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Drug Free Club Scholarship
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12th Grade

Drug Free Clubs of America

While growing up, I saw many of my friends and family abusing drugs. It caused a lot of chaos for me as a child. I watched a family member struggle with addictions. Their struggles affected me and my siblings negatively. Being surrounded by drug use and abuse put a lot of peer pressure on me. I knew that I needed to find a way to get myself away from that and surround myself with the right group- a group that made positive choices where drugs were concerned.

Thankfully, I entered Dayton High School as a 7th grader and was asked to join the Drug Free Clubs of America. As soon as I got the form to apply into it, I brought it straight to my dad and had him sign it. The Drug Free Club gave me a reason for being able to say I cannot do drugs because I will be tested. I am also an athlete. Sports are an important part of my high school experience. I chose to make good choices to remain healthy and drug free. To this day I am still an active member of the club and partake in various activities. I also try and help convince others that I know use drugs to join the club.

Since joining Drug Free Club, it has highlighted the negative effects of drug use and how it can affect my family, friends and myself. When I joined I did not believe that I could learn anymore about drug use until I joined this club. Participating in recreational drug use can easily lead up to wanting to use more, become costly and affect my lifestyle.

The effects of drug could be lead into wanting to use more frequently to where having to use is the only thing that can help me function throughout the day is something that I never want to experience. An experience that I have lived through is having to watch my mom be charged with a felony for being in possession of marijuana. This experience showed me that receiving a felony can affect my future by not being able to receive specific jobs that I have dreamt of having.

I have learned how costly using drugs can be which would affect my basic needs being met. By participating in the club, it has affected me by reducing the need to try drugs which reduced my chances of becoming addicted as an adult. After being a part of the club for 6 years, I know that participating in drug use will not only affect my life but those closest to me. It has encouraged me to want to do better from seeing past experiences and how it can tear families and friends apart. By not using drugs it has allowed me to focus on academics and sports that will guarantee a healthier lifestyle and better future. Due to not using drugs, it has given me a chance to further myself and not give up the possibility of a better future for myself than I believed could be possible. When the time comes to start a family, I am going to teach my kids about the affects of drugs and persuade them to join the club in hopes it benefits them mentally and physically in the ways it has for me.

Overall, drug free clubs of America has been one of the best decisions that I have made in my early adult life. Joining the club has encouraged me to not make the decisions that my family and friends have made. By joining the club amazing acts of service have been accomplished and I know to stay clear of participating in drugs.