

MY NAME IS AUTUMN LARKINS AND I'M BHAVI SARDA AND YOU'RE LISTENING TO STEREOTYPE ME, A PODCAST ABOUT DEFYING STEREOTYPES. THIS EPISODE: CARMEL KIDS.

[INTRO]

WELCOME TO CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL, A SCHOOL FILLED WITH RICH, ENTITLED WHITE KIDS AND INCREDIBLY INTELLIGENT ASIAN KIDS, OR IS IT?

MY NAME IS ALEC OWENS AND I'M A JUNIOR. I'D SAY YEAH I AM A CARMEL KID.

[FADE IN HALLWAY SOUNDS AND THEN KEEP AS BACKGROUND. TEENAGERS.]  
DEFINING A CARMEL KID, I SAY THAT IT'S A KID THAT HAS BEEN GIVEN A LOT OF OPPORTUNITIES IN HIS OR HER LIFE. LIVING IN CARMEL OBVIOUSLY WHERE WE'VE BEEN RANKED NUMBER ONE SAFEST COMMUNITY AND THE TEACHERS THAT GO HERE OBVIOUSLY GIVE A TREMENDOUS EFFORT IN WHAT THEY DO AND THEY REALLY CARE ABOUT WHAT THEY GIVE TO THE KIDS.

MY ENTIRE LIFE I'VE BEEN GIVEN ALL THESE DIFFERENT OPPORTUNITIES. I'VE BEEN GIVEN A BUNCH OF DIFFERENT CHOICES IN WHAT I WANT TO DO AND WHAT I'M PASSIONATE ABOUT. I'VE BEEN EXPLORE MY INTERESTS BECAUSE I'VE BEEN GIVEN SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES.

A LOT OF PEOPLE SEE CARMEL KIDS AS: RICH, SNOBBY, ANNOYING, AND JUST UNGRATEFUL FOR EVERYTHING AND THAT'S NOT NECESSARILY TRUE WHATSOEVER.

SOME PEOPLE THAT I'VE MET HERE, I'VE LIVED IN CARMEL MY ENTIRE LIFE SO I'VE NEVER REALLY BEEN ABLE TO SEE WHAT LIFE IS LIKE OUTSIDE OF CARMEL,

[SOUNDS FROM OUTSIDE OF CARMEL]

BUT FROM WHAT I'VE SEEN, WHEN I'VE TALKED TO PEOPLE, I MEAN THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE THAT ARE GONNA BE LIKE SPOILED AND THEY'RE GONNA BE UNGRATEFUL AND THEY'RE JUST GOING TO BE RUDE

TO EVERYONE BECAUSE THAT'S HOW SOME PEOPLE ARE, BUT I'VE ALSO MET A LOT OF PEOPLE THAT ARE NICE AND GENUINE AND CARING AND DON'T TAKE ANYTHING FOR GRANTED AND MAKE THE BEST OF WHAT THEY'RE GIVEN. I'M ONE HUNDRED PERCENT AGAINST THE ALL CARMEL KIDS ARE SPOILED AND SNOBBY AND JUST RUDE TO EVERYONE BECAUSE THEY THINK THEY'RE BETTER THAN EVERYONE BECAUSE I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT'S NOT TRUE AT ALL. THERE ARE TIMES WHEN I SAY I'M UNGRATEFUL AND I TAKE THINGS FOR GRANTED, BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, I FEEL LIKE I AM GRATEFUL FOR WHAT I'VE BEEN GIVEN IN MY LIFE AND I'M SURE THERE ARE OTHER PEOPLE THAT FEEL THE SAME EXACT WAY THAT GO HERE. FOR EXAMPLE, I'LL GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE, MY DAD, I WASN'T, I DIDN'T GET A CELLPHONE

[CELLPHONE RINGING IN DISTANCE]

UNTIL I WAS IN EIGHTH GRADE AND EVEN THEN IT WAS A FLIP PHONE.

[FLIP PHONE SHUTTING]

AND I KNOW, A LOT OF KIDS, THEIR FIRST PHONE WAS AN IPHONE

[SIRI SAYING: SORRY, I COULDN'T FIND CONNECTION]

OR A SMARTPHONE OF SOME KIND, AND MY PARENTS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN ONE HUNDRED PERCENT WITH ME. THEY TAUGHT ME FUNDAMENTALS THAT I CAN SEE NOW WHY THEY TAUGHT ME AND I CAN SEE WHY THEY WERE SO IMPORTANT THAT ME NOT GETTING A CELL PHONE UNTIL GRADE, THAT HELPED ME BE LESS LIKE NOT TAKE EVERYTHING FOR GRANTED AND BE MORE OPTIMISTIC AND SEE THAT LIFE ISN'T EVERYTHING ABOUT ALL OF THESE MATERIAL THINGS THAT CHILDREN GET. BECAUSE, MY PARENTS, MY DAD GREW UP IN A SMALL EAST COAST TOWN

[EAST COAST SOUNDS FADE OUT TO BIRDS]

AND HE WAS NEVER REALLY GIVEN A LOT OF THINGS, AND MY MOM WASN'T EVEN BORN HERE, SHE WAS BORN IN CROATIA IN A SMALL VILLAGE SO SHE BASICALLY LIVED ON A FARM, SHE BASICALLY MADE EVERYTHING BY HAND AND SHE MADE HER OWN CLOTHES, SHE GOT HER OWN FOOD, SHE HAD A GARDEN, SHE DID ALL THAT, SO MY PARENTS THROUGH THEIR CHILDHOOD, THEY HAVE TAUGHT ME TO NOT BE SPOILED AND SNOBBY AND BASICALLY MAKE OF WHAT I'M GIVEN. I MEAN, THERE'S A LOT OF PEOPLE THAT JUST THINK OF CARMEL KIDS AS LIKE I SAID SNOBBY OR RICH AND ANNOYING, BUT I ALSO TAKE PRIDE IN BEING A CARMEL KID, I ALSO THINK LIVING IN CARMEL AND BEING A GREYHOUND, IT'S JUST AMAZING. I'M VERY PROUD OF JUST BEING ABLE TO SAY I'M FROM CARMEL BECAUSE LIKE WE HAVE MOST NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS,

[CROWDS CHEERING, SOUNDS FROM FOOTBALL GAMES]

OUR SPORTS ARE AMAZING AND TO BE ABLE TO SAY LIKE I GREW UP IN A CITY THAT'S JUST GREAT IN SPORTS, I JUST THINK THAT'S AMAZING. MY LIFE WOULD DEFINITELY BE DIFFERENT IF I DIDN'T LIVE IN CARMEL. I WOULD SAY IF I LIVED IN LIKE A POOR COMMUNITY OR SOMETHING, I WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR WHAT I'VE BEEN GIVEN AND I WOULD LEARN TO APPRECIATE THINGS IN LIFE THAT AREN'T MATERIAL ITEMS.

L: ANYTHING YOU WANT TO ADD?

O: JUST THAT CARMEL ISN'T WHAT PEOPLE THINK CARMEL IS. THERE'S A LOT MORE AND ONCE YOU GET TO KNOW THE KIDS IN CARMEL BEFORE JUDGING THEM AND SAYING OH THEY'RE RICH AND SNOBBY AND ANNOYING.

HONESTLY, LIVING IN CARMEL HAS BEEN A BLESSING FOR ME AND THE PEOPLE I'VE MET HERE HAVE BEEN AMAZING AND I COULDN'T HAVE ASKED FOR A BETTER LIFE.

[OUTRO]