

I find that the most important thing about a higher education to me, particularly a liberal arts education, is the pursuit of truth and knowledge. However, exactly what to do with such knowledge that we may discover has always remained a mystery and the decision varies from person to person. For me, higher education and the pursuit of knowledge are self-rewarding. I no longer believe that our education must take on a sort of utilitarian aspect of sorts; needing to do something in our careers related to our education in order for it to be meaningful. I believe we should not only pursue knowledge for any personal gain that might be had but rather for the sake of knowledge needing to be pursued. It is within this pursuit of knowledge that we find the true benefits of higher education. Higher education, in and of itself, teaches us a certain degree of personal responsibility, intellectual integrity, how to write, how to read, how to think. In short, higher education in its pursuit for truth shapes us and molds us into better individuals. We become more responsible, intelligent, active citizens capable of seeing multiple sides of any issue that we may face individually or collectively and be able to find a solution.

Yes, when I graduate college I hope to use my education to be an intelligent and capable officer of the U.S Army. I then hope to get involved once again in politics, dedicating my life to public service and work on making legislation aimed at helping the American people, fighting corruption at every level of government, and defending our individual rights and liberties. I will admit these are lofty goals that I can only hope to accomplish by working hard and studying now in college. But yet still these goals pale in comparison to the importance of discovering truth and forming myself into a good and intelligent man. No matter what I may do with the degrees I receive matters to me if I don't use the opportunity afforded to me by my education to form myself into a man of strong moral character, that has a love for learning, is kind, caring, responsible, and humble. There is a responsibility that comes with the blessing of knowledge and

truth since not everyone has the opportunity to receive a higher education. I firmly the first and most important responsibility of knowledge is to use it to shape ourselves into the people we need to be in the future for not only our families but our country and the world as a whole. That, at the end of the day, no matter what we choose to do, we should be honorable and virtuous people as we do it teaching others to do the same. And the only way to discover what that entails is through education.