

Question A

Intolerance is the reason behind history's worst offenses; slavery and Jim Crow, the Holocaust, the genocides in Darfur and Rwanda, the Ethiopia/Eritrea area, from where my parents immigrated and countless other conflicts around the world today. A college education paired with my future career plans would potentiate my effort to end this cycle of intolerance and its woes aggravated by ignorance and apathy.

Upon graduating from college, in which I will be double majoring in Political Science and International Relations, I plan on spending one or two years in the Peace Corps. I hope to be deployed in the Middle East, or war-torn regions of Africa, such as Congo or Sudan, to serve in any capacity I am capable of. This will enrich my knowledge of international governmental structures, hugely benefiting my career plans. More importantly, this would certainly be a rewarding opportunity to enrich myself with other peoples' cultures, customs, traditions and political beliefs. I would love to teach children in those countries and place my influence in them to grow up as peace loving citizens of their respective countries. Eventually, I plan to return to the world of scholastics in graduate school, at either Georgetown University or Columbia University. While attending graduate school, I wish to hold a position as an international conflict resolution specialist with either the United Nations or the State Department.

In today's headlines, stories of war dominate over stories of peace. The world has not yet fulfilled its potential as a place where equal rights, equal opportunities and peaceful coexistence are golden rules and violence is deemed archaic and undesired. My position as an international conflict resolution specialist would allow me to contribute my share in promoting peace and prosperity. I would be the difference between a world on the brink of an arms race and a diplomatic world where a round table discussion is more effective than any Weapon of Mass Destruction. It would be a privilege to work with human rights experts to ensure that young girls in Afghanistan and Iran can confidently walk to school without looking over their shoulder for fear of being attacked, and that women and children in central Africa are not being exploited, raped and maimed as collateral damage of an unrestrained blood diamond market.

I know that my future is in my hands, and it is only a matter of time and dedication before my hopes are realized.