

## Racial Unity

Racial unity is nowhere from being completely solved. There are people who still believe black face is okay, and there are people who have just been taught incorrectly from their parents and grandparents, because they think this is what's right from the way they have been raised. We are closer to being united than we were one hundred years ago, but not as close as we should be for being, "the land of the free and the home of the brave."

Individually, we are all unique, we all have something that makes us quirky or something someone can identify us by. As a high school we are standing with open arms for all races, all people, to come. The individuals may not all agree, but the more open minded, open hearted people outweigh the others. Jones, being a small town, is thought to be racist, unloving, and uncaring. It is in fact completely opposite. Since we are so small it brings our community so much closer together and we are able to stop the hate before it begins. As a high school, I believe we have been able to conquer racism, at least from what I see day to day.

Oklahoma has people that are still not as open minded as others. On the other hand, all over our state many people have joined in on Black Lives Matter marches and rallies. These marches have made the youth of this state, of this nation, so much more apt to be understanding. Oklahoma, in the past few months, has seemed very insensitive towards other races which brings an immense amount of anger over me. So many now have a negative look at our state and I don't believe the acts of a select few should be looked upon as greatly as the acts of those starting marches and rallies and clubs at their schools for unity of all races.

Hannah Vaught

As a nation, we're doing our best. There are still going to be the select few who are going to put a damper in everyone's agenda, but as long as long as we continue to fight for this free land eventually those who have hatred full hearts will be capable of learning compassion and empathy. Those people will be able to understand that everyone is just a human being trying to find a way to make a better life for themselves and those who surround them. As long as long as all generations - past, present, and future - are willing to be the change they want to see in the world we will reach full racial unity. Nobody will see someone for their skin color, but for who they are on the inside which it was truly matters anyway. I believe as long as I stand to believe in what is right, as Jones High School, and my family has taught me, then I've made my impact on the world. Whether people lose the hate in their heart, or not, we will become one race - the human race.