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Humanities

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**Why I Want to Serve**

When I told one of my friends my dream he asked me,

“Why do you want to join the Army? How much do you get paid?” I told him money was not the point. That’s not the reason I want to serve. I want to join the army, not because I want a lot of money, or so I can be the heroic figure in some video game, or because I crave power and glory. I’m not the type of person who thinks that the army is just about shooting guns and blowing stuff up. In real life when you kill an enemy, the world doesn’t say in an artificial robotic voice, “Double kill!” or, “Headshot!” I want to join the Army to fight for our country’s preservation, safety, and freedom. I want to join so I can protect my friends and those I love from the people who make threats against them. I want to join the army because I want to do something more with my life than sit a desk full of papers stacked as high as pancakes. I don’t want my job to make me feel like I’m only doing so much with my life. I want to do something more, something that involves a lifelong challenge. I’m an athlete. I’m not going to let my athletic abilities shrivel up like weeds. I’m going to push them to their limits, challenge myself and improve on them to make myself better and better. Both physically, and mentally.

As Colin Powell once said, “[*A dream doesn't become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination and hard work.*](http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/c/colinpowel385927.html)” However, this dream doesn’t come without risks: ambushes, enemy soldiers, insurgents, IEDs, suicide bombers, but I’m willing to take my chances. And if I do get hurt, or even killed, at least I’ll die fighting for something bigger than I am; my dream.