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9/11 Interview

On September 11th, 2001, three horrible attacks happened that changed this country forever. At 8:46 that morning, American Airlines Flight 11 collided with the North Tower of the World Trade Center. About fifteen minutes later, United Airlines Flight 175 crashed into the South Tower. At 9:37, hijackers crashed Flight 77 into the west side of the Pentagon. After learning about the attacks in New York and D.C. the passengers aboard Flight 93 ambushed the hijackers and crashed the plane into a field in Pennsylvania. These attacks affected people all over the country, whether or not they had a personal connection to those that were involved. People across the nation were glued to their T.V. screens watching the continuous news coverage about the attacks. In fact, even people in other countries were distressed by the events. I interviewed my mom, Sunitha Nagisetty, who was in India during 2001.

One would think someone living overseas would not be heavily impacted by 9/11. However, my mom explicitly noted how she was at home when the North Tower was hit. She explains how “Everyone in [her] family was watching the T.V. when the second tower was hit” (Nagisetty). The news channel they were watching showed a live broadcast from news stations here. This event was talked about all week, and it was a huge deal, even in India. In my mom’s opinion, “the skyline isn’t the same without the twin towers” (Nagisetty). The World Trade Center was famous across the world, and it was one of the defining characteristics of New York’s skyline. After September 11th, American airports had much more security. When moving from India to the United States in 2003, my mom noticed the distinct differences between airports. In India, all people have to do in order to get through security is get checked by a security guard with a metal detector wand. They can take water and other liquids through with no limit. On the other hand, in America, airports became much more strict after 9/11. There are many laws and regulations that make this country much safer. Most other countries are more easy-going in terms of air travel.

Interviewing my mom opened my eyes to how much everyone was affected by these attacks. I was not sure if she could give me enough information, but she gave me a whole new perspective on 9/11. It was fascinating how so many people were so affected by this. As someone who was not alive in 2001, I never realized how important the attacks were. Almost everyone was hoping and praying for no new attacks. This tragedy touched people all over the world, and will forever stay in everyone’s memories.