

Final Reflection

The biggest experience I learned about in the Calderwood Seminar was exposing myself to new pieces of media and events that I knew nothing about prior. Many of the experiences and ongoing incidents we learned about concerning migrant communities are ones that are new to myself. The bigger prompt in all of this is asking myself what my thoughts are on their situation and whether there is anything I do in my current life that has an effect. When reading or learning about people who have very different life circumstances than me, I usually ask myself what I would do if I was in their situation. When reading about the Hmong people and the interview that they did, I wonder how I would feel being the one interviewed and having your experiences diminished. How angry would I be? Would I react extremely negatively and try to get at them in turn? What could I even do in that kind of situation? That kind of situation is one that I have never experienced and one I probably will never experience, and the biggest personal growth I had throughout the class was asking myself questions about how I would react in that situation. If I think of myself as a certain type of person but that does not match with the way I think I would react in those situations, it fundamentally changes the way I think about myself and whether I am mostly a product of my environment or not.

As for my best piece, the one where I can say I felt a bit of passion writing was the first social media post. I genuinely believed and would preach what I was writing, and it was about a topic I do not think about often. I felt good about the topic and the type of message that I believe to be present in the bit that I wrote.