



First-Gen Voices: Creative and Critical Narratives on the First-Generation College Experience

Volume 10 | Issue 1

Article 5

October 2024

What is a "Pure Life"?

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Recommended Citation

Anglin, Ailani (2024) "What is a "Pure Life"?", *First-Gen Voices: Creative and Critical Narratives on the First-Generation College Experience*: Vol. 10: Iss. 1, Article 5.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.lmu.edu/fgv/vol10/iss1/5>

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REFLECTION



Visiting Costa Rica was an experience that I feel not only was something I needed but I think a lot of people did and should have the opportunity to experience when they can. The stories that were told, the emotions that were felt, the love that consumed us every minute and every second through our trip. It was unreal. The privilege we have here in America is so fortunate as compared to there. Even being in the same room as our family. To breathe the same air as our fellow loved ones. For some refugees that settled to live in Costa Rica after the war, they can't even do that. To even go back to their homes would be a crime.

It doesn't stop there. Even speaking up about the injustices that happen to Costa Rican natives is a crime as well. Possibly even death. The people who live here have to struggle in silence and have to fight every day to have their voices heard. It's crazy how much of an impact White supremacy still has over these lands including indigenous territories who have to fight for their sacred land. When you come to Costa Rica, your eyes will be opened on how much we take for granted here. Imagine being able to wake up not having to worry about your land being colonized, your family caught in flames of the underlying chaos of a corrupt government and left for filth as if nothing happened, and having to go to work in pineapple farms in dangerous heat environments only to be paid so little and instead suffer with life long health issues.

And to Costa Rica, we hear you, we see you. Let me and the rest of my peers be your voice if you aren't allowed to have a voice. Like strings to a guitar that echo the people we've talked to and those who are no longer here with us. The truth is what we seek and love and peace are what we leave. ❤️

Sincerely,

Ailani A