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Drug Free Scholarship Essay
How has Drug Free Clubs of America affected or changed your school?

In 2019 as a freshman, I joined Drug Free Clubs of America. My attitude at first was that it was just something fun to do. Quickly, I began to realize that it is about so much more than that. I personally have been around drugs my whole life so I thought "what's a little club going to do for me". I thought "what can some club do for the overdose of my dad"? "How is it going to help me"? Well, "little" is nowhere close to what DFCA is. When you join DFCA, the club has this effect of drawing you into the lives of others and their stories. Telling my own personal story was never something I had been interested in but my school's chapter is full of supportive people. As a kid in high school not everyone is close as friends so you don't know their experiences. In the club it is others encouraging positive behaviors and looking over each other to say no to drugs and bad choices. People who I never thought I would be friends with, I have been brought together with them through our similarities. One of my fondest memories of DFCA was speaking at the rally and after I finished I was crowded by people crying and hugging me. I had never felt so loved and cared for more than in that moment. I joined the club to have fun but it's more than that. I wanted to find acceptance because I had felt like an outcast but in my school's community, really the people without experiences with drugs are the outcasts. Today our schools are surrounded by drugs. Most people would say that drugs are an "adult problem" but it really starts with teens in schools. You see great kids getting in with the wrong crowd and my sister was one of them. She got in with the wrong crowd and started doing drugs. It went from her wanting to go to college to be a doctor, to her dropping out of highschool and now in a women's prison. With my parents and my sister, I have seen it all. There is opportunity through the difficulty. Drugs are hard, they consume you and your life. Not only the person doing drugs but others who surround them. My school gives endless opportunities for those who take that path. Because of DFCA students encourage others and they are a positive helping hand to those who need it. So when I thought that Drug Free Clubs of America was just some little club I was mistaken. I am an ambassador at my school and to be in with such a group of people has not only affected me but it has changed my whole school. Being drug free is something that my school takes pride in and we are loud and proud when it comes to promoting it. Being drug free in schools helps me to also be a better student and a better classmate. Although I love all the perks we have, I love seeing others deciding to bring their best self forward and join in on being drug free. My father may have died from drugs but he would be proud of who I am and what I am part of at my school. Not only for me, but for students to have a better life, DFCA is where they need to be. I have found the best friends because DFCA has brought us together. I have a better life and want more for myself now. My school without DFCA would not be the school that I know it is. I have seen students brought together for the better and it is a great youth program that I am beyond thankful and proud to stay that I am a part of. Drug Free Clubs of America's positive encouragement and effects is what every school needs.