Ava Garrard comments

Hello, my name is Ava Garrard and I am a junior in Jennifer Sambdman’s Comp. 106 class.

There is a lot of political unrest in today’s society. In fact, there has never been a time where two sides have fully agreed throughout our nations history.

Another issue in our society is the constant intake of misinformation, and I believe that is the main issue concerning this topic and why we are here today.

I was one of the kids who wrote the infamous Oatmeal essay.

Jennifer Sambdman taught us about bias. She taught us how we all have it, and how to identify it so we wouldn’t fall victim to the grossness it brings out in all of us.

She made it it clear that she would not skew our beliefs as to conform with her own and she did not pressure us to share our beliefs with her. We did not have to show her the list we wrote our stances on and urged us to not write our names on them.

I'd also like to add that the original version of the list did not cater to any agenda or perspective, the list was comprised of factual statements.

There is the argument that she shouldn’t be educating us about touchy topics that have to come to light in recent years. However, Comp. 106 is a college class and people attend college to better themselves and so they can contribute to society in a beneficial matter. There would be no way to benefit society if we are not fully educated on both sides of these arguments.

Eldridge is a bubble. It is not the real world.

The problems we have here are not what the majority of people experience in their lives. To learn about these problems, and to be empathetic towards others that have not grown up in a sheltered society such as ours is vital to being an adult in today’s society. I am not trying to insult this town or the people in it in any way. However, we live more privileged lives than most and we need to understand that to understand others.

So, by teaching us the content of this essay, Mrs. Sambdman was making us better. Without bias. Without judgement.

She is just teaching, and that’s what a good teacher does. As students, we are better because of her.