

El Paso County Sheriff's Officers Association

Scholarship Essay

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Keep Moving Forward

Throughout the early years of my life, there were many times that I have struggled and found it very difficult to get back on my feet. No matter how hard I would try, something would hold me back and would not let go, leaving me to dwell on my past. Walt Disney once said, "Around here, however, we don't look backwards for very long. We keep moving forward, opening up new doors and doing things, because we're curious... and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths." I knew that I could not let anything hold me back from pursuing my dreams, but that I have to keep moving forward, opening new doors and opportunities in order for me to reach my goals.

While growing up, one thing that I have learned to overcome is bullying. The very first time that I have ever been bullied was when I was in kindergarten and was a new student in a new school. I was not outgoing but very shy and timid, making me an easy target for one of the popular girls in the class. Her bullying me had affected me so harshly that I would beg and cry to my mom to never let me go back into that classroom because of nightmares I would have of how the day ahead of me would turn out. I could not avoid the terror for long and eventually had to go back to school and at a very young age I learned to turn my weakness into one of my greatest strengths. No matter how many times my bully would tell me that I am "stupid" or "dumb", I wanted to prove her wrong and I did so by earning the highest grades in class. As the years went by, the bullying had continued but I would stand back up on my feet and I kept moving forward.

Till this day I still get bullied and for the times that I struggled to get back on my feet on my own, I went to the help of my best friend. My best friend, Misael, is the type of guy that would hardly give me advice, but would make me laugh and forget about my problems in the first place. He taught me that although we are going through a tough time now, we have to take the time to appreciate the better things in life. Misael and I would stay up and talk for hours, thinking about how each of us will pursue our dreams and how our future will look like. I know our future is never certain and I was very ignorant of that fact... until the day my best friend past away. Misa was my greatest role model. He inspired and impacted my life and knowing that I could no longer be able to hug him after a long hard day had taken me to a deep state of depression. After three months of grieving in the silence of my room, I knew that I wanted to inspire and impact many people like he has done for me.

Once I had gotten back on my feet, I knew that I have become a stronger person. I was able to stand up on my own even after losing the one person who could make me smile no matter what situation I was going through. Becoming a stronger person not only made me a better person, but it made me appreciate the life that I have and to work hard for the future that I have always dreamed of. Many people describe me as an overachiever because I am. I work hard so that I know in the end all the torment and pain was worth it. Although these events plus many more had caused so much pain, I know that I could never take it back. I have learned to take my weaknesses as my strengths and use them to my advantages in my schoolwork and life. "Keep moving forward" has been a quote and motto I will always stand by because no matter what life brings to me, I will keep moving forward.

