

My project is a collage as well as prisma on paper. My project was inspired by my first essay which was inspired by the work, "Passing" by Langston Hughes. As you all most likely remember my "Joe vs Jose" argument that although not forced or necessarily taught, ethnic people create multiple personas which they utilize during different situations or settings to not experience bias or prejudice. My project displays a small, fuller, Hispanic girl facing the "great wall of Barbies" as I named it. Power, success, and beauty are typically associated with a specific type of person. This person is usually white. And, for females, usually thin, tall, and blonde are made seem to have everything. As many studies have shown, this success can be attributed to something as simple as a name change. There is a correlational relationship between a specific demographic and the result is that people on the outside of this demographic notice this favoritism and want to be like them. Relating back to my project, little girls also learn this without it being explicitly stated, but rather implicitly gathered. She grows up idolizing and wanting to be like this role model. In society, there is an overall acceptance and even commonly and unspokenly expected for all girls but especially ethnic girls to change themselves to feel secure and acceptance.

After showing my finished project to my mom, she noted that the little girl resembles me. I was shocked at the truth of her observation and it made me think that maybe it was me. Subconsciously, I had and still feel this way and that is why this topic interests me as much as it does.

