Leader manifests solidarity through religious awareness

A crowd of people, including Muslims, gathered at a march. The sign in the background reads, "Love is stronger than hate."

Alammari said that when she first wore the face veil, her peers didn't understand. "They asked me questions like, 'Why are you doing this?'" she said. "But I knew it was the right thing to do."

Alammari's decision to wear the niqab was a way for her to express her identity and her faith. "I want the world to see me for who I am," she said. "I don't want to be defined by the way I look or the way I dress."
Despite prejudice, Serrano's transition comes to fruition

By Anthony Kinney

In a world where being different is often discouraged and mocked, Gianna Serrano, 20, has been much more accepted in society's perception of "normal" in her time of being accepted by family members and peers.

Serrano is quick to admit the mainstream depiction of a transgender woman as weird or an outcast. She remembers being called words like "quinn," "queen," and "manly" in fear of being scorned by folks from the LGBTQ community as weird or an outcast.

"I didn't know what any of those terms meant at the time. I was just being myself," Serrano said.

And with English being her second language, the communication challenge proved itself to be an extra obstacle to navigate and function of a person's sexuality. Serrano remembers being trapped inside her since as young as a Contra Costa College student in 2013, Serrano carried her associate degree in psychology in 2015 and began her transition while attending weekly group sessions for that reason, Serrano said it's just another step in her life to live and the right to get it right is what it means. We all have one life to live and the right to get it right is what it means. We all have one life to live and the right to get it right is what it means.

"As a society we need to stop being so narrow-minded. We are all God's children. We have one life to live and the right to get it right is what it means. We all have one life to live and the right to get it right is what it means."
**Colorism** is important because if you are darker, then you are labeled as less, automatically.

— SociaMarina

*black activism*

In America, the lens in which people perceive beauty is determined by skin color because of income. When we come here, because we are a community of African, I think we bond easier. It’s friendlier — less discrimination.”

— Elias Ledezma

Brown Americans, black people in particular. They fear the unfair burden of succumbing to the insinuations of others to avoid skin color confusions.

“Being tall, dark and male I find myself a little more arrogant. But has it matter as much? It’s all about race. In Mexico, we are all Mexicans so it isn’t about race, only skin tone.

For others, the path to acceptance can be tougher to navigate. Sam Hernandez, who is studying to be an art major, said, “People say we’re stick up, I like us, it’s ok, no, because I’m brown.”

Hernandez said he gets mixture for other races like Filipinos or Indians, but when people learn that he is Mexican, because he’s brown, they assume that he only speaks Spanish and treat him differently.

In America, the lens in which people judge color can be the difference between opportunity and mistreatment — even life and death.

“The whole light skin, dark skin thing confuses the hell out of us as black people. African-American studies major Lakera Denmark said, “We are already separated from the world, so why separate us from ourselves. Why not stick together because everyone else is against us. Because I’m light skinned people think I’m sadiddy (stuck up).”

When people meet me and they get to know me they say, ‘Oh, I thought you were one of those’ — until they actually hear me speak."

— Daksha Daniels

*Black American studies*

We need to get over the fact that we need to segregate. It still exists. It’s not explicit anymore. I see it. We need to come together as a community as each other and just mix it up. Just like Brazil.

— Marisol Marivela

Wealth and education inequities drive these divisions. However, some immigrant communities fear these divisions hindered upon reaching the shores of the U.S.

“I don’t pay much attention to skin color. I don’t think there are any real differences,” art major Phuong Mai said.

“In my country (Vietnam) there is discrimination based on skin color because people are darker, or because of income. We come here because we are a community of Asian, I think we bond easier. It’s friendlier — less discrimination.”

— Phuong Mai

Snippets of shade

Skin-based biases cross cultural divides, foster discrimination within ethnic communities

In India, lighter skinned people live in the northern part of the country, while darker people occupy the southern end.

“Sometimes it can be dangerous for us to speak about beauty because of potential marginals,” he said. “But if the people I educated there is generally my problem. The area is a spit and you want to tell them, and you do. It’s a hard thing to do, because of skin color.”

Wealth and education differences drive these inequalities. However, some immigrant communities fear these divisions hindered upon reaching the shores of the U.S.

“I don’t pay much attention to skin color. I don’t think there are any real differences,” art major Phuong Mai said.

“In my country (Vietnam) there is discrimination based on skin color because people are darker, or because of income. We come here because we are a community of Asian, I think we bond easier. It’s friendlier — less discrimination.”

— Phuong Mai

**“Being tall, dark and male I find myself a little more arrogant.** But has it matter as much? It’s all about race. In Mexico, we are all Mexicans so it isn’t about race, only skin tone.

For others, the path to acceptance can be tougher to navigate. Sam Hernandez, who is studying to be an art major, said, “People say we’re stick up, I like us, it’s ok, no, because I’m brown.”

Hernandez said he gets mixture for other races like Filipinos or Indians, but when people learn that he is Mexican, because he’s brown, they assume that he only speaks Spanish and treat him differently.

In America, the lens in which people judge color can be the difference between opportunity and mistreatment — even life and death.

“The whole light skin, dark skin thing confuses the hell out of us as black people. African-American studies major Lakera Denmark said, “We are already separated from the world, so why separate us from ourselves. Why not stick together because everyone else is against us. Because I’m light skinned people think I’m sadiddy (stuck up).”

When people meet me and they get to know me they say, ‘Oh, I thought you were one of those’ — until they actually hear me speak."

— Daksha Daniels

*Black American studies*

We need to get over the fact that we need to segregate. It still exists. It’s not explicit anymore. I see it. We need to come together as a community as each other and just mix it up. Just like Brazil.

— Marisol Marivela

Wealth and education inequities drive these divisions. However, some immigrant communities fear these divisions hindered upon reaching the shores of the U.S.

“I don’t pay much attention to skin color. I don’t think there are any real differences,” art major Phuong Mai said.

“In my country (Vietnam) there is discrimination based on skin color because people are darker, or because of income. We come here because we are a community of Asian, I think we bond easier. It’s friendlier — less discrimination.”

— Phuong Mai

Snippets of shade

Skin-based biases cross cultural divides, foster discrimination within ethnic communities

In India, lighter skinned people live in the northern part of the country, while darker people occupy the southern end.

“Sometimes it can be dangerous for us to speak about beauty because of potential marginals,” he said. “But if the people I educated there is generally my problem. The area is a spit and you want to tell them, and you do. It’s a hard thing to do, because of skin color.”

Wealth and education differences drive these inequalities. However, some immigrant communities fear these divisions hindered upon reaching the shores of the U.S.

“I don’t pay much attention to skin color. I don’t think there are any real differences,” art major Phuong Mai said.

“In my country (Vietnam) there is discrimination based on skin color because people are darker, or because of income. We come here because we are a community of Asian, I think we bond easier. It’s friendlier — less discrimination.”

— Phuong Mai

**“Being tall, dark and male I find myself a lot more to make other people feel comfortable.** If I don’t, sometimes my regular resting face may make people uncomfortable. So I watch my manners and my wording — a lot.

— Daksha Daniels

*Black American studies*

We need to get over the fact that we need to segregate. It still exists. It’s not explicit anymore. I see it. We need to come together as a community as each other and just mix it up. Just like Brazil.

— Marisol Marivela

Wealth and education inequities drive these divisions. However, some immigrant communities fear these divisions hindered upon reaching the shores of the U.S.

“I don’t pay much attention to skin color. I don’t think there are any real differences,” art major Phuong Mai said.

“In my country (Vietnam) there is discrimination based on skin color because people are darker, or because of income. We come here because we are a community of Asian, I think we bond easier. It’s friendlier — less discrimination.”

— Phuong Mai

Snippets of shade

Skin-based biases cross cultural divides, foster discrimination within ethnic communities

In India, lighter skinned people live in the northern part of the country, while darker people occupy the southern end.

“Sometimes it can be dangerous for us to speak about beauty because of potential marginals,” he said. “But if the people I educated there is generally my problem. The area is a spit and you want to tell them, and you do. It’s a hard thing to do, because of skin color.”

Wealth and education differences drive these inequalities. However, some immigrant communities fear these divisions hindered upon reaching the shores of the U.S.

“I don’t pay much attention to skin color. I don’t think there are any real differences,” art major Phuong Mai said.

“In my country (Vietnam) there is discrimination based on skin color because people are darker, or because of income. We come here because we are a community of Asian, I think we bond easier. It’s friendlier — less discrimination.”

— Phuong Mai

**“Being tall, dark and male I find myself a lot more to make other people feel comfortable.** If I don’t, sometimes my regular resting face may make people uncomfortable. So I watch my manners and my wording — a lot.

— Daksha Daniels

*Black American studies*

We need to get over the fact that we need to segregate. It still exists. It’s not explicit anymore. I see it. We need to come together as a community as each other and just mix it up. Just like Brazil.

— Marisol Marivela

Wealth and education inequities drive these divisions. However, some immigrant communities fear these divisions hindered upon reaching the shores of the U.S.

“I don’t pay much attention to skin color. I don’t think there are any real differences,” art major Phuong Mai said.

“In my country (Vietnam) there is discrimination based on skin color because people are darker, or because of income. We come here because we are a community of Asian, I think we bond easier. It’s friendlier — less discrimination.”

— Phuong Mai

Snippets of shade

Skin-based biases cross cultural divides, foster discrimination within ethnic communities

In India, lighter skinned people live in the northern part of the country, while darker people occupy the southern end.

“Sometimes it can be dangerous for us to speak about beauty because of potential marginals,” he said. “But if the people I educated there is generally my problem. The area is a spit and you want to tell them, and you do. It’s a hard thing to do, because of skin color.”

Wealth and education differences drive these inequalities. However, some immigrant communities fear these divisions hindered upon reaching the shores of the U.S.

“I don’t pay much attention to skin color. I don’t think there are any real differences,” art major Phuong Mai said.

“In my country (Vietnam) there is discrimination based on skin color because people are darker, or because of income. We come here because we are a community of Asian, I think we bond easier. It’s friendlier — less discrimination.”

— Phuong Mai

**“Being tall, dark and male I find myself a lot more to make other people feel comfortable.** If I don’t, sometimes my regular resting face may make people uncomfortable. So I watch my manners and my wording — a lot.

— Daksha Daniels

*Black American studies*
Embracing confidence, self-admiration

By Michael Santone

In today’s society the definition of beauty has been warped by unattainably high standards and lies that spread false ideas about what constitutes the perfect outward appearance and what it means to be beautiful.

For those who struggle with the notion of the “perfect” physical features, such as height and weight, the challenges faced in building self-love can be a long and daunting process.

“When I was younger I was told by friends and family that I was too big to be a girl,” 19-year-old psychology major Athena Estrada said. “This made me feel ugly, so I pushed myself to lose weight. But it was hard because I couldn’t be that type of thin and I got frustrated.”

Eating only one small meal a day, Estrada said she became really depressed and began wearing baggy clothes to hide her figure.

“I felt like I was computing with skinny girls because they could wear whatever they wanted. I wasn’t even allowed to put on makeup like other girls,” Estrada said.

“I saw this really nice dress that I thought would only look good on skinny girls. But when I tried it on I looked beautiful and felt really comfortable,” Estrada said.

“Even on the long run, I love my body — it’s unique. The stretch marks I got from my boyfriend. I’m proud of them. I went through a lot to love my body.”

According to DXingMethod.org, only 5 percent of women naturally possess the body type often portrayed by America’s media.

Approximately 91 percent of women are unhappy with their body, with 60 percent considering plastic surgery in the future.

“Currently, I see all these people and I’m like ‘Maybe I should be skinny or look like that model’ but I just remember who I am,” 18-year-old Pebble College High School student Mikada Pyakul said. “Incredibly I’ve looked worse. I didn’t feel pretty, and the friends I had didn’t think I was pretty.”

Pollard, who is biracial, said people use the cliché “pale butt, flat butt,” she said. “As far as fashion goes, I get advice from other girls, but to me it’s not what I’m really struggling with because it’s more physical judgments.

“I have black pants and navy blue pants, I thought it’s a good idea to pair them. I used that as something to boost my ego. Social beauty standards and what is deemed as ‘perfect’ can be internalized into your psyche,” Pollard said. “I became really depressed and began wearing baggy clothes to hide my figure.”

“Being a man with body image issues seems to only elevate the pressures and struggles of everyday life,” Pollard said.

“Currently, I see all these people and I’m like ‘Maybe I should be skinny or look like that model’ but I just remember who I am,” 18-year-old Pebble College High School student Mikada Pyakul said. “Incredibly I’ve looked worse. I didn’t feel pretty, and the friends I had didn’t think I was pretty.”

Pollard, who is biracial, said people use the cliché “pale butt, flat butt,” she said. “As far as fashion goes, I get advice from other girls, but to me it’s not what I’m really struggling with because it’s more physical judgments.

“I have black pants and navy blue pants, I thought it’s a good idea to pair them. I used that as something to boost my ego. Social beauty standards and what is deemed as ‘perfect’ can be internalized into your psyche,” Pollard said. “I became really depressed and began wearing baggy clothes to hide my figure.”

“Being a man with body image issues seems to only elevate the pressures and struggles of everyday life,” Pollard said.