

THE VIEW AT WEST

Below, Jade Marriwether '17 is interviewed by co-host Sunny Hostin in the library Jan. 6 for its Jan. 16 program.

POETIC JUSTICE

Seniors Ala Mohamed and Jade Merriwether recite a poem for the School Board on Nov. 22. "Our goal was to raise awareness and gain support for our cause," Merriwether said.

ALYSON KUENNEN PHOTO



PHOTO BY ANTONIO CLIPPERTON



PREACHING PEACE

West and City students unify against prejudices they face in school at a march in downtown Iowa City Nov. 15. This is important to us because of the barriers these prejudices are creating," Jillian Baker '19 said.



PHOTO BY RACHEL MEYER

PLACE OF PROTEST

The hallways were silent the morning of Nov. 11, three days after the presidential election. After some reported incidents of students feeling targeted due to race, gender, or religion, about 150 students walked out of 6th hour classes at 2:30 p.m. to protest Donald Trump's campaign rhetoric. Meeting on the front lawn of the school, the students held up signs reading "Black Lives Matter" and "Stop the Hate."

"I thought the students were very passionate and thoughtful in what they believe," principal Gregg Shoultz said. "In particular, the leaders were very well spoken. However, I wish it hadn't taken place during the school day or deterred from their classes."

Students stood in a circle and took turns going in the middle to share how the election had impacted them.

"The protest was a peaceful protest that gave students the confidence to speak their mind and let their voice be heard," Miriam Perez '17 said. "Some of the people that spoke I've never seen them before in my life, but it was great to hear them talk about their lives so openly."

Sisters Lujayn Hamad '18 and Raneem Hamad '17 led the crowd in a chant "Mind over matter, love over hate." Lujayn added, "The revolution will not be televised, and we demand to be heard."

On Nov. 16, 50 students held a sit-in, walking out of 7th hour classes at 3:30 p.m. and sitting in the Commons with tape over their mouths and safety pins fastened to their shirts until the dismissal bell. After the sit-in, students walked downtown and met with City High students. About 600 students from both schools protested on the Pentacrest, and they later attended a City Council meeting on equity issues in the high schools.

On Nov. 19, *The New York Times* published an article about the protests, and *The View* filmed a segment for a program that aired on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Students and teachers were interviewed and shared what they had experienced since the election.

"I thought it was reassuring to see people fighting for the issues that matter," Daniel Burgess '18 said, "instead of just sitting back and choosing to be apathetic."

—By Gracie Tovar



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