

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Fri, Apr 15, 2011 at 8:45 PM
Subject: Redistricting in Modesto Area
To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

Dear Commissioners,

As you sift through the endless statistics gathered by ardent workgroups detailing the population demographics, consider the human community spirit please. The statistics contain vital information frequently used in the economics of the Modesto area where we have a reported 18.1% unemployment, which in reality is closer to 25% +. Most of us are tired of the national political economy we lived in the past 40 years. With that aside, I wish to relate the brighter side of *this community*. The West Side of Modesto, which includes my city of Patterson., even in the economic downturn we've resonated with life. Please consider the Qualitative aspect of this community.

As mentioned the quantitative information you have is vital, yet what you do not know because it cannot be tabulated is the community spirit and quality of life that has sprouted in this area. People are helping each other. I personally, was dismayed with the area 20 years ago. Being from the suburban Midwest, via Hawaii, and Southern California, I saw the Central Valley as yes, the Appalachia of the West. What a change in recent years for the better. All one has to do is use all 5 senses to see, hear, and feel etc the vibrant community emerging as a Gem of the Valley. The Modesto High School is turning out scholars and life long learners, the once dilapidated areas are clean with parks and spruced up homes and cleaned up neighborhoods. Even in the crime area, an phone number provides freedom to anonymously report in removing crime from our neighborhoods. The diverse community has come together with the aid of the churches and local government we've taken back the schools, streets, and parks, along with adding individual cultural aspects to this community with local festivals and play and music. It is as though the community planted a human garden filled with the flowers of youth the trees of community values and the environment of vitality and that spirit is catchy and fun.

So, I ask ,that when you redistrict us, consider the people, the human beings, who worked so hard to form this vibrant community, please do all you can to keep together, the people who made this all happen. We need each other to continue on with our human garden of HOPE that has increased the Quality of Life in the area for so many.

Thank you for all your efforts in this important task ahead of you. May your knowledge and wisdom guide your decisions.

Sincerely,

Donna Miller

