

Kenny Takahashi  
Freshman - Southridge High School

## Human Rights and Stereotypes

I'm fourteen years old and I'm currently in my first year of high school. More now than ever, I am surrounded by stereotypes. Many use these stereotypes as jokes and even believe them, but I am going to disprove them.

I'm of Asian descent and constantly I hear stereotypes about Asians, but most of them don't apply to me. Asians are thought to have glasses and a short skinny build with an introverted personality. Yet, I am average height, 150 pounds and extremely social. Not what people usually expect.

I face stereotypes in my gender too. As a male, many people expect me to do the traditional sports such as football, basketball, etc. Instead, I'm a gymnast. It always surprises people because it's thought of as a feminine sport.

I'm very different from what my stereotypes say I should be and I am happy about that. Everyone is an individual unlike anyone else with unique traits and personalities. It's important to cherish this.