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Core Value Reflection

Of the six Aggie core values, I find loyalty to be of the highest personal relevance. To me, being loyal means developing deep interpersonal connections and holding on to them even when it is in your best interest to do otherwise. For example, back home in high school, I had a small but very close circle of friends. We had all the characteristics of a typical group of close friends; we shared countless laughs as well as moments of sorrow, and we knew each other’s lives like the backs of our hands. To be completely honest, I took my friends for granted for too long, and it was only when my friend went through a breakup that I realized how important loyalty is. Breaking up is emotionally difficult, but my friend had me and the other guys to support him emotionally. Nobody likes hearing about someone else’s emotional distress, but as someone very close to him, I felt that it was my responsibility to help him through his struggle. At this point, I realized that loyalty is what builds relationships. Furthermore, as someone who subscribes to a secular existentialist worldview, having deep connections with a found family helps me affirm and ascribe meaning to life.

As I have already stated, loyalty develops relationships and ultimately trust. Professionally, embodying loyalty and gaining others’ trust will hopefully give me an easier time looking for internships or jobs through deeper connections in the professional space. Personally, embodying loyalty provides me with a circle of solid people that I can rely on, as well as meaning in the face of the world’s deafening silence.