

I have always had this need to feel connected to the world around me, be it through community activities or through writing about world issues. I still remember the trigger that motivated me to embark on the journey of self discovery through writing and research. As part of my Media Studies course in school, I was required to write an article on the state of the pharmaceutical industry in India and I recall thinking that this would be a boring assignment. To my surprise, I found that as I delved deeper into the topic I started enjoying my exploration especially of the economics that governed the industry. In retrospect, this moment truly inspired me to speak out about social and economic issues through writing. As an avid reader, I have been influenced by the works of Jeffery Archer and Neil Gaiman, who have attempted to bring out the psychological implications of the actions of characters in their stories. I have also learned a lot from their writing styles by understanding how they talk about serious issues without sounding overly dramatic. Coming from a liberal, supportive, and modernistic family, I have grown up with live examples of standing up for what is right, being diligent about my work, and voicing my opinions fearlessly. Their open mindedness has infused me with enthusiasm to actively participate in social work and I have several social activities to my name such as volunteering at the Helping Hand shelter and organizing a health camp for women and children. To continue on my journey of community work and in an attempt to understand various social and economic issues faced by people in different parts of the world, I wish to continue my education in the field of Economics / Social Work.

As a Student Council Member and Sustainability Captain in school, I was involved in organizing several educational events for local communities. One of them was organizing a Health Camp for the women and children of a rural community covering aspects of self care and balanced diet, with a complete health checkup at the end of the session. This was a truly enlightening experience for me as I realized the importance of health education for the upliftment of women in my country. I also served as a Team Member for the Pegasus House community where I actively participated in raising funds to financially support a community school. This gave me hands-on experience in talking to people and influencing them to provide monetary support for a social cause. Another large-scale project that I undertook was to plant a hundred indigenous fruit and flowering trees in a government school campus. This not only gave me the opportunity to take an initiative for the environment, but also helped me conceive, plan, and execute an extensive Green Cover project. Apart from this, I have organized several social events for a New Home shelter for abandoned and orphaned children and served as an active member of the MUN club in high school. I have also had the opportunity to work on my writing interests and have published an ebook on Amazon comprising of my poetry collection.

Wanting to continue working with people belonging to different communities in my region, after completing high school, I decided to pursue Economics for my undergraduate studies. This course seemed a lot more applicable to everyday life and it gave me the chance to understand the hierarchy of the entire social system and specific means by which changes can be made for the upliftment of the downtrodden. During this period, the most relevant course for me was Development Economics as it covered important aspects of the issues faced in developing countries, how they are born, and how they can be overcome. I particularly enjoyed learning about the theories that govern the development of economies in the society and what can be done to reduce the financial gap between various communities. Another course that I thoroughly enjoyed was Media Studies which focused on Journalism

and Writing. Through this subject, I was able to understand the events taking place in the world and the triggers that led to political and social occurrences.

My passion for writing about current events led me to get involved in writing for the news site in my University and cover events conducted by various groups in my campus. This not only helped me develop objective writing skills but allowed me to form a strong professional network with people belonging to different educational and cultural backgrounds. In order to get a feel for the corporate work culture and hierarchy, I did an internship at Varthana, Bangalore, where I managed and categorized client files in the Operations department. Given my passion and background in writing, I wrote blog articles for the company website and this gave me in-depth experience in blog writing for a company. To get further experience in the corporate world, I did another internship at Airtel, Gurgaon, where I performed research on cost efficiencies in the Finance department. This internship gave me experience in gathering information and analyzing it to draw meaningful insights for the growth of the company. Eager to enrich my writing experience and develop my writing skills further, I worked as an intern at Amicret, Bangalore, where I was involved in content writing and editing for the company. Apart from these, I have served as a Board member for a Peer Mentorship Programme, Managing Head for the Arts and Politics Collective – Razaai, and participated in an economics experiment at Ashwini Deshpande. All these experiences have helped shape my professional personality and intensified my passion for community work, economics, and writing.

My undergraduate program in Economics has been instrumental in helping me develop a perspective to view and analyze world events and understand the inter-relationships between various things around us. It has instilled and nurtured in me a deep desire to care for the community and has educated me on the specific ways by which I can gather information to support my views and voice my opinions. One of the important means through which I can achieve this is by writing and reading other people's work to understand different aspects and perspectives of an issue. Hence, in order to remain engaged in social work and to use my education to be a part of the strength of my country, I wish to pursue a postgraduate education in Economics / Social Work. I look forward to using my takeaways from this program to participate in revolutionary movements in my country and the world for a better tomorrow.

In order to fulfill my goal of contributing to the upliftment of my community, I wish to take up a postgraduate program in Economics / Social Work at _____ University. The numerous social activities that I have participated in during my school and undergraduate periods have prepared me to participate in major political and economic issues facing the society. I now wish to acquire experience in working in the corporate environment while at the same time being engaged with social work. I intend to acquire multidisciplinary and multicultural experience by participating in workshops and on-campus activities. Being guided by accomplished faculty such as _____ and _____ at your premises will help me take my projects to the next level and acquire a more comprehensive understanding of the world around us.

My experiences in pursuing social work at different levels at school and college have given me a strong urge to become an active participant in social causes, and I am confident that my aptitude and passion for social work will help me stand out at your campus.