

2019

# Hopes of an "Other" in Trump's America

Ericka Guerrero

*Xavier University of Louisiana*, [pathways@xula.edu](mailto:pathways@xula.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.xula.edu/pathways\\_journal](https://digitalcommons.xula.edu/pathways_journal)

## Recommended Citation

Guerrero, Ericka (2019) "Hopes of an "Other" in Trump's America," *Pathways*: Vol. 2018 : Iss. 1 , Article 5.  
Available at: [https://digitalcommons.xula.edu/pathways\\_journal/vol2018/iss1/5](https://digitalcommons.xula.edu/pathways_journal/vol2018/iss1/5)

This Essay is brought to you for free and open access by XULA Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Pathways by an authorized editor of XULA Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [ksiddell@xula.edu](mailto:ksiddell@xula.edu).

Erika Guerrero

*Hopes of an "Other" in Trump's America*

Growing up in Post-9/11 America, I was always viewed as the different one in my predominantly white, Catholic school. The idea of making new friends every year always gave me anxiety, as the long-awaited question a person had for me would finally reach my ears.

“So what are you?”

As a kid, this question always confused me. It was no doubt that my dark brown skin and jet-black hair made me stand out against my blonde-haired, blue-eyed classmates, but I never felt different from any of them. That is, until the questions started turning into comments, and the comments turned into criticism. By the time I reached high school, I had heard every insult, from being called a “dirty Paki,” to more comical ones, like being called Governor Bobby Jindal’s daughter.

However, being grouped in the “other” category was not, and still is not, always a negative thing. There are other people in this category, and there is a strong bond that unites us all. No matter the different cultures we all come from or the different languages we may speak, we all fall under the same classification given to us by people who fail to understand and appreciate our differences. We are able to see what makes us “other” and celebrate these characteristics.

My hope for a future under President Trump is the one that Bob Marley described when he sang about the color of a man's skin being of no more significance than the color of his eyes.

This is the very idea that President Trump fights against, and it is up to all of us, the ones grouped “other,” and the ones that are not, to resist the discriminatory rhetoric that is being pushed on this country. It is time for people grouped as “other” to be recognized.