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WONDERS OF DIVERSITY

“The beauty of the world lies in the diversity of its people” - Unknown. Diversity and inclusion leading to unity would be one of the most beautiful things to see happen in our society. As inhabitants of Earth we all have something that separates us from each other, so why not celebrate those traits that make us unique and appreciate each other?

As people, we have one thing in common, and that is that we all have so many things that make us different. We all come in different shapes and sizes, different colors, different cultures, different religions, and the list goes on. By coming together anywhere, there are benefits. Diverse workforces and learning environments are both more creative and more productive. Although being different is great, it can feel intimidating, so when there's diversity in groups, nobody will feel singled out to be the only one who doesn't "fit in".

While everything about diversity is amazing, unfortunately, we live in a divided country and society. Whether the issue is male or female, black or white, gay or straight, rich or poor, the millions of differences we all have always seem to split us up. Instead of embracing our differences and coming together; unfortunately, we seem to love to segregate ourselves. This results in nobody wanting to be themselves, but instead masking what makes them special in an attempt to be "normal". Diversity utilizes differences that help bring people together. By learning about what makes someone unique, you can learn to appreciate them and their culture. By expressing our own uniqueness we can learn to appreciate ourselves as well. In the end, we should all live in a way taught by Dr. Seuss, "Why fit in when you were born to stand out?" and let our differences strengthen us together in unity.

But where could we stand to be more diverse? First, we should have our children exposed to other people at a young age so they are used to diversity from a young age. Unfortunately, according to the LA Times, "America's school-age population is more diverse than ever before, reflecting the demographic

shift rapidly taking place in our country. America's schools, however, are more segregated than they have been for decades". Not only are children not receiving the benefits of diversity from a young age, but they also aren't practicing being around other groups of people for when they become older, which can result in racism and segregation passed down once again to yet another generation. Many workplaces also have problems with diversity. Since diversity can make everyone feel like they fit in, yet stand out and also boosts creativity and production, it only makes sense for us to try and make workplaces more diverse. Everywhere, people should be exposed to others and not just to people similar to them.

Diversity can be key to making this world a better place. It is great for people to be around others who are different and learn about their cultures, as it makes us more productive and creative. In the end, we should all come together and celebrate what makes us unique and different. It is important for us to all be as one. As Rosa Parks insisted, "there is only one race - the human race".