

Staff Stance

Campus culture discourages open political dialogue, masks actual liberal majority



This campus flaunts a vocal conservative student base. If this wasn't already clear enough, election season has brought out the Republican in

left-leaning.

So, where exactly are those espousing that point of view?

It's time we, as a community, put aside insecurities about hold-

New York (think the "invisible conservative") but to more progressive, socially inclined thinkers here, it rings all too true.

In high school, popularity

then this piece could ride off into the sunset with a simple "be yourself" message. But when parents' political views enter the equation, the issue becomes a bit more complicated than self-esteem issues.

How many times since the Reagan era has Texas voted blue in November? Here's a hint: it's the same number of inches of snow Dallas received Christmas Day 2015.

This means the majority of Texas parents have been voting Republican since they turned 18, and ESD's demographics match this trend as closely as any other private high school in North Dallas.

It makes sense a majority of Upper Schoolers grow up ingesting ideologies through a GOP feed tube—and there's nothing wrong with that. But, as kids start making the leap to high school, they become afflicted with a con-

Republican learnings—or cop out or just opt out.

Either way is just a means of avoiding the discomfort of throwing the only "yes, but..." into political discussions. That's the problem with Republican versus Democrat/Conservative versus Liberal, they're blanket labels that select by self-stereotyping. As much as teenagers want to group together for identity's sake, it's probably not a good time to do so on political terms. This only serves to discourage dialogue.

High school is perfect for all ideas to be open for debate and introspection, not dismissed because they're unpopular or unknown. Though granting amnesty to illegal residents and defunding Planned Parenthood won't appear on the same platform this year, that shouldn't stop a teen from supporting both causes.