

TIDE Academy Newspaper

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TIDE Academy Newspaper

- Don't let democracy slip into decay.

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Collab: January 6th Insurrection Reflections

Opinions By Aryan Gupta and Micah Robinson

Aryan Gupta

The pandemonium that unfolded on January 6th, 2021, was like something out of a movie. Thousands of Trump supporters gathered in front of the Capitol Building to protest the election results. According to the Washington Post, "thousands of President Trump's supporters in Washington" gathered in front of the Capitol Building to protest the election results, in "demonstrations [that] turned violent" (Washington Post Staff, Washington Post). These protesters breached the Capitol Building by climbing walls -- and merely walking through the gates. There were too many people to handle.

Millions of people worldwide watched the insurrection, wondering where Law Enforcement was and when they would start to take action. The way the Law Enforcement contained the January 6 insurrection graphically illustrated white privilege in the United States. When people organized BLM marches across the streets of America, law enforcement officers took immediate action. Stephen Curry pointed to discrepancies between how Wednesday's riot was handled in contrast with Black Lives Matter protests. "This is, again, a tale of two Americas," he said. "If you are of privilege and you control police departments, you get one kind of justice and one kind of policing, and you get another type if you are Black or brown in this country" (Nakrin, NBC Boston). Clearly, systemic racism is still present in 2021. Otherwise, this brazen coup attempt would never have gotten as far as it did.

In addition to institutional racism, extreme polarization led to the insurrection at the Capitol. I believe that social media platforms like Facebook have exacerbated standard political differences. These companies lure users with their AI recommendation. These platforms provide the content that we want to hear -- whether or not it is true. And, when you want to gain another perspective, companies like Facebook and Instagram will feed extremist ideas from the other side, which make you believe in yourself even more (Mims, Wall Street Journal). The polarization and information siloing caused people to adopt increasingly extremist views, culminating in the insurrection.

A third reason for the attack on the Senate Building is because of the manipulative power that President Trump held. I don't know what his supporters see in him, but he can make his followers do anything just by saying two words. Trump can fuel up his ideas and hold completely false statements, and his ornery supporters will blindly follow. On January 6, during the unruly unrest, Trump manipulated his supporters into marching on the Capitol -- and declined to use his powers of persuasion to convince the protestors to stop attacking America and democracy. I would say that January 6th is when Donald Trump became fully unfit to run this country.



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<https://www.nbcboston.com/news/local/a-tale-of-2-americas-comparing-tepid-response-to-capitol-riots-with-blm-protests/2274129/>. Accessed 7 January 2021.

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Micah Robinson

Yesterday, after attending a Trump rally, many Trump supporters attended a protest-turned-coup at the capitol. Congress was in the process of certifying the electoral college votes when a violent mob rushed the capitol building, bypassing police, and breaching the halls of congress. The house and senate had separated to debate the certification of the Arizona vote, and were told to evacuate or lock down as the mob gained access to the building. "Within minutes of Trump supporters breaching the Capitol complex, a mob was pounding on the doors of the House gallery, where a group of lawmakers were trapped" (Schmitt, Fandos, Cochrane). Congress and the staffers were evacuated to a secure location, and the insurrectionists had access to the building for multiple hours until the capitol police and national guard could force them out. "Congress has just affirmed President-elect Joe Biden's Electoral College victory

over President Trump” (Ryan). Congress reconvened, and early this morning, the votes were certified, declaring Joe Biden the victor.



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Wagner, Meg; Macaya, Melissa; Hayes, Mike; Mahtani, Melissa; Rocha, Veronica; Alfonso, Fernando. “Congress finalizes Biden's win after riot disrupts Capitol.” *CNN Politics*, 7 January, 2021, www.cnn.com/politics/live-news/congress-electoral-college-vote-count-2021/index.html, accessed 7 January, 2021.

Announcements

By: Siya Verma

- **Third quarter ends on March 19th!**
- **TIDE Virtual Scavenger Hunt: March 25th 3:30-4:30**
- **Spring Break is coming up!! We will be off on the week of March 29 and will come back on April 5th.**
- **Pilot City Externships: [Check out this link for their opportunities.](#)**
- **If you're interested in joining the yearbook or newspaper, please contact Siya Verma at 810714@seq.org!**

Teacher Highlight

By: Siya Verma

Introducing Ms. Cox, TIDE's biology teacher

Short Description:

I love all things teaching and science! I grew up in the Bay Area and it is a pleasure to teach in the same district I went to high school in. I enjoy challenging my students to think outside of the box and encourage them to ask "Why?" about things happening in the world around them. Outside of school, my hobbies include playing soccer, taking care of my fish tanks, and spending time with family!

Favorite Quote:

"Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate, it is that we are powerful beyond measure."

-Marianne Williamson

Favorite Show as a Kid:

Winnie the Pooh

Favorite subject(s) as a high school student:

Biology

Message to students:

"Work hard, have fun, and explore!"

What we don't know about you:

I have a huge extended family! Over 40 first cousins!

1st Kid of the Year

Opinion By Siya Verma

Gintajali Rao, a 15 year-old Colorado teenager, was chosen to be TIME's first Kid of the Year. Her innovative work over the past few years has culminated in this great honor. Rao's work includes: Kindly, her app and Chrome extension that detects cyberbullying in its earliest stages; and Tehys, a device that uses carbon nanotubes to detect lead in water.

You may ask, what's her motivation? In an interview with Anjelina Jolie, actor and activist, Rao explains:

I don't look like your typical scientist. Everything I see on TV is that it's an older, usually white man as a scientist. My goal has really shifted not only from creating my own devices to solve the world's problems, but inspiring others to do the same as well. Because, from personal experience, it's not easy when you don't see anyone else like you. So I really want to put out that message: If I can do it, you can do it, and anyone can do it.

This was not Rao's only achievement, though. Last year, she was named to Forbes' "30 Under 30" list. When she was in seventh grade, she was named America's Top Young Scientist.

Just as Rao says, anyone can do anything as long as they put their mind to it! She's an inspiration to me and to many other young teens around the world.

Citations

TIME Staff. "Meet TIME's First-Ever Kid of the Year." December 3, 2020. TIME's Magazine.

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