

My name is Sallie Petras and I have lived in Newport Beach for 15 years.

If I had to describe myself, I guess outgoing, giving; I would believe I'm professional. A little silly, good sense of humor try to be easygoing, if I can, and not too serious, serious when I have to be. Try to make life as lively as it can be.

For me living in Orange County, I guess being older, I live a pretty nice life, I live at the beach. I try to interact with bunch of different people and meet different people being down there. I guess, I don't know, I don't want to say privileged, but I guess I am in the sense that I live right by the beach and it's not that expensive and I can do that, and I can be able to enjoy my off times.

Right now, would be trying to balance work and personal life would be my biggest struggle.

My greatest joy right now is that I like to interact with you guys (younger employees), it keeps me young, I just love your guys' perspective on life. To be honest, I listen to you guys a lot, I try not to eavesdrop too much, but you guys crack me up. It gives you, when you get a little older and you're just out in the world, you don't see it as much. So, I really just like to get that from you guys and kind of just hear what your life is and what you guys are doing and sometimes you just make me laugh. It's funny to remember when you were younger and how you looked at life. Usually it brings me a lot of joy and I like to see the growth that you guys have and I tell you all the time. You know, cause you guys blossom so much from when you start to when you, you know if you guys stay with me and when you finally leave. It's just awesome to see that growth and how you guys mature and things.

I love the water, I love being by the ocean (in Orange County). I like that there's a bunch of different little sections. You can go and, when we started the ramen area (Interviewer serves food at work, Sallie Petras is the manager) and I'm not really with the Asian markets and all that kinds of stuff, I just started learning all that stuff, but it's so close to my home and I really didn't know it was there and just going and like learning that and like "wow". There's a lot of stuff in Orange County that you can see and start to learn, there's a lot of different ethnic things going on and being able to have that pretty close, but still have um. It's not the city life, you still have the slowness and pace and the openness, I want to say because it's not a bunch of high-rises and that whole thing. It's like a family life kind of thing, so you got the opportunity to do both in kind of a small distance.

A Hate-Free Orange County for me means: Not seeing any color, not seeing differences much. I do see people that kind of judge that way. You have your different parts of Orange County. Just people being more accepting... not judging on the surface, or by the way someone is dressed, or by the color of their skin, or what language you're speaking, or things like that. I don't think it's huge, but I do see that.

My advice: Don't be afraid, open up. Don't be afraid to venture the markets. Talk to people, I think it's cause my boyfriend is from LA and not a very good part of LA, and then he'll come down here, and people just tend to shy away instead of... be open to that. I wanna say, sometimes Orange County is like a little bubble. We're just so used to living in this little bubble, in not a lot of crime, it's a nice place to live, when anything outside comes in, it's just "Let's close the doors" and not interact. So just be more open and not so close minded sometimes. I think that in Orange County, sometimes there is either your very uptight people here and then your kind of liberal. There's not too much of a middle area, so maybe just kind of coming together.