
Topic: Coming To America

• Indrani Dutta-Gupta and her husband Anjan arrived in Atlanta with their two children their 5 year old daughter Amnta, and their 3 year old son Indivar on March 13, 1986. (Dutta-Gupta 54)

• Her husband argued that if someone didn’t become a millionaire within 10 years of living in America then they should just go back to their country. (Dutta-Gupta paragraph 2)

• They knew no one in Atlanta except her brother- in- law and some family friends. (Dutta-Gupta 54)

• They were brand-new immigrants trying to get jobs from scratch. But where finding it rather hard to find any. (Dutta-Gupta 54)

• “Anjan was completely unable to find a suitable job in banking. It did not matter that all of his nearly decade-long work experience had been with a major American bank in India.” (Dutta-Gupta 54)

• Her children can still remember how, in their first apartment they would sit on the floor and used newspaper as a tablecloth. (Dutta-Gupta 54)
• When her Brother-in-law asked if they ever considered going back to India. Her reply was that she sold her jewelry in order to buy the one-way plane tickets and that they must try to make it in this new land. (Dutta-Gupta 54)

• “Dr. Wilson turned out to be a godly man. He bypassed the usual paperwork and immediately offered me a graduate teaching assistantship and instates tuition.” (Dutta-Gupta 54)

• Her husband was ended up working for a local bank and was balancing accounts at night and sleeping by day. (Dutta-Gupta 54)

• But then one day his young Caucasian boss told him that he was too good at his job. But that no one was going to reward him for his hard work or move him up in the company. (Dutta-Gupta 54)

• “The mid-eighties were a challenging times for because of ignorance about educated immigrants. I remember a foolish doctoral classmate telling me, "Don't ever eat at that Indian restaurant downtown. They serve dog meat." He also warned classmates not to sit next to me, as I could give them strange tropical diseases. (My other classmates shunned him from that day, and, interestingly, he never finished his doctoral degree.)” (Dutta-Gupta 56)

• They moved to a new apartment complex. Where they relaxed by feeding the ducks. But by their second year of living in America they rented a small home in Stone Mountain. (Dutta-Gupta 56)

• “By 1992, Anjan had started his own tiny business as a defense contractor, working out of our basement.” And “Within a couple of years, we moved the business to a rented office complex in Roswell, behind Applebee's.” (Dutta-Gupta 58)
• Both her kids became top youth fundraisers for the American Cancer Society. (Dutta-Gupta 58)

• Both of her kids ended up going to good Universities her daughter went to Vanderbilt University. And her son graduated from the University of Chicago and he interned with Senator Richard Durbin of Illinois. (Dutta-Gupta 58)

• “To some degree, 9/11 has changed things for immigrants. Our son, who looks Indian and is reasonably fair-skinned and dark-haired, is often put through an excessive security check by the TSA when he travels—partly because he resembles a certain ethnic group” (Dutta-Gupta 58)

• “Her husband’s company is now one of Georgia's leading minority-owned companies. But she stated that they made it because of old-fashioned Southern hospitality. And that if it hadn't been for good kind people they might never have advanced past that first spare apartment. Because it is often the city's native friendliness that opens its doors to the American Dream” (Dutta-Gupta 58)

Assessment:

I believe that the strength of Indrani Dutta-Gupta’s article comes from the fact that it’s coming from actual experience because her and her family where immigrants to this country. She talked about the hard ship and racism her and her husband went through. With her studding to become a doctor, and him not finding a good job in the bank industry at first even though he worked in that field for many years. She mentioned how a fellow student would make ignorant statements about her culture like how she smelled or what she ate. Her husband had to deal with someone in his work telling him that he could never advance at their bank. But it’s not all bad
she also talks about how there where many people that where kind to them and helped them along the way. She also mentions how her husband started his own company in there basement.

The only weakness in this article is that it’s very short and it feels like it could have dug deeper into her life. She could have also mentioned more about what her kids went through because moving to a new place is also hard on kids. But it was a good article for the fact that it is someone talking about their life as a person coming to a new place.