

## Quick Write

Read the introduction and prompt below. You will be given 7 minutes to write your response to the question

On May 5, 2010, five students from Live Oak High School in Morgan Hill, CA were sent home for violating the school's dress code policy. The students were wearing t-shirts and bandannas that the school administrators had deemed disruptive. The students were wearing t-shirts with the American flag and the school, which is predominantly Latino, was celebrating the Mexican holiday of Cinco de Mayo. The students were told they must turn their T-shirts inside-out or be sent home, though it would not be considered a suspension. Assistant Principal Miguel Rodriguez told the students he did not want any fights to break out between Mexican-American students celebrating their heritage and those wearing American flags. The parents and students claim they were simply being patriotic. School administrators contend the students were being deliberately confrontational in a school with a history of racial and ethnic tension.

**Writing Prompt:** Should a school have the authority to dictate what students wear in order to prevent conflict between student groups?

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**My Response**