

My name is Gabriela Zapata. I currently live in Anaheim, and I've lived in Orange County for 12 years. I've lived in Huntington Beach, Tustin, Santa Ana, and Anaheim.

I would describe myself as outgoing, social, and caring. I dedicate my time, 40 hours a week, to my job. It's to help patients who are on hospice throughout California. We are based in Orange County, in Yorba Linda, but we send out medical equipment to patients who are at end-of-life. I also attend a Hispanic church. We help with whatever is needed, so I usually help with the children's ministry and music ministry.

My number one struggle would be financial because Orange County is expensive, and for a couple living together in Orange County, both have to be working to make the rent, the mortgage. It's not so easy when it comes to money as far as Orange County. Everyone struggles within life, but that's my main struggle.

As for what I like about Orange County, I love how diverse it is. We have a huge Hispanic community in one part of Orange County and a huge Asian community in another part. You get all types of food because of it. It's just so diverse, and there's a lot of culture. It's not just that you have someone that's first, second, or third generation Hispanic, but you have people who bring their culture from their other country and display it here.

If we literally had no hate, everyone would be non-racial or equal to one another, and I think we would have an Orange County where people would be friendly and loving versus critical and to themselves. We don't see a lot of "Oh, let me say hi to my neighbor." It's more like "Let me lock my door to make sure everything is fine in my house because I don't trust people who are walking by." It would be more based on unity.

I would ask people to love one another. Honestly, we are all equal and the same if we get to know one another.