

Standing

Alison Chen

Her name is Susan C. Lee,
and she once lived in Texas,
before moving to the state of Black-eyed Susan.
But no matter where she went,
there was always a barrage of bullying from a group of boys.

Called her names,
following her in school.
Yet the teachers said nothing.
Turned a blind eye.
Pretended they couldn't see.

Fortunately,
She was tough.
She was strong.
Refused to be beat down.
Kept her head held high to the stars.
Kept her identity and self-esteem unaffected.

But she was still ashamed.
Her parents knew nothing.
For she decided to not say.

But now,

look at her now.



Been in a law firm, a successful lawyer,
Taking interns,
Elected as a Senator of the Old Line State.

Creating bills
on issues like cybersecurity.
Fighting against racism and domestic violence.
Against human trafficking and those who were sexually assaulted.

Becoming the Senate lead sponsor
of the Maryland Equal Pay for Equal Work Act.
Authoring the first ever identity theft pretexting law.
Introducing and passing Maryland's first Telemedicine law.

Speaking out for Asian Americans:
*"Do not let the bullies engage in this behavior
Because then they'll think it is okay.
It is not okay to discriminate against your fellow students,
Or another human being.
It is not right."*

With her experience and journey,
Facing different obstacles and barriers.
She's sharing her knowledge and advice
To the generations to come.

*"We need to stand up.
We need to tell the government officials
And those in the highest office to stand up
And stand with us
In denouncing that type of racial profiling.
Those disparaging remarks."*

Because at the end of the day,
We're all Americans
We are not foreigners.
We are Americans.
We may be different,
But that's what makes our country so wonderful.

Our rich diversity.
But simultaneously,
All the things we hold in common as Americans.

So we need to stand up.

