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## Jake Amato

is an eighth grader at Holy Trinity School in Avon. He enjoys outdoor activity such as snowboarding and running and relaxes by playing the drums. Next year he will be attending Elyria Catholic High School.

One day our descendants will think it is incredible that we paid so much attention to things like the amount of melanin in our skin or the shape of eyes or our gender instead of the unique identities of each of us as complex human beings.-Franklin Thomas ([www.quote garden.com/racism](http://www.quote garden.com/racism))

Racism, prejudice towards a certain race, is one of the most common signs of discrimination in the United States. Citizens all over America are prejudice toward African Americans before they even meet them and may hate them before even meeting a single one. Many people now think that each and every African American is going to do something illegal or cause some kind of problem. The same thing happens with Asian people. Since the Olympics showed that China cheated, people now think that every person from China is a cheater. In addition, many people think that all Mexicans are illegal immigrants. We need to stop this because it is causing fights and it is just plain cruel.

I plan to stop racial discrimination by changing myself first. I have a hard time becoming friends with African Americans. I am uncomfortable around them a lot. I have to learn to trust people more and see past their differences. I have to pay more attention to what is in the inside. After I get better at this, I can start to expand and try to change other people. As well, racism is not taught, it is learned. Your kids learn from examples from their parents, brothers, sisters, and friends. Having two younger brothers, I should show a good example for them by not avoiding African American people.

Once I am done fixing myself, I can help others. I will be a good example to my younger brothers and other people by not looking or acting different when around different people. I will also try to show people that not all African Americans are gangsters, every person will understand that we are all the same on the inside. As generations pass, kids will learn from their parents not to be racist from their example. That means that as time passes the population of no racist people will exist. I hope that the world will then become free from racial discrimination in the near future. This is what I will do to stop racism in America or even the world. To change the world, you must first change yourself.