



Los olvidados / The Forgotten Ones Mohammed Assed

While reading the book *Enrique's Journey* by Sonia Nazario, I was introduced to the extreme amount of violence that is part of the lives of Latin American citizens. Looking into it more, I started to learn about the Mara Salvatrucha gang. The Mara Salvatrucha is one of the deadliest gangs in Latin America. I decided that the theme of my door would be violence. I used red to portray the blood of innocent civilians that is split by the hands of the Mara Salvatrucha. My painting starts out with an "M" and an "S". These initials stand for Mara Salvatrucha. Below the caution tape is a quotation from Enrique, loosely translated to, "they messed me up badly." Enrique is talking about some of the gang members he encountered as he was trying to cross the border. Then, under the quotation is blood that comes from the violence of the gangs and the outline of a dead body with 13 bullet wounds. The violence of gangs like Mara Salvatrucha struck me. The actions these gangs take are very brutal and vulgar. This door demonstrates the brutality and vulgarity of gangs like the Mara Salvatrucha.