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## Toni Morrison Essay Contest

Since I have grown up in the semi-diverse community of Elyria, I have realized that not that many schools around me are diverse. U.S. News did research to find the best high schools nationally and in it was the diversity breakdowns of each school. My school's, Elyria High School, diversity is 47.4% white, 20.8% black, 16.3% two or more races, 14.9% Hispanic, 0.4% Asian, and 0.2% American Indian/Alaska Native. Compared to Avon High School Which is 81.9% white, 7.3% Hispanic, 4.7% two or more races, 3.8% Asian, 2.3% black, and 0.1% Native Hawiian/Pacific Islanders. I have also noticed while playing sports that most schools that are considered "rich" schools do not have as much diversity on their team compared to the "poor" schools. Ways I think we can help spread or promote diversity everywhere are to try and fix unconscious bias, mix up employees/recruit more diverse people, motivate diversity, and encourage talking opinions. A benefit of spreading or promoting diversity is that it exposes more diversity to younger kids, which can program them to be more accepting and interactive with other social groups and cultures. Some other benefits of diversity are an increase of creativity, understanding more people/perspectives, communication, more team units, and a bigger talent pool. This can help someone other than myself because it can help terminate racism/bias, create additional happiness, influence others to be more open minded, reduce isolation feelings, and promote people to have more respect.

Respecting people can build trust, safety, communicate feelings/opinions, and wellbeing within communities, school systems, and the overall country as a whole.