The Beginning

On July 14, 1993, a young couple rushed to the hospital to begin what they believed to be the next chapter of their lives. The girl—afraid and in pain—was understandably agitated as the boy—nervous and also afraid—couldn’t help but blabber complete nonsense the entire day. Somewhere in between these wasted words, my sister and I were born. In that moment, it seemed to the young couple as if they truly had entered the next chapter of their lives. The one in which they settled down and raised a family together.

That belief, however, was short-lived, as they filed for divorce shortly after. The result was a fragmented family with an unjust distribution of responsibility. The young girl, just a few years shy of my own age, assumed responsibility and essentially embarked on that chapter alone.

Although the memories I have of my childhood are few and far between, looking back, I can’t help but appreciate my mom for single-handedly and even-handedly raising two children. Despite being raised in a less than ideal atmosphere, not having finished college before our births, and working low-wage social service jobs throughout my childhood, she provided for the family with very little outside assistance.

Not only that, but she managed to raise me and my sister equitably. When faced with a decision of whom should receive what, she always approached the situation by weighing the outcome of previous decisions, as if keeping a mental tally. Moreover, she would always explain her rationale for her decision. Her efforts to treat us justly can only stem from the unfair treatment she received as a child. Which, although unfortunate, created a sense of justice that she practiced in her career and within her family. I have no doubt that my sense of fairness

The Awakening

**-Drawn to philanthropy and helping the unfortunate**

**-Motivation for studying economics**

After having spent my entire life in the same city, I was eager to escape, denounce everything I had come to learn, and start anew in my new home: Charlottesville, Virginia. However, as I soon came to realize upbringing plays a significant role in who you are and what you value. Most of my college classmates could care less about generosity towards strangers or equality and fairness for all. Instead, their worldview seemed to focus more on personal enrichment and entitlement, which completely contradicted the selflessness exemplified by my mom and the attitude of servitude taught in the south.

Amidst this environment, I began volunteering at various social enterprises designed to serve the oppressed members of society. The more I volunteered, the more I realized just how unfair the world could be. After making several weekly transitions from the opulence of my alma mater with its wealthy student body to the starkness of homeless shelters, orphanages, and refugee classes and their limited resources, I started to develop a greater sense of

The Philosophy

**- Make decisions based off 🡪**

**-Fairness = access to opportunity**

The Future

**-Tech fosters learning environment 🡪 makes mobility possible**

**-Economic mobility = power in capitalist world**

Given the dominance of capitalism internationally, oppressed populations can only increase their share of power through economic mobility, which is usually preceded by proper education. Fortunately, technology (the Internet, in particular) has proven its ability to provide unlimited access to unknown opportunities, traditional sources of education, and—most importantly—unorthodox ideologies. In fact, through constant exposure to different ideologies, the oppressed will naturally begin to challenge their original worldview by taking an active role in reshaping their reality—and ideally, the reality of their oppressed peers.

This is why I want to learn web development. It’s a skill that empowers people to become creators. It’s a tool that endows its user with the ability to create

IN an unfair world grappling with the appropriate distribution of wealth (i.e. power) between the oppressed and their oppressors, technology

This is why I want to learn web development. For me, technology is a way of leveling the playing field between the different classes in society. Actively working in the tech industry