Kailua, Oahu is considered to be one of few country areas on our vastly populated island. Due to high tourism and living interest our once quiet and peaceful home has become a place of commotion. Although our little rock is becoming more modernized every day and we are losing place for culture, it is being preserved through those spots of country we still have.

The unique thing about Kailua is that it can be peaceful and active. There is usually a rest time in the evening where there is nearly no cars left on the roads. The remnants are those who are returning from late nights at clubs, parties, etc. the most active times of our town is between 7am and 8pm. People are coming and going into and out of work and normally tourists coming in to relax at a beach.

Another unique thing that can be said about Kailua is its weather patterns. With the Mauka showers and trade winds, Kailua can be sunny in five minutes, then pouring in the next five. After another five it can go back to being sunny. Other days we'll have light drizzles all day or scorching hot heats going up to 91 degrees max. 

When Kailua is mentioned as a place to live, it is often questioned what part. Kailua is vast in sub-divisions that each has their own names. Some of these include, Oneawa, Keolu, Enchanted lakes and Lanikai. Though they are all titled differently they all fall under the Kailua area. The difference for me is that instead of growing up in one of these sub-divisions, I was raised in the town itself.

I live in an apartment complex directly behind two largely known and convenient grocery stores, which are Safeway and Don Quihote. They are along Hamakua just a little farther down form the center of Kailua. I live on a private street called Aoloa which, for such a narrow street, holds over 6 apartment complexes, This street of apartments is other words known as Kailua Gardens.

I have seen many people come and go in these apartments. Many people use it, as a place to rent while some would call it home. I've lived in my two-bedroom apartment all my life under some tough conditions. There was a family that lived across of me that also called this place home. It amazes me that the people I bring here say it's a beautiful place to live, but I suppose I'm used to the scenery. The inside of my apartment is another story.

For as long as I could remember my house has been a mess. I personally call it an obstacle course since there are places where you actually have to climb over things to get somewhere. My living room for example, has a wall of "clutter," about five feet high just to get in (after that you can't even see the floor). Our new living room is my bedroom
since I took the initiative to clean it enough for me to have a space large enough for a table.

My source of entertainment would come up as either the beach or “hanging” with friends. I went to Kailua elementary up to high school graduating class of 2009. Much of my time was spent at school involved in some club or sport since we didn’t have any big malls or entertainment places around here. We did have two one-dollar movie theatres in Kailua until they shut down due to financial problems. Other times I would be running around “the lake” or biking around town.

The thing about Kailua is its country enough to be country but it’s modernized enough to keep people living here. Although the prices for houses around here are raising dramatically its because it’s a beautiful place. There’s a lot of greenery around here and its easy to “stay local” with beaches in walking distance. The people are generally friendly and we don’t have to worry too much about fights or gangs here.

The environment in Kailua has shaped me to be the person I am today in many ways. The atmosphere is friendly and with good ethics having little bad influences around us. Those that do create these auras are looked down upon but they don’t really care since they’re so messed up.

There are two homeless people in our town known as Mango man and the other I cannot currently recall. Although I’m sure there are more within Kailua, these two are the ones that are mentioned the most. Though they may be homeless, I have heard of numerous accounts where people would give them food and clothing out of the goodness of their hearts. That is generally how most of the people that reside in Kailua are. Even though they may not know you at all they would still be willing to help if they saw you were in trouble. It’s a very caring and etiquette filled environment, which I have reflected by many accounts.

Though Kailua has been the center of my upbringing, I cannot deny the rest of this island. From each area that I have been at I have learned that they each possess their own unique lifestyle. Some of these can include Kalihi: full of gangs but has some awesome breakdancers, Hawaii Kai: lots of cliques but are close to those they befriended and Nanakuli: Very local and a family environment. However, this is not to discriminate against other areas. Everywhere has its pros and cons, including Kailua, which has a good deal of drug abusers and underage drinkers. Kailua may have been where I was raised, But I have also become the person I am today from my travels to the different areas on this island and some on neighboring islands.

Overall, I thought it was a very informative and well-written paper. I clearly see the type of place Kailua is and how it has made you the “helpful” person you wanted readers to see you as. I enjoyed the stories about your messy house and Mango Man. I didn’t really see your purpose in the beginning, maybe you wanted to save it until the end. And, the last paragraph doesn’t seem like a conclusion. It might just be my opinion but it is a good thing. It also brings it all together the way you thought about it.