**Yale’s extensive course offerings and vibrant conversations beyond the classroom encourage students to follow their developing intellectual interests wherever they lead. Tell us about your engagement with a topic or idea that excites you. Why are you drawn to it? (250 words or fewer)**

“What are you wearing to Alyssa’s birthday party next week?” my friends texted me.

In a panic, I rummaged through my wardrobe trying to find something to wear.

“I have no clothes” I complained. And I would always come into a conclusion that I needed to buy another black dress, despite the mountain of clothes on my bedroom floor.

However, Covid caused me to do a 180.

During the lockdown, I had nowhere to go so I stopped shopping for clothes and decided to declutter my closet. Where did that lead me? Well, I eventually found that I had five pairs of the exact same sweatpants and around twenty identical black tank tops. So I jumped on the “thrifting” trend that consumed Tiktok and Instagram the past months.

As I noticed the slow-changing trends in streetwear I decided to research more on this topic by reading various articles on the social and environmental impacts fast fashion has. There on, the underlying benefits behind “thrift culture” became apparent to me.

I was at a crossroads.

Guilty of the negative implications of something which brings me so much happiness. Does this make me a bad person? Consumed by my guilt, I was adamant to find ways to revolutionize the fashion industry.

I became passionate to introduce sustainable fashion to the Indonesian fashion community. Being a founder of the Fashion marketplace, ‘Ourdrobe’ that focuses on the ecological and social impacts of fashion, I want to continue this movement by spreading awareness of the unseen implications of fast fashion, especially the environmental impacts.

I hope to share tactics of “thrift culture” to advocate the slow fashion movement, whilst showcasing the amalgamation of art, business, and culture in fashion. and to take part in evolving the industry to meet the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals.

Hi Raisa!

I think this is a great experience that would light on your creativity and development of intellectual interest.

In terms of the word count, I suggest to cut the ones I highlighted yellow to allow enough words on your engagement with the idea and the reasons behind your interest. ☺

All the best, Raisa!