyed a popular tourist attraction. I have little to no faith that anything positive can come from Trump's time in office.

Not that it was safe before, but race relations are certainly going to be reversed in this country. Trump's whole political platform is based on racism and the subjugation of minority groups, and that is what made him gain a following. This promotes racism and violence at every turn. It hasn't even been 24 hours since the results and we have already seen a rise in previously suppressed racism, being brought to life.

## **STUDENT 51**

As many other Hillary supporters, I was heartbroken at the 2016 election results and am having difficult time imagining an America where Trump is president. However this is our reality, and attribute the reasoning to these results as a rebellion against the elites and an overwhelming desire for political reform. It seemed that Americans were over politicians and Trump was able to tell this narrative that exposed Muslims, African Americans, immigrants, and women in order to gain a deeper connection with the "silent majority," and they felt that voting for Trump sent that message of their wants for reform to Washington. Another interesting perspective that I heard watching the polls last night was from Van Jones where he called this election a "white lash" and went to further state that "this was a white-lash against a changing country. It was a white-lash against a black president in part. And that's the part where the pain comes." This was an interesting perspective with regards to race and how that applies into this presidential election, however personally I feel that this was a red vs blue issue before it was a black vs white problem. I think that because Democrats have been in office for the past 8 years getting their agenda accomplished, the Republican party may have felt that their issues weren't being heard which is where the ideology of the 'silent majority' emerged and might explain the results for this election.

If you have looked into Trump's 100 day agenda, it consists of tearing down the system that we currently have and rebuilding. In theory and what most people believe would benefit our country is exactly that, however I worry that our economy and current system would not be able to withstand such reform and could cause our economy to possibly collapse. I'm not an expert in the area, however I just hope that Trump has the right people in order to effectively execute his plan and sustain our economy.

There is an apparent divide in the country now, where Trump won in the electoral college and Clinton won the popular vote and now with the anti-Trump protests in the major cities of blue Democratic states. What are the implications for racial progress or racial reversal? That's a good question and honestly, I'm not too sure. What I do know is that Trump has the burden of healing this divide and intentionally using inclusion language so that he can start healing the wounds that he created during his campaign.

## **STUDENT 52**

The most traumatic day in the United States was 9/11 but 11/9 because the second traumatic day for many Americans. The 2016 election has impacted many people throughout the United States, in ways words cannot even describe. It saddens me and upsets me a bit because Trump won the presidency. I do not judge those who are in favor of Trump because everyone has a right to decide on who they vote for. I cannot force you to vote for someone whose views you do not agree with. But what I am trying to understand how Americans could possibly think Trump could potentially "make America great again." There is no reasonable excuse, because if you base it off his speeches throughout the campaigns; he blatantly spoke on all the things he plans to do for the nation when he gets into office. This is a man who is willing to spend millions and trillions of the nations money

to move labor shops to the U.S. not knowing this will destroy the U.S. economically. This is a man who is all about "family" but willing to break apart families of those immigrants here in the U.S. But where does that leave your wife who is not a native of the United States?.....

I believe Trump was the winner of this election for several reasons 1) not every one voted as they should have, 2) he appealed his speeches to the "dominating" race, and 3) he is a BILLIONAIRE. The fact that Trump won just serves to prove that the United States is all about money. Money talks in this nation, without money you cannot survive, and cannot become successful. Donald Trump is unexperienced in politics, he is a business man so what would he possibly accomplish with this knowledge. He put his money where his mouth was and proved to everyone that money gets you ranks and levels in this society as you can see Trump is the new president. Hillary Clinton had the possibility to win but the key states she needed to conquer were the ones she did the worst in. I personally believe Clinton's defeat had a lot to do with the FBI "investigating"her past emails during her campaign and election. The fact that they aired that they did not find anything was one hour before the elections started. Which in my opinion was too short of a notice to fix a situation of such great nature.

A man with only money, and no experience what so ever in politics won, America is not America anymore. There will be many White Americans who voted for Trump that will be so belligerent, more ignorant than ever before only because Trump became president. Many of them will feel they are unstoppable and they feel like "their country" is gaining the correct leadership and power again. These Trump supporters were so quick to kick out the Obamas' from the white house that they did not consider Trumps actions and characteristics. It does not make sense how someone will no type of political background could become president. The level of racism and discrimination because of these elections will be bizarre. They amount of racist comments people in minorities will hear is uncalled for, and their justification for the comments will be my president allows us to express our selves as such. Trump supporters will soon realize the mistake they have made with this guy because the most he could do is enter the nation into another Great Depression. But then again Trump is a business man so he will do everything great on the financial standpoint but on the law aspect he can say a single word.

One last take away, on this election which I am still dumbfounded by is the fact that Hillary Clinton won the final popular vote by 129,448 votes. However, Donald Trump won the Presidency by 71 Electoral College votes. The people chose Hillary but the "power structure" chose Trump. They tell us "GO Vote" but why even bother if at the end we only count as popular votes our votes do not matter. People do not choose the President, we never did, and it will never happen. We are popular votes which the candidate does NOT need in order for them to win the presidency....

### **STUDENT 53**

What are your views on the 2016 election results? Why did Trump win and why did Clinton lose?



I would write a whole paper if I spoke my whole opinion, so in this I plan to keep it concise.

I'm personally upset with the results of the election results. The thing that is weird about our country is that the president after the results came in I did a little research on the Electoral College. I understand that it is basically a race to 270 electoral votes. States are given more or less electors depending on the population in the said state. It's an oddity, but clearly shown in this example that a candidate can win the popular vote, and still lose the presidency.

I believe there is a multitude of reasons why Trump won. Firstly there are many Americans who are die-hard republicans, who simply follow their parties' candidate regardless of policies. I know many republicans were upset with Obama winning two full terms, so this could've been out lashing of the party out of frustration. There were also many registered voters who decided not to vote because their voices went unheard, and they could have swung the results maybe one way or another. Another reason is similar to the situation that almost happened in Maryland and what did happen in Pennsylvania. There would be pockets of people voting for Hillary that had large numbers, but in the outer rural regions that weren't maybe as affected by social media as much, those votes went to Trump.

What are your thoughts on where President-elect Trump will take the country? Will the outcome be positive or negative?

I want to remain positive and hope for the best for the country. I would like to say that the future for us will be positive, but I simply don't see that. I honestly think it will regress to a more oppressive, divided, and unfair state. I believe it will be a negative Trump has displayed several ideas, character straight, and beliefs that I find objectively morally wrong. I feel many people would disagree with the morals compass of our new president elect, but again the popular vote doesn't matter.

What are the implications for racial progress or racial reversal on our country?

It is very clear that white people voted Trump into office. People of color, Hispanics, Asians, and most of the other non-white sub-groups were in favor for Hilary. Throughout the campaign, I feel he stepped on the name of so many ethnicities and racial backgrounds just in order to appeal to the majority, the white voters. It would be hard for him to turn around all of his words, and win over the trust and support of all the minority groups.

#### **STUDENT 54**

What are your views on the 2016 election results? Why did Trump win and why did Clinton lose?

Not surprised about the outcome, although I was not mentally prepared for such outcome to unfold before my eyes. Well, he won the electoral college, even though he didn't win the popular vote. The guy is unfit for such a job as he has no political experience. I guess anyone can land the job they want without the qualifications. They do always say that first impressions during interviews are the most important...except these interviews went on for a prolonged period of time. The rules are different if you are an ordinary citizen



applying for a day-to-day job, depending on the job, you will most likely need a bachelors degree (at the very minimal) I will need that and more. That is, unless I take the easy (handed) route into our Criminal Justice system (which I refuse to do, thanks, but no thanks for the hook up fam). Trump's views also appealed to a good majority of the country, those who felt as if they were forgotten way too many times. Clinton lost because many also perceived her to be an unfit candidate due to her past history when her husband was in office, and her emails. Also, many individuals still deem women as unfit candidates for presidency, and that is appalling.

What are your thoughts on where President-elect Trump will take the country? Will the outcome be positive or negative?

Unless he can make a profit, it is deemed useless in his eyes.

I honestly cannot see outcome of whatever 'this' is to be positive. At least, in regards to most of the matters that concerns me personally. Maybe...nope I can't right now. I am honestly concerned about our future relations with other countries, as he has offended so many people, in so many ways unimaginable. My biggest concern with this outcome is, what will become of the many children of undocumented parents? Many of these kids won't last a month in these countries, probably forced into gangs and murdered if not. The little girls, on a more depressing note will probably be deprived of a proper education (that is, if they are lucky to receive any). Many girls in certain Central American countries have to be taken out of schools out of fear. That fear is the fear of being raped or murdered if they do not enter gangs at young ages. There is no future for them in such corrupt countries.

What are the implications for racial progress or racial reversal on our country?

Sadly, even if Trump isn't outright saying that he wished minorities didn't exist, his language makes it seem as though does feel that way. Many of his supporters aren't helping that cause either (whomever posted that suitcase sale sign on campus, with a one way ticket to Canada...cute). I cannot respect someone who uses such bigotry or has allowed bigotry to be a pillar, which holds the foundation of his campaign in order to win. As a Latin American woman, I see this as a huge step back.

## **STUDENT 55**

To put it simply, I am horrified with the results of the election. I feel extremely betrayed. I initially thought that there were two possibilities: either Trump would win by a small margin or Clinton would win by a landslide. Sadly, my fears and the fears of many in this country came tumbling down on us. I never would have thought the votes for Trump would push through as well as they did. Of course, there is an issue with the electoral college and the popular vote that must be taken account of as well...

The main cause of this, in my opinion, is Barack Obama's presidency. Obama, in no way, did anything wrong; in fact, he was a president The United States needed (and did not deserve based on the way they treated him). I will forever respect him and his family for what they have done for this country. However, the election of the first black president caused such a major split between parties and U.S. citizens that it became a catalyst for an upraise of bigotry, xenophobia, racism, homophobia, Islamophobia, and many more. If anything,

Barack Obama's presidency showed that we can not be a "color-blind" society that claims everyone is equal. More than 50% of white men AND women voted for a bigot and his vile vice president. We went from electing the first Black president to electing a reality TV business man who based his entire campaign on the damnation of minorities. This is further proof that this country is embedded with narrow-mindedness and pure, unadulterated enmity.

I personally don't think Trump will get very far politically. It's more of congress I am afraid of when it comes to policy. Due to the republican take over of the legislative branch, I am considerably anxious for what may happen. Sadly, it shows that Americans don't pay attention to history and vote purely based on foolishness. Socially, I am frightened for what will happen to the society I live in. It hasn't even been 24 hours since Donald Trump had been elected as our 45th president and social disorder has already erupted. I can name 5 instances that occurred only hours apart, in which I have either witnessed minority prejudice or where I have been in an emotional state of panic and frustration due to these results. I keep trying to tell myself that we could come back stronger from this, but we've never been so separated, politically and socially.

## **STUDENT 56**

I honestly did not think that this country would actually elect Donald Trump. On the other hand, after the election, it felt as though I saw it coming the whole time. I was confused, irritated, and in utter disbelief. How anyone can actually see Donald Trump as fit to be President is beyond me. Trump has the most crazed and dedicated voters on his side. There was no way they were not going to get out and go vote. I believe it was over 63% of white men and over 53% of white women voted for Trump. Clinton won the majority of the minority vote including the Black and Latino vote. People were very divided in this election when it came to the racial breakdown of the voters and who they voted for. It was clear that Clinton would most likely win the majority vote but, the electoral college and other aspects of the election process, which I do not understand, placed Trump ahead and eventually propelled him to be president-elect.

President-elect Trump is just a piece of the puzzle. We have checks and balances for a reason and I am hoping that some of his radical ideas never come to fruition. Either way I believe his term will produce a negative outcome.

The election of Trump only highlights the issue of race in our country. As we all know, race is still a prominent issue in our society, with or without Trump blabbering away. At least now it will be more clear and apparent the issues we face as a country. Many people in this country have the same views as Trump. They may not want to be as extreme and may start to look at their own views and re-evaluate their position on certain topics. Either way I believe the racial progress, or lack-thereof, is bigger than any single election. The election just highlights the racial issues that have never been resolved in our country.

## **STUDENT 57**

What are your views on the 2016 election results? Why did Trump win and why did Clinton lose?

Watching the election yesterday was extremely heart wrenching and difficult. I was attempting to study for two exams I have this week but it was difficult to do so when my future was being determined on live television. I am beyond heart broken and shocked by the results of the election and can't begin to understand how America voted for such a pompous, misogynistic, racist, and sexist "man" to lead our country for the next four years. I think Trump was able to win because clearly a majority of Americans support the same misogynistic, racist, and sexist views that he has. These people want change, they want to "make America great again", and to me it seems this "great" they speak of is having things go back to the way they were years ago when it was okay to be racist, prejudice, and discriminate against people that are different from what they're used to.

What are your thoughts on where President-elect Trump will take the country? Will the outcome be positive or negative?

I'm afraid to be a minority in America after the election results. Thankfully I live in a very diverse area where I am less likely to have to experience the horrid things some may be dealing with in other parts of the country. I fear for all the threats Donald has made throughout his election and the lack of seriousness he has on pressing issues such as police brutality. I think Donald Trump being elected has caused the outside world to view America as a complete joke. I don't see Trump taking us in a positive direction at all. Trump will move the country backwards. Many of his ideas are irrational, unconstitutional, and costly. Besides the fact that he promotes a sexist, racist, divided country, he also doesn't acknowledge the importance of things like globalization or climate change.

What are the implications for racial progress or racial reversal on our country?

There will be no racial progress while Donald Trump is in office. There is no way possible for racial progress when we will have a president who doesn't care for minorities of any sort. I think people are going to be more like they were years ago as far as prejudice and racism goes. Many are going to feel more empowered to express their hatred, racism, and prejudice towards other individuals, so they will. It's honestly terrifying when you sit and think of how many people feel the same way this man does about minorities, women, immigrants, the LGBT community, Muslims. Things are going to get harder for minorities of any sort around the country now that America has elected Trump to be our president for the next four years.

## **STUDENT 58**

One thing I want to say before diving into these questions is that things don't stop at the election and we as citizens and inhabitants of this country need to realize that. If you have the passion to write two paragraphs on Facebook about your disappointment then you need to bring that same passion when it comes to actual policies being enacted. It is disappointing to a lot of people that Trump won but that doesn't mean we have been

stripped of all our power. When the laws start coming into play whether it be about environment, domestic spying, immigration, etc. we need to bring this same energy and say "No, we won't stand for this." Even under Obama a lot of shady things happened but no one seemed to care. If we continue to be complacent towards the policies affecting us then we don't deserve the right to complain in the first place.

This has been a very weird week in America. It started with knowing that Hillary would win and has flipped completely upside down to a point where people are scared of what is to come because Donald Trump is our new president. In terms of why I think Trump won? There are so many reasons and they will all have their own data to back it up from democrats not voting, to people becoming complacent, the silent majority, etc. I think one large problem has been highlighted in that the Electoral College doesn't have a place in this country. Trump did have the popular vote but I think that because of the Electoral College a lot of people don't actually get out and vote because they feel it doesn't matter. When you live in a state that is red or blue and you are the opposite color what reason do you have to vote? Sure it is a privilege and people should vote but I can't blame people for not wanting to when it doesn't really matter due to gerrymandering and the Electoral College.

I think that in the end Trump will either set our country back 20 years or he will be an average president. Think back to when Obama was running and we all wanted "change" well sure we got the affordable care act, and the Supreme Court made the decision about gay rights but our country didn't leap into the future and in Obama's last year we had huge issues of race surfacing with police brutality. My father said something today that put me a bit at ease, "4 years goes by a lot faster than you realize." And that is so true. It is crazy to think that Obama is finishing his 8<sup>th</sup> year in office! Time will fly and only time will tell what will happen. There are things that scare me about Trump's platform especially with climate change, his relationship with Putin, and his childish ways (baited by Jon Stewart on Twitter).

## **STUDENT 59**

It is very hard to come to peace with the 2016 election results. The moment the final results were in and it was announced Mr. Trump won, I was in complete shock and wanted to throw up. This election and the outcome will go down in History for many reasons, one main reason being Trump defeating Clinton. I believe Trump won for many reasons and unfortunately his beliefs on changing America was favored by so many Americans. I think as a whole when this country hears change, and has a man who is completely out of the blue with absolutely no political background it, Americans found him favorable because of his different way to approach the country. I think Americans as a whole became frustrated with the "regular" politician. Lastly, as hard as it is to swallow I think Trump won because Sexism still exists so heavily in Americans. This election was between a female, who was more fitting and qualified to run the country and a reality tv star with no experience in politics whatsoever. The outcome just proved that America was not ready for a women to run this country despite her knowledge and professionalism over Mr. Trump. I am still beyond shocked so many Americans favored Mr. Trump- a misogynist, serial liar, racist, who intellectually and temperamentally unfit to run the most powerful Nation on earth.

I think its very clear that my thoughts have been extremely negative about Trump becoming our next president. I am scared for women, minorities, and our environment over the next four years. I also fear that his temper and irrational behavior will be uncontrollable in situations that could potential but the United States at risk. This outcome is uncontrollable at this point where as hard as it is, my life must continue and I must learn to trust Mr. Trump and his people to protect America.

It is very safe to say that Trump was supported by mostly whites and this is because of how much he speaks down upon minorities. His slogan "make America great again" simply means he wants to reverse America into its old habits which is frightening for those citizens who are minorities and black. He speaks very ill of specific people of color, and religions where all this progress of trying to become a more equal and accepting country will be halted.

### **STUDENT 60**

The results of the 2016 election are not as surprising as they are painful. America has always subscribed to an ideology of racism, sexism, and for a long time, xenophobia. So in that sense, it's not surprising that Americans have decided to put a man in power who embodies all of those beliefs. I think what makes it so painful is how blatant it is. Before, I could at least try to rationalize people's political beliefs—but this can't be rationalized. Donald Trump's campaign was run on hate. That's all there is to it. Even if we look beyond the fact that his campaign was run on hate (which is hard to do), he is completely unqualified. No political experience. I am willing to bet that he knows little about legislation, and even less about the political process. How can we, as a country, be okay with allowing a man to blindly lead us for the next four years? Hillary Clinton lost because of the electoral college. However, Trump's popularity was the result of a combination of many different factors.

I'm not sure where Trump will take the country. If he makes good on the promises he's made (including his tax plan), he will ruin the economy and the infrastructure of America. That's for sure. If he stays true to his word, millions of people will be separated from their families, and Muslims will be "banned." If, however, (and this is a big if) he somehow becomes sensible and decides that maybe he should consider the impact that his actions have on ALL Americans, things won't be *asbad*. But, I must say that I am more concerned about the fact that Donald Trump will have the Senate and the House backing him, and will now have the opportunity to appoint a new Supreme Court justice.

One of the biggest issues with Trump's campaign (and victory) is that it had now validated every racist's and sexist's beliefs. It has now made it acceptable to be openly racist, sexist, and hateful to people you don't like. And that might be one of the most dangerous parts about this election. And while some Trump supporters might like to pretend as though their candidate does not embody these ideas, there are plenty more who own that fact and will use it to push their own agendas.



## **STUDENT 61**

The 2016 election results left me feeling shocked and uneasy. I am not happy that Trump won the election and I am fearful of what's to come. I think that Trump won because many people in this country (white men in particular) live in fear and they have issues that they need to find someone to blame them on, and Trump allows them to freely blame them on illegal immigrants, Muslims, and Obama. Hillary Clinton did not win because people do not believe in her and there are many people in this country who hate nothing more than the Clinton family. The fact that Hillary is a woman also tied into this, as many people including women don't believe she should be the first woman president.

I do not know where Trump will take the country. My only hope is that the presidency changes him, and that he does not change the presidency. I hope that he will not reverse all of the social progress that has been made during the Obama administration.

I think that with Trump as president, as shown in his candidacy, people will think that it is okay to be openly racist. They will think his behavior is okay and they will feel as though they can insult whoever. I only hope that Trump leads by example and actually condemns the exact behavior he displayed all throughout his campaign.

## **STUDENT 62**

While I am happy that Clinton lost, I am severely disappointed that Trump won. I distanced myself from this election when Hillary won the DNC nomination for president because I realized that there was no good choice from the perspective of the two major political parties. I am NOT happy Trump won, but I realize that either way, America lost. Hillary Clinton supported trade deals and funding that would make life very difficult for the middle class. Her supporting of fracking, the Dakota Access Pipeline and the Trans-Pacific Partnership shows that she does not care for the environment, and the future of the economy in terms of jobs for those that need it most. Her donors are the major companies that run this country, and I find it surprising that she still lost. She had more resources, more propaganda, more material to use against Trump, and she still lost. What does that say? I think that says that she is not qualified to be president, and the majority of the American people think so. Trump is not either, and I do not support him. I find the system of two main candidates silly that these were our two main options. It should have never gotten to this point in my opinion. The people were tired of a candidate that was as corrupt as Hillary Clinton. At least the media wasn't scared to criticize Trump, as they were Hillary because of her influence. We have actually seen Hillary in the government, and I believe that her job in the positions she held have only shown me that she should not be in office, at least not the highest office in our land. I know it sounds like I am bashing Hillary because I am. I am also severely disappointed and riddled with grief that Donald Trump will be our next president. However, I am glad Hillary did not win. If she did, then I would be sad that she is our next president but I would be happy that Trump did not win. As far as where Trump will take the country, I am willing to let him at least try, because he hasn't held office yet. Hillary has. I think that at least there is a chance for racial progress not because of anything that Trump will implement, but I think that these minority groups will have a better chance at uniting together and sparking a rapid change in our country than with Hillary. She is racist in private, and has referred to African American youth as "super

predators”, so while Donald Trump is severely racist, at least that is something that the majority of these minority groups can agree on, which can lead to more serious discussion, more proactive responses in our communities, and the drive to create movements that express our displeasure. In conclusion, I am truly saddened by Trump’s victory, but I am happy that Hillary did not win.

### **STUDENT 63**

I woke up yesterday and found out that my worst fears had come true. My entire apartment spent the day in mourning. Many of my classes were canceled and the entire campus looked depressing yesterday. Many of my classmates told me that even if they did have class that their Professors warned them that they were not in the mood to teach. This election opened my eyes to the REAL views my country supports. By electing Trump as President elect I feel personally invalidated. I think human rights are more important than anything else, but I see the rest of my people do not agree. I am a woman, and as a woman I fear that with as a sexist as in the White House that all of the progress that was made will be lost. What is especially disappointing is that the majority of white women voted for him. I am confused, defeated and angry about the election results. I feel even more scared for the racial groups he has harassed. A sexist, Islamophobic, xenophobic and homophobic leader sets a terrible precedent for the rest of country. It sends the message that behavior and ideas like that are "okay", and that reality is a scary one. I think Trump won because the nation is desperate for change and people are too focused on economic values.

People are also ashamed to admit that they are not apart of the in-group. By aligning yourself with Trump you are identifying with being having the power and status of the white male. Everyone wants to be apart of the in-group and to admit you are not is to admit you are apart of the "other". I think the women who voted for him are the sort who don't identify with being a feminist. I think these women are ignorant and blind to the reality. How are our young women supposed to grow up in a world where the leader of the country is accused of sexually assaulting women, claims he didn't because they are too unattractive (valuing women based on their looks, which is a terrible message for women's self-worth) and makes remarks about grabbing women "by the pussy". I feel like this is a sick joke. Last night 500 students came together on the Mall to protest and unite after the election because they felt unsafe. In New York City thousands protested in the streets. This is a disgrace and I am ashamed. I feel naked when I'm in public after this election. My nation electing Trump is to invalidate my value as a woman and as a human, as I'm sure many other groups are feeling. I think racial progress has already declined solely because he won.

### **STUDENT 64**

I am distraught and disappointed with the results of the 2016 Presidential Election. To know that a president-elect that doesn't respect my basic human rights is now in office worries me to a certain extent. The more disturbing part is the racism and hatred that has been openly portrayed because of this elect. It's gotten so bad that people fear for their lives and well being. This should not be the case in 2016. I honestly don't know why Trump won. I've heard different theories over the past couple of days but I think it boils down to

the fact that his supporters want change. Whether it be building a wall, deporting immigrants, or taking away the rights of women, they want some type of change. Van Jones made an important comment on CNN yesterday. He said we talked about everything but race and the result of last night's election was a white lash against a changing country. This is a part of the reason why Trump won. This was the white supremacists last stand to take the country back because too much progress was being made. The racial divide is so evident in this country right now and I don't see it getting much better as long as Trump is in office. I don't see him making positive outcomes for the country as a whole, especially not for minorities and the LGBTQ community. Trump being elected as president already speaks to the racial reversal of our country. He has been caught being blatantly racist and people continue to support him regardless. I have no idea what it will take to bring together this deep racial divide in our country, but it has to start with the education of our people.

### **STUDENT 65**

Clinton's loss, I believe, had a lot to do with the fact that she took a lot of voters for granted. However, I think as a country, we took voters for granted. Many people did not believe so many voters would be supporting Trump. I feel that most people did not see America as a country that would actually support Donald Trump, a man with no political experience whatsoever, and actually vote him into the White House. I think that Hillary believed that she had solid support throughout the country; I know CNN was saying that she did not campaign as much in some areas because they were usually reliable democratic states. To answer the question of where Trump will take this country: I don't think anyone knows what is going to happen. He has no political experience, so one can only hope that things go decently. In terms of racial progress, I think this is a significant step backwards. Donald Trump has brought out the worst side of America, and there has been an escalation of fear and hatred in this country that I have never seen before. It's disheartening, but hopefully we as a country can stay together and make it through whatever this presidency will bring.

### **STUDENT 66**

After watching the elections on Tuesday, I was honestly in disbelief about everything. I was literally thinking in my head "Where is God in All of This". I know that every person in leadership is flawed to some degree and me being Christian, if God can use me as His minister of the Gospel, He can use anyone. As both me and family were shocked and perplexed at the election results so was the nation. But what I got from all of this is that the media is not in control but God is. I know my response to this Op-Ed is a bit spiritual but this is honestly how I feel. The reason why I think Donald Trump won is because in our sea of political correctness and liberal media, Mr. Trump speaks with authority. To the majority it comes off as genuine, and so he is admired by many of his voters, because he doesn't care about what people think of him. I don't think Donald Trump is as monstrous as the media portrays him to be and Mrs. Clinton wasn't as Angelic as the media portrayed her to be. I believe Clinton didn't win because America is not ready to have a woman as President, and it's a luxury that Americans can't afford. If Clinton were president I believe the diplomatic relations, trade markets, and alliances would all be affected by that political decision.

My thoughts about Donald Trump, I believe God destined him to be the President. Like this guy endured so many obstacles and overcame them all. For example, the baggage of his past which included a release of a vulgar video that offended so many women, and then on top of that numerous of women now making accusations that Trump sexual assaulted them. Then you have Trump's inappropriate and racist statements that were made during his campaigns, and then finally you have mainstream media destroying him as well. I honestly believe that God is using him to shake up this nation. So I just pray that Trump humbles himself, and recognizes that PRIDE has brought him this far and that this same PRIDE can destroy him. I pray that he will do his best not to alienate those who are horrified by his presidency, instead pledge to be a president of all Americans, which would mean, not declaring war on all Muslims because Muslims are not all terrorist. And finally I pray that he acts like a President and not vengeful. Trump's victory was a White Backlash to racial progress. I don't care who is in office, this country is always going to be racist, why? It's because it is human nature to trust those we identify with more. As long as violence exists, fear will exist, and fear is the basis for racism.

### **STUDENT 67**

I was surprised to see the outcome of the 2016 presidential election because prior to votes being counted, it seemed like Clinton was by far the favorite to win. Trump won because he won the swing states necessary to gain momentum in the electoral college and also won states that had been normally won by democrats in the previous years. The margin of winning in the swing states was very narrow as well showing that it could have gone either way, especially if some of the votes didn't go to the 3rd party candidates.

I don't believe that Trump was the correct choice for our countries current direction and I also believe that he will disrupt the track that we are currently on. He says a bunch of things that he is going to do once in office but some are unrealistic and others show no sign of actually happening. I also believe that Trump brings a negative outlook into office because of his personal past regarding what he has said about women.

Ultimately, I believe that for a country like the United States that has been struggling with racial discrimination over the past few years, while taking into account all that's been done to fix it, Donald Trump is bringing into office many rare forms of discrimination and overall racial reversal sense of attitude because of his opinions regarding muslim people as well as women and any minorities all together. I believe that having a president that brings this much negativity into office creates a negative outlook over the United States and I just hope this doesn't happen as much as it shapes up to be.

### **STUDENT 68**

My views on this election is one of disgust but I am also not surprised. Granted America has had some presidents in its history that has no had any experience, but the things that Trump says and does is down right unacceptable and I do not see or agree with any of his logic behind it. I feel lie Trump won for a variety of reasons; one of which that America is not ready for a female president. A lot of America, especially older white males felt that having a woman in that position is an extreme threat to the power and authority of the

male specimen. Most of America still has not gotten over the fact that we have had a black president for the last eight years, so electing a woman as president was just too far of a reach for change as well. In addition to that, many people believe that Trump will benefit them in one way or another and get things done fast when that simply is just not the case. Everything that he stands for, everything that he advocates to change are ideally, and socially degrading to the progress that we have made as a country.

I really think that Trump being president will have a negative outcome for sure; I really think that he will be one of those foolish presidents to start a war just to say that he did it. Trump in office will only benefit white males who are authority figures or run fortune 500 companies. While other minorities are left in the shadows to perish and catch all of the backlash for standing against or disagreeing with him. I really am not surprised that this country elected Trump as president. Now all of the people who did not vote because of that "ignorance is bliss" "it does not affect me" mentality are going to wish that they would have cast a vote and had a say in the election because every little bit counts. For those 11,000 citizens who wrote in to elect Harambe for president, I really do pity your ignorance for taking this election as a joke. That really just shines a light on the importance of this election in the eyes of predominantly young America; the ones whose generation has the greatest impact.

As far as racial impact and progress, I refuse to digress and get into the mindset where I am complacent with the things that are happening around me. This election will cause some racial tension, just like the last one did but we as a nation have to stand against that and move in a direction that is positive for all. I see on social media about how many blacks will move back to Africa because Trump was elected. That is just feeding into what America has wanted blacks to do for years, but this is just as much our home as it is theirs and I refuse to let any president run me out of a place that I call home, when your house is dirty you do not leave it; you clean it up and America has a lot of cleaning to do. We've slowly but surely made some progression but it's sad to say it took so long and we're going to allow this election to just erase all of the efforts of those before us. As a people we have to start loving our Muslim women, our black brothers, our LGBTQ community, our Latinos, and all other minorities in this country and let them know that we will fight for them and stand behind them. That if Trump builds up a wall of hatred and ignorance, that we will teach our children and the young ones around us to tear that wall down. The country does not have to go through a racial reverse because we can not afford to be set back hundreds of years.

## **STUDENT 69**

I am saddened and ashamed of America's decision on Tuesday, but at this point, not surprised. I believe that Trump's victory over Hillary happened for many reasons, including racism, frustration, elitism and more. I view this as a strike back at the democratic, liberal and inspiring change that we have seen throughout our country under the Obama administration and unfortunately know that the strike back is about to get worse. Already today, we have seen mass protest in the streets, most peaceful, and in the past year, we have watched as America became a country divided once more. After a period of grievance for our country, for my family, for my fellow women, for my friends, and for anyone who is scared to live in a country where a racist rapist rules all, I have decided to make the best of



the next four years in any way that I can. At this point, although I am still hoping for a surprise outcome on December 17<sup>th</sup>, I know that the Electoral College has decided its winner.

I have been reading a lot today, and have learned more about Trump's policies than I wish I had to. Immediately, I believe that the outcome will be poor. Already, Trump has elected a climate denier to run the EPA, has incited massive stock market disruption, and has created an America that many are not proud to live in. I sincerely hope that this changes within the year. I feel that in this country, there should be no election where 50% of the people are scared and crying over the outcome. I don't see how race relations will ever improve in these 4 years. In addition, I feel that the Electoral College let us down. But when 59.9 million people vote Hillary, and Trump still wins, It shows us more than the fact that our system does not work, it shows us that racism has won, that the glass ceiling may never break for women, and that an unqualified man will always beat out the most qualified woman for the job. Sexism is alive, and now we must live with it for four more years.

## **STUDENT 70**

I wasn't too shocked about the election for several reasons. The first is because I felt like the country could only handle one party being in office for up to eight years, and after that a change is needed. Secondly, I felt like majority of Americans were not in favor of both candidates, so they were either not going to vote, or vote for the one that seemed more honest. In this case, it was Trump, because he said what was on his mind at all times. Hillary just did not appear genuine. I think more Americans were disappointed in the fact that Hillary was the Democratic candidate, instead of Bernie. I believe that Trump won because there are still many Americans who feel and think in the same way that he does, and are silent. When I say this, I am talking about the older voters who were around during segregation. I believe that this was the first time they've had a candidate who was very loose in rhetoric, and stated just what they wanted to hear about minorities. He not only spoke to them, but he spoke to the majority, which is the white working class, and the majority won in this case.

I am little apprehensive when I think about where Trump will take the country simply because I feel as though he does not have a filter. I only hope that his advisors will give him the best advice, and that he is slow to talk and slow to act when it comes to dealing with foreign affairs. We do not need more enemies. I mean realistically the president can only control but so much when it comes to the country, but I am not in any way at ease because the Republicans have the senate and the house as well.

I think this election has made it clear that there is no progression within this country when it comes to racial harmony. The only sad part about this situation is that the implication for electing Trump is to say that people no longer have to go around hiding how they feel. Americans no longer have to sugarcoat how they feel about anything, and the feelings of others are irrelevant. For America to elect a president that disrespected the black community, the LGBT community, the Muslim community, and women, it speaks volumes. The fact the Trump was elected following the historical event of a black president also

speaks greater volumes. Racism is still much so alive, and white Americans are about to be even more vocal about it. After all, if their president can say it, why can't they?

### **STUDENT 71**

I am so disappointed this country and have basically lost faith in Americans. Our country is now a joke. How can you elect a man that ran a campaign on hate? It doesn't make any sense. I think he won because he's a rich white male in America, which mean privilege, privilege and more privilege. My dad and I always joke about how we are surrounded by idiot in this country, but now I think it's true. The reason he won is because: 1. people didn't vote, because they didn't think their vote counted, 2. people who voted for Bernie, couldn't fathom voting for Hillary for some reason, so they voted for a third party candidate, and 3. people actually supported a hate campaign that belittled every minority in this country. Whatever happens in the next 4 years, is going to be negative for me. Once he actually gets into office, theres going to be more things to deal with than he can deal with, so his drastic plans will probably be delayed. As my peers have said, his supporters scare me as much s he does, if not more. He not going to do anything for racial progress. He drives the train that wants to deport undocumented immigrants. The issues in the criminal justice system aren't going to be remedied, because the doesn't affect him and he doesn't care and neither do his supporters. Weeks before the election a Black church was burned and had "vote trump" spray painted on it. I feel like people are getting even more bold with their racism. It's only been a day after the election and people are writing "f\*\*k you n-word" on people's properties, just go on twitter and you'll find many instances of how racial progress is going backwards. I'm just mad, frustrated, and simply over it.

### **STUDENT 72**

I still can't wrap my head around this whole politics result. I thought with all that was said and presented in the media Clinton had this election in the bag. I sometimes think people in our society either aren't ready to have a woman run our country. So picking whoever is running against her is better even if he (Trump) is considered a bad symbol/person. Or our country still has a close-mind and discriminate certain groups. I think white men are not ready to have a female president especially after a black president has been in charge for the past years. They want things to go back to how it was before and have been in this nation's history. So trump was the options available even though the things he says are thought to be wrong.

The majority of white middle women surprisingly didn't vote for Clinton, which I don't get. They were supporting her during her campaign but I guess behind doors and at the voting poll they actually expressed themselves. So why lie on such thing, no matter what side you support you would have been judged. So we shouldn't be going around saying all women support each other, which isn't always true. Instead say women reaching for higher position have to fight much harder then men do. From what I've learned in other classes, white middle class women are dominate by their male counterparts. The existence of gender discrimination still is present in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, which is sad to say.

With every negative thing that has been said and proven from Trump's side seem to have overcome the one thing that has been following Clinton since the beginning of her

campaign (her emails). But all these inexperienced people seem to forgive the actions of one person and not the other. I truly don't know why this has happened.

For a person who wasn't supporting Trump, I just don't know what to expect from him. I can only think of all the pain he is going to cause people within our country. But more in specific, all his actions in order to "make America great again" will separate and cause harm to my Latino individuals and other minority groups. The same day and day after this announcement of presidency, I would see people crying and panicking which I think isn't the right and healthy reaction in electing a new president. It is the fear that he will represent our nation to other countries. Instead, it should be tears and butterfly sensation in stomach for happiness. I only see him making decisions that will benefit him and people who are similar to him (white individuals from middle and upper class). He might improve our economy by keeping things within the USA but at the price and sacrifice of many others things.

We have come a long way since Martin Luther King time, but the problem of race still exist but at a different level. People still discriminate others but through other forms such as gender identity, disability, career, etc. And not all the times people tell you straight-up on their thoughts instead make comments and actions done behind a certain person or group. I don't think there is going to be a racial progress in the next 5 years instead will take longer. USA, a developed country with all this freedom, still needs an event or act by people within to change what we have been fighting for many years (racial progress).

### **STUDENT 73**

I think that this election will go down in history as one of the most unique elections with its entertainment aspect. The whole election seemed like a joke and frankly I am upset that this is the first election that I was of age to vote for. Throughout the whole election it seemed like a comedy series for the public. It reminded me a lot of the political comedy show, Veep. I think that Trump won because he actually ran a better campaign compared to Hillary. Even though Trump appears as a clown to the public I believe that he is a smart business type of man and should be handed the countries finances instead of the leadership role. I think he won because of he is better for small business owners and I feel that he got a lot of votes because people voted for him simply because they Hate Hillary I don't think he got a lot of votes because people supported his views I think it was more so that people disliked Hillary so much that they have their vote to Trump. I know the president actually has very little power in decision making and they are more like our voice and face of our country but I think him being president will have a negative outcome because of what he stands for and the way he easily offends people and the fact that America has chosen him as our leader and voice for our country after we have seen what a fool he has been and the things that are said about him do not sound like good leadership material.

I think that electing Trumo as president was taking a huge step backwards as a country especially when our now former president was the first black president of the United States and did so much for this country in terms of diversity and acceptance whereas Trump has

been openly racist, sexist, islamophobic, etc. and has the potential to undue some of our countries progress in terms of acceptance.

I believe there might be racial reversal under his term and those implications include black and Hispanic people being seen differently from society and Trump supporters because even though racism still exists now people will think it is socially acceptable to voice it and act on it because our leader does those things. I also think that the LGBT community will now fear that they are not accepted and will also sense a change in how they have to conduct themselves in public. I think racism will only grow stronger because now the public feels it is okay to show it because our leader has displayed many acts of racism.

#### **STUDENT 74**

I have mixed views o the 2016 elections results. I was hopeful that Hillary Clinton was going to be able to win the winner. I am upset at the percentage of Hispanics who voted from Trump in the sense that he has openly voiced that he wants nothing to do with them. How they are a harm to the country . It disappoints me at the fact that people are able to believe the words that comes out of this mans mouth. I think that the reason why Trump one was for a couple of reason. Protest votes I believe have a lot to do with this. The fact that people were writing in reckless answers for the "write-in" vote makes me very upset. Also the third party candidates had a major part in making it a close race between Trump and Clinton

I don't think that Trump will keep all people from the wealthy to the very poor when making decision that will effect our country. I also think that this is a joke for him, meaning that he could really care less about what happens to the country and this is simply to check this off of his bucket list. I think that the outcomes of him being the leader of the most powerful nations is something that is scary.

I think that race has taken a reverse since these results were announced. President Obama has made progress in brining the nation together and working towards making change. I think that everything that he accomplished is going to be for nothing. Republicans control the entire government. There are a bunch of rich white men who are control the problems of the minorities in the country and I don't believe they have there best interests at heart.

#### **STUDENT 75**

I was very surprised and slightly afraid upon seeing the election results on Tuesday night. Trump's election speaks to the level of unhappiness America has with the established government. Trump was known for condemning the media and talking of a "rigged" election to get his followers on his side. Trump also presented his followers with a romanticized idea of nationalism from the past and promised to give that greatness back to America if they elected him. In that way, he ran a very successful campaign in that he was able to convince about half the country that America was in a terrible state because of the establishment (people like Clinton) and that he could make it "great again" if he was in office. Clinton was not done any favors by the FBI investigation that her emails were a part

of almost up until the day of the election. This just proved to Trump supporter that Clinton was a part of this corrupt establishment that Trump has taught them to despise.

In terms of social justice, I fear for this country in the next four years. Trump has made horrifyingly offensive and threatening comments against several minority groups throughout his campaign. I fear for the women of this country, who will be looking up to someone who has sexually assaulted and objectified countless women. I fear for immigrants, that they will be placed in a mindset of uncertainty about whether or not they can stay in this country. I fear for the LGBTQA+ community who have to fear for their own rights and the possibility that they will no longer be able to express themselves as who they are.

When we look at all of the progress our country has made socially, we know that we still have a long way to go. For that reason, I was hoping to elect a president who realized this. With Trump in office, however, we can expect to move backwards. We know that Trump has expressed negative sentiment for a woman's right to choose and those Pence has been a very opposed to the LGBTQA+ community. So, of course my hope isn't with Trump but in the American people who are generally people of compassion and hope. I hope that in the trying times that are sure to come, Americans can come together and love each other instead of turning to fear and hate because of the divisive man that we will soon call president.

## **STUDENT 76**

I am very disappointed in the results of the election. I was shocked to see most of the swing states vote in Trump's favor, and shocked to see a state like Michigan, which has voted Democrat in the past 4 presidential elections, vote for Trump. I believe that Trump was able to win because of his ability to connect with business owners, both small and large, in the midwest and offer his assistance if he were to become elected. And I believe that Clinton lost due to her shady past and people feeling like they could not rely on her as president. Not saying that people would be able to rely more on Trump, but these could be some reasons.

I really do not know what to expect from Trump leading our country. I am extremely worried having him be a representative of our country in foreign affairs, where if he was to say insulting things, could lead to bad relationships with countries we have tried to build over many years. His tendency to speak without thinking about repercussions will really hurt him, especially with many people not liking him now for saying racist, sexist, and other things. In terms of economics, I could see him doing well for the country. The fact he is a businessman could be beneficial to the country and it could help him create more jobs for people and help the economy.

I am extremely worried about the racism that our country will go through now that Trump is president. People have already started to feel the repercussions from having the most powerful person in the United States having said both racist and sexist comments. People feel that with Trump being president, it is okay to say more racist and hurtful things to minorities, women, muslims, etc. All the progress that has been taken to make America a



more inclusive environment will really be negatively affected with a person like Trump being our president.

### **STUDENT 77**

1. My views on the 2016 election results are that I'm shocked, in disbelief, and disappointed to say the least. I believe that there are two main reasons why Trump won and Clinton lost. For starters, I feel as though there is still a large, silent majority in this country that agrees with Trump's bigoted and intolerant ideologies. That aside, Trump won because of the Electoral College. When looking at the numbers of the popular vote, Clinton won at 59, 814, 018 while Trump had 59, 611, 678. Because of the Electoral College, however, Trump won the election at 279/270 and Clinton at 228/270. Though the Electoral College made sense back in the day, before the media and Internet existed for one to make an informed decision about the candidate that they choose to elect, times have most definitely changed and with that, the system regarding the Electoral College needs to be changed as well.
2. The future seems as uncertain as ever with Trump being our new president and because of that I don't have many thoughts to share regarding where I feel that he will take the country. I do, however, know I definitely do not envision any positive outcomes for this country with Trump being the leader of our nation. With his obnoxious demeanor and intolerant beliefs towards individuals that experiences marginalization, oppression and unequal treatment (e.g., Blacks/Latino/as/ Muslims, LGBTQ individuals, women, etc.), I truly do not see much progress being made in this country with Trump being our president.
3. There are various implications that Trump's presidency has on racial reversal. This election has definitely made our country take many steps backwards instead of progressing for a better future. As I briefly mentioned in my response for question 2, Trump's campaign was very centered on stereotypes and discrimination against almost every marginalized group of people in this nation, which I've also listed above. Considering this alone, we can not expect any racial progress to be made with Trump in office.

### **STUDENT 78**

I am utterly disgusted, ashamed, angry, and genuinely fearful of my life more than I ever have been in my life. The outcome of this election has me very emotionally distraught and I don't appreciate the notion that people have saying that, "he won, get over it." As much as people want to say that it's a democracy and we should respect the political views of every person, to me, this was not about politics. This was about majority of American voters giving the "ok" for people to express racism, sexism, homophobia, etc and saying that it is acceptable. We've disliked many Presidents before and we've always differed in our political views, but this time it's different. This isn't even about dislike. People are afraid. There have already been reports on 8 transgendered youth who have committed suicide in

result of Trump being elected. Muslim women are afraid of wearing their hijabs because people have told them "it is no longer acceptable". There are black women being confronted by groups of white men calling them the N word and telling them "it's time to get out". The chaos has already begun and it is only going to get worse as the years go on. That is the world that voters have given the "ok" for.

Think about the older generations of people who have had to endure Jim Crow. They've seen so much horror in their lifetime. They thought that we now lived in a socially progressive world. We had just had our first black President and they were about to see us have our first female president and now it feels like the world has taken three steps backward. I also feel that had Hillary been a man, we would not even be here. Majority of this country felt so strongly against the idea of a female running the White House that they ran to the opposite side. This election was also about money. White middle and upper-class men believe that Trump is going to make them rich. He will decrease the amount of taxes for the 1% and increase for lower class citizens. I also feel that there is going to be a great amount of deaths due to his views on planned parenthood. Without this, more women will take it upon themselves to perform illegal abortions on themselves. A lot of families may be broken apart because of his views on immigration. People's views of building success or finding refuge in America now seems unattainable. That is the world we are facing.

I think the implications for racial progress are quite obvious. It's scary to know that majority of the world has basically signed off saying that the lives of minorities don't matter. Gay lives don't matter. Immigrants lives don't matter. And they never have. People have been feeling these racist, sexist thoughts behind closed doors, but now there's no hiding it. And it's scary to know that these are people I have interacted with on a daily basis. These are people I call my friends. I have never felt more disconnected from the people around me than I do now. I have never been more afraid to walk around campus at night. But this is the world that Americans have "okayed".

## **STUDENT 79**

Personally, I am disgusted with the outcome of the 2016 election. Although I already expected this was going to be the outcome, there was hope that things would turn around at some point. There are many factors that contribute to why Donald Trump won and Hillary Clinton lost the election. To begin with, Trump was able to express himself and had a huge group of supporters that shared many of the similar beliefs. I also believe that media played a huge role into the election. In my opinion, media made the elections seem like a joke. People would say that a man like Donald Trump would never be able to make it to the White House. I also think that a lot of attention was placed on Hillary's past mistakes in comparison to Trumps'. For example, the whole e-mail scandal was huge and people were so concerned on what was on these e-mails and how this makes her a liar. It makes me completely sick however, that hate, prejudice, racism, homophobia was overseen over erased e-mails. His campaign only made me accept that "white supremacy" has never stopped being a thing here in America. The only thing that brings me at ease is the fact that Trump is all talk and we have a justice system set in place that hopefully won't allow for him to do many of the things he has in mind to do. We are already experiencing a negative

toll being taken. It has only been about a day since the news, and I have personally seen so much hate going around. Due to his victory, we will definitely see a racial reversal occur. This saddens me even more, because all throughout history we have seen the struggles certain racial groups have gone through to be where we are today. With this elected official, who is racist and discriminatory, we will see how the progress this country has made will be reversed. Personally, I am scared knowing that majority of the population in this country is okay with racism, sexism, homophobia, and his many other unexclusive views.

### **STUDENT 80**

This election has been a nightmare. The nation is split, and there is so much hatred on both sides. The result definitely came as a surprise for a lot of us, and it has personally hit me pretty hard. I am an Asian male who grew up in the DMV, who has been privileged to see and experience very little racial discrimination. I can't imagine what the more discriminated groups of people feel and think. Trump won because of the electoral college, which is an outdated system. Hillary won the popular vote, and sadly this is the 4th time this has happened. The electoral college was established because back in the days of horses and snail mail popular vote dictating the result was not possible. We need to abolish this undemocratic system.

I think despite the outcome, I want to be positive and not overlook some good things that happened. I think this election has motivated the young population to care a lot more about politics. Trump will be in office for at most 8 years, but ideologies and movements last as long as we make it. Many good things also came out of this election. There are now 8 states that have legalized weed, first Somali lawmaker, and first Latino senator, and first openly LGBT governor. What I'm personally worried about the most is our climate change. The Republicans now control the House, Senate, Presidency, and will have a majority on the Supreme Court judges, and with Trump's insane belief in how climate change is real, and him hiring a top global warming skeptic as the head of EPA, I have low hopes of what our nation will do to our planet in the next four years.

I personally believe that social progress will never be impeded as long as we fight for it. This might look like a huge setback on the surface, but it also has highlighted some issues that we haven't given too much thought before. Realizing the problem is progress. The racists and the extremists, Trump only gave them a narrative to speak out.

### **STUDENT 81**

This presidential election was extremely upsetting and unexpected. I'm very upset with the American people who actually gave Trump a chance to be at his position right now! We are allowing somebody who is crazy to govern the most powerful country in the world! And every country in the world, besides Russia, is freaking out because he's the president-elect (I think). I understand many people didn't want Hillary elected, but between the bad and the terrible, people have elected the terrible! At least she is a politician; he's not. Clinton has a husband who was president, she knows how to deal with foreign leaders and

has the knowledge about our alliances, other countries' situations, etc... Trump?? He has no filter, no idea how to talk and deal with anyone else without saying something stupid. His promises yes, could be real, but please let's not forget that America is made of immigrants! And that, for as bad as it can be, the Democrat Barack Obama, was the one to deport the most immigrants ever! So, I don't think we are that bad regarding immigration. Also immigrants are not taking the jobs of American people as much as people cry about. For the next question, I think that many people want change but they don't really know what change is... but that's what he preached. And perhaps, people thought Clinton was winning anyways and did not come out to vote. Now, we have got to hope that he will take this job seriously and really understand that this is politics, not a game. He's not just the boss of his successful company; he has the LIVES of billions of people to represent now. I don't agree with the fact that there's no real checks and balances now, with the house, senate and presidency being all Republican. I understand that the president doesn't do much on his first term, but I hope he thinks well about his own family, and tries to lead us in a descent direction... Although, in my opinion, he doesn't really have the political knowledge. For the last question, I don't think that he cares too much about anyone else besides the upper class people; and he clearly does not care about immigrants... the people that makes this country! His own wife is an immigrant for goodness sake! Take Muslims for example. He sees a Muslim 'face' and automatically thinks about terrorists. Can we live with this type of discrimination? Stereotypes should not be part of governing this country! And I understand Hillary doesn't have an 'amazing' past. Neither does he! Neither do we all! But like anyone in the U.S. she should have freedom of speech, and not publish everything she says or emails... we all have secrets! That's life! I'm praying for North America's success. Amen!

## **STUDENT 82**

Personally I am very disappointed with the election results. Over the course of the presidential election I felt that the election became more about not allowing Donald Trump to win as opposed to whom we actually wanted in office. Some people I have spoken to wanted to vote for people other than Donald or Hillary but felt that they absolutely had to vote for Hillary just to tip the scale, not because they actually wanted her in office.

Over the last twenty-four hours I have heard two main arguments as to why Donald Trump won. Some people blamed it entirely on third party votes and felt that if they had voted for Hillary, Trump wouldn't have won. Others thought that it was because White women, a demographic that Hillary assumed would automatically vote for her actually voted for Trump. I think that both of these reasons contributed to Donald Trump's win, but I am also not sure if Hillary would've won even if third party voters and White women did vote for her because the silent majority in this situation was so large and Donald got so many electoral votes.

Based on what Trump has said during his campaign I don't expect that the outcome of his presidency will be positive. He is inexperienced, radical, and quite frankly I worry that his lack of political correctness and tendency to say offensive comments will only make our relationships with other countries worse and possibly lead to war.

If Trump truly does follow through with his promises of banning Muslims, deporting 11.6 million immigrants, and building a wall to keep immigrants from entering the country I don't think we can expect his presidency to create anything other than the reversal of racial progress. I also believe that his offensive rants about minorities, women, and those in the

LGBTQ community will only undo the equality we have worked for. It will only exacerbate the issues concerning minorities, policing and the Black lives matter movement. His campaign alone has already done massive damage to racial progress and equality because people who are racist, discriminatory, anti-immigration, and anti-LGBTQ now have been becoming more and more active in vocalizing and showing their hate through action.

### **STUDENT 83**

When I woke up on Wednesday morning I thought election was a bad dream, but when I wipped the sleep from my eyes I remembered that it was all real and that America really did elected Donald J. Trump as President. I am angry, sad, confused, and sacred. I was never the biggest fan of Clinton, but as she kept campaigning and I did my own independent research I saw her not as “a lesser of two evils”, but as a women who had dedicated so much of her life to politics and as some one who as beyond qualified to hold the oval office. In this election I voted for Clinton and even though I knew that there were going to be people who would vote for Trump, I didn’t think that he would would 1) win and 2) win by the amount that he did. I think that there were multiple factors that went into tump winning; the demographics of voters, 3rd party voters, and the electoral voting system. This election had some of the highest voter turnout in American history. So many people came out exercise their right to vote, and some of them were voting for the first time regardless of age. Trump won in some states, like Pennsylvania, where people were certain were going to vote Democrat, but we have to remember that Pennsylvania and other states are made up of more than just their major cities that have been historically democratic and progressive. If only Millennials were allowed to vote, Clinton would have won by a landslide and if only white men could vote Trump would still have won. There are many variations that can be made, but to understand how Trump won, we have to look at who in regards to race, gender, age, and party affiliation voted, where they live, what their socio-economic background is, and even possibly views regarding race relations, women, religion, gay rights, and a other things. I think that Clintons downfall also came from people voting for a 3rd party candidate or not voting at all. For example in the Utah votes for Clinton and Independent candidates were almost the exact same, but if they had all ben for Clinton, she may have been able to bet out Trump for those electoral votes. I think in any other election with different republican candidate I would have been ok with people voting for a third party, but in this case I’d rather those votes go to Clinton. Yesterday I was informed that Clinton had won the popular vote, and if the election was based on those numbers rather than those of the electoral college, things would have turned out differently. I am beginning to understand what electoral votes are, but it just doesn’t make sense to me that even though a majority of the country wanted Clinton, Trump won because a rule created almost 200 years ago.

Now that Trump has been elected, I am sacred for what is to come. My eyes are not just on Trump, but those those who voted for him. While campaigning, Trump promised to do many outlandish things, like building a wall and tagging every muslim American, I wonder if he is really going to try and turn those words into actions, or if he only said those to things to get certain people he knew would agree to vote for him. Either way, I am sacred. I think Trump will take this country no where. All the progress that the Obama



administration made over the last 8 years may just to waste. Even before the he was elected, stocks plummeted by 500 points. Multiple countries had stated that if Trump was elected they would heavily consider cutting ties with the United States. Trumps presidency will have and has already had so many negative effects within the county, and now the whole world is watching to see what he does next. The only positive that I can see coming out of him being president is that dialogs regarding race, gender, religion, and immigration are opening up. His campaign has started a nationwide conversation about the true state of the county regarding these issues an I hope that this forces people to recognize and do something about America's ugly truths.

#### **STUDENT 84**

Truthfully I have no words for outcome of the presidential election. I want to say that I'm shocked, because I never expected our country to be this foul and broken. It hurts to think about, and it's a reoccurring though in my mind. I believe that Trump won because most Americans were tired of having a Democrat as president and needed a Republican president. Trump was appealing to most white voters located in the midwest, which is why he dominated in those states. It was a somewhat tight race for America because we had to pick the lesser of the two evils, but I truly believe that Trump is the more corrupt and evil one.

I truly can't predict where President-elect Trump will take our country. But all I know is that it will bring some trouble for minorities and people who exercise their rights. Throughout the election we saw a lot of closeted racist, sexists, xenophobics, etc. come out and stir some trouble for minorities. Now we that is President-elect only time can tell what will happen with the future of our country. Truthfully I'm scared for the step backs we might have to make due to our new president.

I truly believe that there will be racial reversal within our country. Now people will start to believe that it's going to be ok to be openly racist or sexist, or anything for that matter, because our new President-elect has done the same things before. We can already see the fear in Americans via the protests and rallies being created. These protestors are protesting to show that they still have rights and refuse to have one man change it. By having an openly racists, sexist, xenophobic, bigot president brings out the true colors of other Americans, which might initiate racial reversal in our country.

#### **STUDENT 85**

When it comes to the 2016 election results, I had a lot of mixed feelings: Shock, disappointment, fear, uncomfortable, upset, nauseous, exhaustion, but also a glimmering of hope. At the end of the day, God is the main authority in my life. Trump may be our future president, but he is only one person.

Trump won because people voted for him. What kind of people? -- People who didn't openly voice that they agreed with him, and people who did openly agree with him. That silent majority definitely showed out. Clinton lost because she had people who were

against her, and didn't feel that she should be our first woman president. White women and White men voted for Trump. The thing that stuns me is that the majority of White women didn't vote for Clinton.

I honestly don't know what Trump is going to do. The idea of him being president and calling him that makes me a bit uncomfortable. At the end of the day, I can't put all of my trust and expectations into one person. He can only do so much, just like past presidents. I'm unsure of where he's going to take the country, I don't feel like we're moving forward. I feel like we're taking a whole bunch of steps backward. Since he has started in this election, he has said a lot of things... Negative things. I think he has started off on the wrong foot, but I'm trying to be hopeful... Maybe he can change.

The implications for our racial reversal will negatively impact our current generation. His ideas are being normalized and seen as acceptable even though they are hateful. Many people are getting hurt in this process, and it is shameful that's how they are being represented. Other countries are going to look at us, and see that our ideas on race are backwards and oppressive.

## **STUDENT 86**

The election results were definitely extremely surprising for me. I expected that the race was going to be very close, but I assumed Clinton would have taken the vote. She won the majority popular vote, but Trump got the electoral college, which is what it takes to become the presidential elect.

There are quite a few reasons why Trump was elected and Clinton was not. Trump has his own money, he's an accomplished business man, and for these two reasons he never had to take anyone else's money for his campaign. For many people, they appreciated that he was extremely honest and said whatever he wanted and held whatever opinion he wanted, regardless of social standards involving racism and sexism. To a lot of people, being able to say whatever you want is in the true spirit of America. Clinton, on the other hand, was taking money for her campaign which means she took other people's opinions. As well, the whole FBI investigation did not help the country view her as a trustworthy candidate. Another thing a lot of people forget about is the fact that Clinton is a female, and that strongly affected how people viewed her. I heard many comments from people on social media and mainstream media that because she is a woman, her emotions will get in the way of her being a president.

Personally, I don't particularly know where the country will go with president elect Trump, but I do not think it will be a positive outcome. Our economy might improve initially, but I think Trump does not have good values with many people in the US, including women and minority groups, so we will be brushed aside to make the country richer. Being president of the US is not running a business, and i'm afraid that's the only thing Trump really knows how to do, and even THAT is debatable.

I think that in terms of racial progress has stepped back 20 years. Having a president elect who has openly discriminated against minorities and assaulted women and have people

roaring for him at his rallies shows a lot about the racial prejudices in this country. We should be moving forward to openly accept people of all color, but this feels like a huge step back, especially compared to having an African American in office for the two terms before.

## **STUDENT 87**

There are a few reasons why Trump was the victor in the presidential race. First off, Trump and his campaign acknowledged what people wanted as a leader. Someone who was not a typical politician and someone who would supposedly hear the voices of millions of Americans is what people wanted, and Trump took advantage of that. Clinton and her campaign however, failed to resonate with voters by coming off as the opposite. She came off as uncharismatic and non-trustworthy. She was seen as a representative of "big money", which is what voters despised. Instead of explaining why she is worthy to be president for the working class, she and her campaign spent much of the race mocking Trump and collecting celebrity endorsements. In addition, the email scandal did not help her campaign as it only made people more wary of her. For voters who were on the fence between Clinton and Trump, they saw no reason to vote for Clinton since her campaign spent too much time gloating rather than explaining how she will help the people of this country.

Second, Clinton's campaign and her supporters were too confident. Relating to her campaign's disposition, they celebrated their victory long before the race was over. While some people did not vote because they disliked her, others neglected to vote because they felt it was not necessary. The atmosphere that the Clinton campaign created made some people feel as if that victory was already assured and that their votes were not necessary.

Third, Clinton's campaign was in a sense out of touch with their target demographic. One of the first offenses was when Bernie Sanders was knocked out of the running in the DNC. People who were avid supporters of Sanders felt annoyed and betrayed when he was cheated out of his ability to become the Democratic representative for President. Also, Clinton's supporters in government made things worse for her. Some of her supporters made suggestions in that the male voters are still with Sanders, which could have been perceived as the campaign calling the voters sexist. Another example was Bill Clinton's private meeting with Attorney General Loretta. This was a terrible judgment on Bill Clinton's part, especially since this occurred during the email controversy with Hillary Clinton. Also, if I remember correctly, some people in her campaign claimed that Trump is only for the working white class, which could have made some Whites feel alienated by the Democrats. The overall dismissive attitudes of the campaign and other poor decisions have drastically hurt Clinton's chances of winning.

In terms of where Trump will lead this country, I have no clear idea as to where this country is heading. Although he has done nothing in the past to suggest he cares for all people of the US, I also have to wonder if he will somehow surprise us as he has done during the end results of the race. People who run for office tend to do the opposite of what they claim they will do, which makes me feel that Trump could possibly do the same or the opposite. Maybe he will act with aggression against Muslims. Maybe he will build that barrier that hurts immigrants. Or maybe he could instead do something potentially good

for the country. Regardless of what he attempts to do, we all have to remember that we are not part of a dictatorship. The Senate and the House still decide how the country is run overall. Trump still has to contend with people in Congress, which could be relieving for some people as Congress seems to dislike Trump greatly. If anything, I would be more concerned with Pence, as he has shown is disdain for the LGBT community.

Unfortunately, I find these results show how there is still a long way to go regarding racial progress. Even before Trump's victory, the confidence of bigots in the country has risen. The composition of people who voted for Trump compared to those who voted for Clinton shows that Whites resonated more with Trump than Blacks and Hispanics. This entire Presidential race has given some racists enough joy to come out of hiding since they they see themselves as have gained more power.

Although I am not pleased with the results, I do not wish Trump to be unsuccessful. For the sake of everyone in this country, I pray that Trump will actually enact positive change in our country and look out for all people, regardless of race and religion.

### **STUDENT 88**

What are your views on the 2016 election results? Why did Trump win and why did Clinton lose?

I'm not shocked at all by the results of the election. Trump's victory was due to many factors just as any other presidential election. One of the major factors I think played a role is the political divide that is hypocritical of a so called "democracy." The fact that there are two main political parties that people must choose from to be heard hurts the countries chooses of leaders and view on things. If you look at the states that Trump won big in, they are known as republican states. The political divide causes people that associate with a certain party to oftentimes vote for the candidate of that party without even questioning the person or their views. Another factor was obviously race, which was displayed throughout the course of the presidential race. There was also a huge gap between the amount of whites and minorities that voted for Trump. I also believe that Clinton being a woman played a part in her defeat. I didn't think that our society would allow a woman in office right after a black man served two terms, especially with them both being democrat.

What are your thoughts on where President-elect Trump will take the country? Will the outcome be positive or negative?

I think President-elect Trump's character and actions will affect the country more than the policies he puts into play. I say this because the president doesn't have as much power as many people believe, the president is more of the face of the country. If Trump continues to act how he did during his campaign the outcome will be negative because the people that support him will feed off him and do things that will hurt the country. And the people that don't support him will fight back against that. He could possibly make a positive impact but he would have to change his ways so the country won't divide even further. But on the economic side of things I see the country going in a negative direction with him in office. He is involved in corporations; I believe he will try to implement policies that only help corporation and the top 1%. This will lead to a bigger gap in wealth among people in the U.S. The middle class will slowly turn into working class without noticing.

What are the implications for racial progress or racial reversal on our country?

I believe racial progress/reversal is in the same exact spot as it was when President Obama was elected, it is just more visible now. In the past decade it seems racial progress is at a stand-still, if not reversing. The media tried to force the idea of us living in a post-racist society because President Obama got elected, which is far from the truth. During his stint in office racial divide, altercations, and tensions have been extremely high. If the election of President Obama signifies a post-racist society then with the election of President-elect Trump we would have to be considered a pro-racist society. Due to the racial divide and him being backed by the KKK.

### **STUDENT 89**

I think that trump won because he tricked a lot of people into believing that he is going to do all the things that he says he is going to do. Also, i do not think that many people voted because they felt as if their vote did not count which is why a lot of people were telling their peers to vote. Additionally, people did not think that he was going to win, instead they thought that it was a joke but he came back and won. i definitely feel like the outcomes of Donald trump are going to be negative because he does not like blacks, Muslims, Hispanics, or woman. the first thing he is going to do is ruin obama care and take a lot of insurance away from innocent people who deserve it. another thing is that he is on trial for raping a 13 year old girl and a rapist with 2 trials coming up is our next president, what has this country come to.

i do not think it is fair because Hillary won popular vote while he won electoral vote. i believe that if she won popular vote she should have won because it should be about what the people want and not about what the government wants but that is why our system is messed up. the stock market has already gone down and 401 k's no longer have the same value that it once did. also, wall street is going to go downhill. i do not feel like he is going to make america great, i think america is going to be ruined. Lastly, although all of the policies that he wants have to be passed by boards, most of the boards are made up of majority republicans so they are more than likely gonna pass what he wants.

### **STUDENT 90**

I am very glad that Trump won over Clinton. However, I did not feel happy at all about any of the candidates, in my opinion, both candidates are despicable human beings who should not have even had the opportunity run for the presidency. Trump, a misogynistic human, who hates all races and wants to repeal abortion, and tear down all efforts to heal and treat global warming and climate change. Clinton, a corrupt politician, who takes money from Arab nations, is a hypocrite to women's rights when she defended her husbands cheating and attacked his abusers. All of which was done with the sole hopes that she would someday reach the presidency. Moreover, the fact that Clinton stole and corrupted the DNC over Bernie Sanders really upset me, because as a liberal and democrat I felt he was the most qualified non corrupted and popularly liked candidate.

I am angry at Clinton, she stole and corrupted the Democrats, and took a candidacy from Bernie, someone who was more popular and would have surely become president over



trump. I disagree with the people that state that hate beat love, because that is just not the case. The nation just voted NO towards corruption. Despite not being pleased with any of the candidates, I am angry at democrats. I am angry that they are such hypocrites that they cried about trump not accepting the election results, yet now that he won they go all out and do that same thing using the hash tag, "NOT MY PRESIDENT". However, I do see a silver lining in this result. It is the fact that 1) Hillary didn't win. 2) Trump will only be 4 years rather than Hillary's 8 . 3) President Biden might be a thing in four years.

I feel Trump deserves a chance to rule. He should be judged after he shows us what he will work for, not prior to him doing anything at all. We need to give him a chance at the presidency, just as republicans did with Obama. The implications for racial progress aren't as people think. Trump hasn't gone against race. He has gone against Illegal immigration. If someone came into my house illegally id be pretty angry too. They ARE illegal, they shouldn't be here. I don't see people allowing strangers into their house and then not calling the cops. This all comes from an international latin student who is here LEGALLY, because I asked permission to the "house owner", after my student visa expires I don't expect your country to keep me in, just due to the fact that I would be a criminal by staying.

### **STUDENT 91**

I am saddened and ashamed of America's decision on Tuesday, but at this point, not surprised. I believe that Trump's victory over Hillary happened for many reasons, including racism, frustration, elitism and more. I view this as a strike back at the democratic, liberal and inspiring change that we have seen throughout our country under the Obama administration and unfortunately know that the strike back is about to get worse. Already today, we have seen mass protest in the streets, most peaceful, and in the past year, we have watched as America became a country divided once more. After a period of grievance for our country, for my family, for my fellow women, for my friends, and for anyone who is scared to live in a country where a racist rapist rules all, I have decided to make the best of the next four years in any way that I can. At this point, although I am still hoping for a surprise outcome on December 17<sup>th</sup>, I know that the Electoral College has decided its winner.

I have been reading a lot today, and have learned more about Trump's policies than I wish I had to. Immediately, I believe that the outcome will be poor. Already, Trump has elected a climate denier to run the EPA, has incited massive stock market disruption, and has created an America that many are not proud to live in. I sincerely hope that this changes within the year. I feel that in this country, there should be no election where 50% of the people are scared and crying over the outcome. In addition, I feel that the Electoral College let us down. But when 59.9 million people vote Hillary, and Trump still wins, It shows us more than the fact that our system does not work, it shows us that racism has won, that the glass ceiling may never break for women, and that an unqualified man will always beat out the most qualified woman for the job. Sexism is alive, and now we must live with it for four more years.

### **STUDENT 92**

The presidential election was very interesting this year and I thought it was a hard year to start voting. Neither candidate really stood out to me; therefore, the result did not really matter to me. But I did some research on Trump's view on basic issues and I was not worried. I do not think he is the racist man people view him as. I believe the media did a good job misquoting him to mislead people to think that way. I believe this election was Clinton's to lose and she did. The e-mail scam put her in so much hot water because if that was any other person, he or she would be put in jail. Also, I believe the people wanted something different. So, they elected Trump. Instead of a politician, we wanted to vote someone that was part of our community. Also, Trump having a lot of money probably helped his case too.

Like all presidents, Trump will do some good things and he will do some bad things. Hopefully his good will outweigh his bad. For now, I am not certain what to expect. Trump is really a wild card as president because you are not certain what he will do.

Listening to Trump's speech after he was elected, I do not think we have to worry about going backwards as a nation progressing towards "more equality". He was saying how we a nation have to come together as people and all people. So, I believe he will help push to become a more equal nation.

### **STUDENT 93**

Sick, disgusted, heartbroken were only a few of the things that I felt when I watched trump win this election. It was as if the nation that I considered my own, let me down. What was even worse that I watched our nation chose a rapist to represent our country. Having a female as president was so unacceptable that picking a rapist with no knowledge on politics was acceptable. With that being said, both of our candidates had flaws. I think Trump won because he appealed to the white working class. Surprisingly enough, he even appealed to those that usually did not cast a vote. I believe that they saw in Trump the person who would give them their country back the way it was before immigrants came here. I think Hillary lost because she wasn't likable enough, and being a woman made it worse. People overlooked all her decades of hard work and service to this country over a harmless act of deleting emails, and even more harmless factor, her gender. As soon as he got elected, people began rioting that they didn't want him, which isn't something that should happen after a presidential election. Fear should not be felt when a new president comes into office. Only time will tell where this goes but more so I believe that we need to ask ourselves where this country will take president-elect Trump. Personally, I do not support a man like him but clearly half of this country does, so we need to decide how far we let his vision go. We have worked very hard as a nation to move forward as one, and there is no way we will let one presidential election take us back in time. His election has exposed racist America for what it always has been, racist. But it has also exposed how strong and determined people of color are to not let a nation we call home, ruin and defame it self. In case the people supporting Trump think that this election has given them their old America back, then they need to move out as well because in case they forgot, we are all immigrants. With that being said, we all need to pray for our future.

#### **STUDENT 94**

I am surprised with the results of the presidential election, although I shouldn't be. Because I was pretty active with the opinions of the people of my age group on twitter, it seemed as if Hillary had the vote and she would be the next. But, my thoughts only accounted for people my age which also have the least amount of voter outcomes. I also have realized that I live in this diverse bubble called the DMV with different kinds of people that don't represent the United States as a whole. I was also surprised because Trump is an actor and business man, and has not dedicated part of his life to the politics of Americans as Clinton has, so him being elected seemed like a joke to me. On the other hand, I shouldn't be surprised to think that Hillary would have won because I know that after having a black president for 8 years, America cannot go to long without having the white male in power.

My thoughts on where Trump will take the country are very hopeful. That's all we can do since there is nothing we can do about him being elected now. I hope for positive outcomes, I honestly didn't keep up to much with the politics of this election because I am too young to vote, so I felt I didn't need to pay attention as much because it's not like I could vote and it would make a difference. But, with each branch of government being republican I feel things may change to a more conservative point of view. This means no one is really safe, unless you're a rich white male. So this also means implications for racial progression is very uneasy and unpromising.

#### **STUDENT 95**

What are your views on the 2016 election results? Why did Trump win and why did Clinton lose?

I was in complete shock as the election results, I honestly was speechless. How could so many people support someone who is so blatantly racist and bigoted. Before the election results came in, I wanted to believe that America would not entertain the idea of Donald Trump actually becoming president. Unfortunately, I was wrong. Donald Trump's rhetoric is extremely hateful and has dangerous consequences for our country. As a minority born and raised in this country, I am offended and hurt by the overwhelming support Americans (particularly white Americans) have for someone that doesn't even respect, much less, represent a large population of women, minorities, Muslims, and immigrants.

What are your thoughts on where President-elect Trump will take the country? Will the outcome be positive or negative?

I am honestly scared for the future of this country, I am afraid that he will take away basic human rights that some of us worked so hard for. Although I do not support Trump or any of his views, I hope that he will step up to the plate and do what's best for this country. At the end of the day, I can't change the what has happened but I sincerely hope he will show

people that he really cares about ALL the American people and that he genuinely wants the best for America (not just to fulfill his own agendas).

What are the implications for racial progress or racial reversal on our country?

\*sigh\*

I think that the racial implications of this election are going to deeply affect this country. In the past few years the U.S. has already had to deal with race issues such as police brutality and economic inequalities. I thought that the U.S. was slowly progressing towards a society that doesn't tolerate discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, religion, and sexuality however, I think that electing Trump to be the next leader of this country will pose a huge setback in advancing our human rights laws. However, this is the reality of our country, I think it's more important than ever for minorities and the privileged to stand in solidarity and push for the rights we want.

### **STUDENT 96**

I think Trump won and Clinton lost because many lower-middle class whites felt forgotten in this election. I think they genuinely feel like society is against them especially with the exposure social media brings on social issues and political correctness. I think many of them are just tired of hearing the "whining" by minorities while they are struggling as well. I think Trump really appealed to them because of his motto "make America great again" and so they feel like Trump can help them. Additionally, as discussed in class, Hillary also lost the white women vote that she so expected to win over without much effort.

I firmly believe Trump's presidency legitimizes and validates racism, sexism, misogyny, etc. People think this is just about whose feelings get hurt but it is more than just that. Not even 24 hours after he has won the election, many have shown strong racist aggression toward minorities. Hispanics have been threatened and taunted that they're about to be sent back. Children are showing they think it's okay to be racist. Some Muslims have already been threatened with physical harm. Simple twitter searches show many episodes of discrimination against people of color not long after Trump won. It is really disheartening.

Despite many Trump supporters believing Trump can somehow unite us, I just don't see it. In fact, as many Republicans said over the last 8 years about Obama, the country seems more divided than ever with Trump as the President-elect. I don't know if Trump is really racist or if he was just trying to appeal to voters and tell them what they want to hear. For me, the fact that what he has said leading up to the election is supposed to be representation of what people want to hear, is just downright scary. Racial progress is definitely stalled at the moment because of how he has come to be President.

### **STUDENT 97**

I have been grieving since the results of the election came in. I forced myself to stay up until 3 A.M. on Tuesday, despite having a Chemistry test on Wednesday. The initial shock

was enough to keep me up. I could not believe that Trump actually won the election. I have read many articles that say that the reason Trump won when Clinton was projected to win by at least 80% was because of the silent majority. These are white, working class rural citizens who believe that they are oppressed by giving minorities equal opportunities. They have been hiding in the polls that CNN and MSNBC did because they did not participate in them. I think that President-elect Trump will culturally take this country back 50 years. Already, I have witnessed blatant ignorance and hate crimes against people of color, immigrants, the LGBTQ community, and women. People will think that it is acceptable to say the same types of things that Trump does. "Grab them by the pussy," "all Mexicans are rapists," and black people's lives "can't get any worse" are not phrases that a president, let alone any coherent and respectful person should say. I think that America will become the opposite of "great again." Racial progress will be reversed, and the country will begin to breed more hate. The younger generation will grow up with a leader who is celebrated by the KKK, and think that white, heterosexuals are not only normal, but also the "right" way to be.

## **STUDENT 98**

My views on the 2016 election results are that we will not understand the consequences of this election on our country's future for many years to come. I am unsettled, afraid, and disappointed at the results but overall worried about the implications of Trump as President.

Trump won because elites underestimated Trump supporters and overestimated Clinton supporters. And I think we all underestimated the deep divide that exists in American society and how disenfranchised rural, uneducated, poor whites feel. We also underestimated the power of fear-mongering and the exploitation of race in politics. Everyone took Trump as a joke until late in the night on November 8th when he was in the lead, even in states that were historically blue. I believe Hillary Clinton's team overestimated her appeal to women, particularly white women, and she was also too confident in her following in the Rust belt, which she never once visited during her campaign. I think Trump's success can be tracked to his threats to put a 35% tariff on companies that moved their factories from the Rust belt to either Mexico or China. After saying something like that, it didn't matter what other racist, xenophobic, sexist, misogynistic comments he made because people wanted to keep their jobs. Of course there is also the race factor and the gender factor. I think Van Jones explained it best by calling it a "whitelash" and I will add that it was also a white-male-lash. The last eight years were just *too* progressive and equitable for some right-wing or more radical folks that the RNC and other groups worked very hard to make sure no democrat was elected to office again. They probably did not expect it to be Donald Trump to become the nominee, but they obviously didn't care much as long as they won. And they did.

I think Trump will lead the country to be the most divisive it's ever been. To the point where I believe this country could have a revolution on its hands, which wouldn't necessarily be a bad thing. We are already seeing hate crimes happen all around the country, which are a direct result of Trump's election and his hateful rhetoric. Personally, I



think it will be mostly negative but maybe in the end slightly positive. Negative because of all the minorities and vulnerable groups that will be killed, assaulted, ostracized and overall be in danger because of Trump. But slightly positive because it might lead to a restructuring of the political/election system that is long overdue (and that's in a best case scenario).

The implications of racial reversal (which I believe is happening as we speak) on our country is the marginalization of minorities, the LGBTQ community, women, immigrants, and the disabled. I think we are going to see more polarization in our politics leading to less things getting done and a downward spiral in our economy and society. But more than anyone, I believe this is going to affect our children in schools and neighborhoods around the country who have to witness grown people act like complete idiots. Not to mention that this will lead to more violence, damage to the environment, and a precarious relationship with other nations. In conclusion, we're basically screwed.

## **STUDENT 99**

Like I am sure many of my classmates are, I am very shocked and embarrassed about the results of the presidential election. Donald Trump and Mike Pence have spoken out against so many American liberties that I truly honor. Donald Trump is truly racist. He thinks that all Mexicans and Muslims are harmful to the country. He stereotypes Mexicans as thieves and Muslims as terrorists. He believes that women don't own the rights to our own bodies. His running mate believes that our country should defund HI/AIDS Prevention organizations and use the money to fund gay conversion camps. I know this sounds radical, but I am truly embarrassed to live in a country like this.

Many of our founding fathers were immigrants. People came to America to pursue "the American Dream," and be able to express themselves freely and be treated fairly. Our nation's constitution clearly outlines equality and freedom of religion. These are two principles that I truly do not feel that the new leaders of our country do not value.

I think that although it seems surprising to many of us, we live in a bubble. We saw in class that the DMV is a very liberal area surrounded by a vast conservative population. There truly are more Trump supporters in this country than I thought. Although my educators and peers are very aware and concerned about the social issues I outlined previously, many Americans simply do not value these freedoms. Someone who grew up in a very homogenous area may not understand how these freedoms (or lack thereof) affect Americans.

I would like to think that because our president-elect has voiced racist remarks, that will only inspire the American people to rise up and not tolerate racism. I think that a lot of protests are underway in this country. Hopefully, the American people can shape racial progress within the next presidential term. Obviously, it would help if our president would also support this progress, but at the end of the day, he is one person. There are over 300 million Americans who can fight for racial progress without the help of Donald Trump.

## **STUDENT 100**

Trump won because regardless of his polarizing views his charismatic appearance on television and his voicing of unpopular opinions ignited a fire within the blue collar working class. This part of society has been frustrated for quite a long time, and because of the ever increasing liberal viewpoints they have felt suffocated. With Trump siding with them on national television they felt that by electing him their voices would no longer be ignored. Clinton lost because she supported the views that have been growing in modern society, and are therefore opposite to Trump's.

I am not sure of where Trump will take the country, due to his lack of political knowledge and radical plans I do not think there will a positive turn to society. I am not sure if the outcome will be negative either due to the fact of the checks and balances system that may keep Trump from making destructive decisions.

I think Trump's win will overturn racial progress in this country. Recently racial issues have been a heated point of debate within the nation. There have been many negative as well as positive viewpoints cast upon this topic. Simultaneously due to modernization many Americans might assume that racial progress is well underway. However, due to Trump's win it can be brought to light that many in this country do not want a fully integrated society, and by Trump stepping into office it can increase the divide. People can use Trump's opinions during the election process to give reason to their violent and hateful actions.

## **STUDENT 101**

After class on Thursday, I gave these questions a bit more thought. After talking to several people, I think Trump won both the popular and the electoral college vote because there are a lot of people in America who simply want a change. I don't know exactly what kind of change Americans want specifically, but I became convinced that this was a huge factor in the voters' decisions after seeing that both the Senate and the House went to the Republican party as well. For reasons that vary between individuals, Americans have voted to see what the Republican party can do; the problem with this reasoning is, I believe, that the people voted in a lot of ways for a party and not the person. This is only one of the many problems with the two-party system; we only get to publicly know two points of view and they are often constructed by not the candidates personal beliefs but the party's agenda..but I digress.

That being said, Trump has in fact made public many personal views that have not been endorsed by the Republican party. As the Republicans have governmental majority at the moment, I do think that they will place as much red tape as they can on policies that they don't support; such as the building of a wall that will supposedly be funded by a currently non-compliant Mexican president. I believe that, financially, he has his intentions in the right place with desiring to provide affordable child care in a way that will benefit low-income families, encouraging business to stay local, etc.

However, I believe that the outcome of his plans for immigrants, as they currently stand, can be devastating and will take our culture backwards in terms of racial progression. He has stated in his 100 day plan that he plans to deport “criminal aliens” which could include, by his definition as checked by NPR, drunk driving!! I’m sorry, but charge them and arrest them by law as you would any other person on American soil, but you can’t just hold them to a stricter standard of punishment simply because they aren’t American citizens yet. To me, deportation for that offense is wrong and will induce a culture of fear and distrust between Americans and honest immigrants looking to build a new life for themselves. They (immigrants) will learn to not trust us because they may be afraid that we will report them or have them deported for a minor offense that any other American could potentially commit (i.e. DUI/DWI). This lack of trust will lead to building a different kind of wall of division among communities within our country rather than the physical wall Mr. Trump is endorsing, and will hinder attempts at bridge building that could overcome racism.

### **STUDENT 102**

My reaction to 2016 election results was shock. I believed that Clinton would be chosen without a doubt. When the vote results were being revealed, I was worried and my worry became true. Trump won because he was able to get the votes from people who did not vote previously. I am not being rude, but the results were that the votes from uneducated white people is what helped Trump win. The majority of supporters of Trump is uneducated white people. That being said, I was scared when I heard the results. The fact that Trump was elected implies that majority of people in America support racist and sexist views. I cannot really believe that people, majority too, still believe being a certain race makes one better than another. I was and am outraged about the results. As discussed in the class, Clinton lost because she was not able to get the votes from white women. Clinton being a white woman, she must have thought that white women votes will be hers even if she does not reach out to them. The results clearly said otherwise, which was the mistake on Clinton's part.

My thought on Trump being the president is negative. Of course there is the chance that he could actually take the country to a positive outcome, but that is unlikely from his past actions. I hope that there will not be any negative dramatic change, but I do not know. The outcome is unpredictable given Trump's actions from before. I believe there will be negative implications for racial progress. How can racial progress exist if the president has racist views?... It will be good if no racial reversal happens. However, I believe since there are a lot of people who are against racism, this event could bring people together.

### **STUDENT 103**

It has taken me awhile to come up with any sort of opinion on the results of the 2016 elections. Trump won simply because people are frustrated. They are frustrated with the government and how they are currently being treated. This past month, I drove through Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. I saw the outside cities of Ann Arbor and Columbus. Both of these cities are home to top ranked universities with affluent families sending their kids to attend these schools. They see all that the people attending these

schools have and are frustrated that they cannot have these same things. Trump won, because he directed his attention to these people. Being a successful business man, he promised them jobs, and that the government would no longer look over them. Hillary lost because people have lost their trust in her. She has been involved in the government for a few decades and has been apart of several scandals that have led people to be hesitant in her election.

It's hard to have an opinion on whether President-elect Trump will lead to positive or negative outcomes. I think due to the fact that people are doubting him so much, he will strive to succeed and attempt to get all he has promised for citizens. In addition, I thought this idea was interesting that a friend of mine brought up. During the Apprentice, Trump was able to bring together a group of people, that do not get along, come from different backgrounds, have different ideas on the way things should be done, and was able to get them to get together, come together, and work together to raise money, start a business, or whatever the task was. Will Trump be able to do this with the now divided US, and outside nations?

I think it is excessive for people to be saying that with the election of Trump, we will be set up 100 years in social rights. If we as a nation come together and refuse to allow this to occur then it won't occur. I do not believe people voted for Trump based off of his social views, rather his economic.

#### **STUDENT 104**

When I woke up to hearing that Trump had won the election, I was mostly confused. Something about it just seemed surreal. I deliberately avoided Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and any other social media outlets because I knew that there would be endless posts, updates, and recirculation of opinions about the election. Scrolling through all of that would've been absurdly overwhelming, to be honest. I was determined not to be consumed by the social media hype. The mere fact that Trump won the election says a lot about the United States, in general. Trump's rhetoric throughout his campaign has been notoriously bigoted and misogynistic and his campaign has magnified the racism, as well many other -isms and -phobias that some argue to be non-existent in contemporary society. I recently saw a newscast on television about the effects of the election results and it highlighted reaction of the youth. A part of the segment showed footage of middle school students in a cafeteria chanting "Build the Wall!" and it was videotaped on a student's cellphone. Another video that was shown was of 2 Black high school students fighting an older White man after an altercation in which the older White man voiced that he voted for Trump. They also showed footage of White high school students walking through their school yelling "White Power".

Given what I have learned about this country's history and how its social climate has changed and, in some ways remained stagnant over the centuries, this does not surprise me. Though I am not surprised, I am still anxious about what the United States will become in the next four years and even in the next 40 years. It is important to understand that Trump is not the sole reason behind racism, prejudice, and discrimination in the United

States. This stuff has been perpetuated systematically and throughout institutions long before Trump was even born. Trump's presidency will result in a ripple effect on the rest of the country and even the world. In the context of the U.S., those that support racism, along with other socially divisive ideologies, will feel empowered and justified in their beliefs because someone that represents them is in a position of power. For those that strongly oppose his presidency, feelings of fear, disdain, and helplessness may ensue. For marginalized communities in the U.S., including the Muslim, LGBTQ, Black, Latino, and immigrant populations, Trump represents the exact opposite of progress. Various protests have already been in effect and it has only been a few days since the election results were released. It is going to be a particularly interesting 4 years with him as President.

### **STUDENT 105**

The 2016 election seemed like a comedy movie to me. I feel as though Trump went into the election to prove a point about American politics. At no time did I think Trump felt he had the ability to actually win until the primaries. I feel as though Trump won because he was able to bring out the bigots that existed in our country out to the voting polls. In addition Clinton lost the election simply because of all the baggage she brought with her into the election. She had a lot of personal history that affected her in the race.

I think President-elect Trump will not follow through on a lot of the demands he said he would during the primaries. I feel as though he did that to win over voters. He will do a decent job fixing the economy just because it really has no where to go but up. I feel as though the biggest way that we will be affected by Trumps presidency is through his social issues. He targeted a lot of different types of minorities and I think his job as president will be to win back those people.

I don't believe there will be a huge different for racial progress if Trump was president or if Hillary was president. Both failed to touch on what they would do to help racial progress in our country. I feel as Trump is a little bit more ignorant on social issues however so it may cause individualized acts of racial violence during his presidency but nothing on a grand scale.