



Raised in a California town separated by a border from Mexico.

CALEXICO , small, cozy, warm, friendly town .

I just had never seen so much construction and movement going on at the border until the past two years. With extreme security and protection against immigrants.



For some this is just a fragment of enclosed steel barriers with some color on them. But this piece makes me reminisce what I grew up seeing every time I crossed the U.S./Mexico point of entry for years and years. A border wall that no longer exists since the implementation of the 'new wall'. A piece of this landmark that symbolizes part of my childhood and adulthood, now, sits at a local park, who knew it would end up just across my house.



The Imperial Valley economy is based on agriculture. Grew up seeing fields of vegetables and fruits and you bet all types of planted seeds. I admire appreciate all the hands that have worked so hard in these fields. Rain or Shine.



What some call a recreational park others call a home. Homelessness continues to rise around the country and even in small towns like Calexico, especially when we lack of other services house way program are the least in the list , with only one all women shelter in the city. In total four shelters in the Imperial Valley with very minimal capacity. Food resources is another issue the homeless population faces. I take pride to say I assist in minimizing this social issue by volunteering in the only foodbank program in Calexico. The Brown bag coalition is currently not only providing meals but education about COVID 19 prevention and learning how to identify symptoms .



The smell of roses remind me of my childhood. Fresh flowers have always been on a table, on a room, or outdoor pot or any corner of my house. Don't wait for someone to get you flowers, gift them to yourself. Because why not.

Three generations. 1920's, 1950's , 1990s

I grew up around the strongest women I have ever met. I admire them with my whole soul.

“Nunca te des por vencida ya sea sola o acompaada, cree en ti. “





I joined a women's organization and was a yearly board member, held positions throughout my ungrad that shaped who I am today. I embraced the empowerment of la Mujer . We all strived to support and fight for our sisters and brothers to open and educate minds, and those traditions that do not oppress us.



The beauty behind food is that you can find culture in it. I am a Mexican American and the above image is the start of a family gathering. Corn husk, masa, your choice of meat and lots of love are the ingredients of Tamales.



Faith is what holds my family, I grew up Catholic. My religious beliefs shape many of my values and morals. When confused, stressed, or in doubt, I seek God. And in the good times too, always, grateful.



Around one million animals overcrowd shelters each year. I was taught to respect little creatures and somehow someday I saw the need in my community of overpopulation. Little did I know that rescuing and fostering one would save future lives. Kitten rescue is something that I love and has been a part of me.





I realized that the most impacted areas with cat colonies, or unspayed/ unneutered cats were lower income residences. Where only Spanish speakers lived. Were senior citizens lived. Those whom lived alone. Who did not understand the importance of fixing outdoor cats. The same people that lack transportation and lack other appropriate resources. But these seniors joyfully purchase a bag of cat food to feed their stray companions.