

So first of all whats your full name?

Jose Jesus Guzman

Were you born in the U.S.?

No

Did you speak English when you came here?

Nope

What was your family situation like before you came to the U.S.?

My dad lived in California and send money and it was good, everybody went to school and that's it

So why did you end up coming here?

Because my dad thought it would be better if we were all be here with him.

So he came here before you guys did?

Yes

When did your dad come here? How old were you when your dad came to the U.S.?

I was I guess 5

How many years later did you come?

It was two years

Why did you end up in Hillsboro what made you choose to move from California to Hillsboro?

I had uncle and aunts that would help us so we came over here.

Do you feel that you have a better chance to succeed in the U.S. as opposed to Mexico where you are from?

Oh yeah

When you first moved to the United States from Mexico were your parents quick to put you in school?

Like two months after they just put me in school

Where did you first go to school? Was it first in Hillsboro or did you go to school in California?

Yeah Hillsboro.

What was that like, your first experience.

It was horrible to start all over I had to make friends that didn't speak my language and it was scary

The whole language barrier with your friends how did that affect your learning here?

I just wanted to learn that way I could not be lonely and I had to learn.

Were you involved with ESL when you got here?

Yeah

Do you feel that that helped you learn not only English but what you needed to know in English?

Yeah I think it helped

Was it really tuff learning English?

It was but then after a while since everyone speaks you can Just understand it little by little.

Do you feel comfortable at school now?

Yes

Do you think the Hillsboro school district provides enough support to Hispanics.

I think they do.

Do you know any of the programs that have been helpful?

I guess what I learned here of the Caesar Chavez movement that thing helps a couple of students

What is that about?

I don't really know I never got involved in it. I hear good things about it

What about the teachers? When you got here were they pretty supportive and willing to understand that you had a language barrier?

Yeah they were they had experience with it because before they had students that didn't speak the language and they helped them good.

What do you think the Hillsboro School District could do more to help Hispanics that come from Mexico or anywhere new that's new to the system maybe have a language barrier? What do you think they could do more to help?

Well when I got here there were a lot of Hispanics but what they did was good they had a class where you go two hours before the end of school and teach you English.

After school everyday and you did that?

Yeah

And do you think that helped?

That really helped.

At home do your parents speak fluent English?

Not fluent but they speak some

When you're at home do you speak to them in English or Spanish?

Spanish mostly but sometimes English

Are they pretty involved in your education?

They were at first but after junior high it was you're on your own.

When they were, did they come to teacher conferences?

Yeah they did.

What kind experience did you have, because you were seven when you came from Mexico to the U.S.? What was the experience like?

It was lonely at first when I got here, I only had a brother and sister that went to Elementary with me for one year then after that I knew English by the fourth grade, and I met and got new friends.

How many Siblings do you have?

I have three brothers and three sisters

Are you the oldest?

I'm the Youngest

How old is the oldest?

She is thirty

Was she in school when you first came here?

Yes high school

Were your parents quick to put her in school as well?

Yes

Do you have any other interesting stories or anything that happened in the whole situation?

The first word I learned was yes