

MLK Design Seminar
17.922 IAP13
Assignment 3 – Autobiography
M.I.T. Student

I was born in 1993 in Silver Spring, Maryland. I am of African-American and Filipino decent, and I can identify with various communities because of it. I grew up in Capitol Heights, Maryland with my parents and sister who is 2 years younger than me. My parents divorced when I was four, and that experience has led me to become more independent and mature. I now call College Park, MD home, where I live next to convenient public transportation (train station, bus station, highways) to venture out into DC, Maryland, or Virginia.

I have been in private schools for most of my life. Originally, I thought me being left-handed was something that set me apart from my classmates, but as I grew up, racial and gender demographics were more apparent. I was in Montessori schools until the 5th grade, and I appreciated the freedoms of interacting with others not in my grade and not having a strict class schedule. I went to an Episcopal middle school and a Catholic high school which were different experiences for me. Being in new environments was a struggle for me because I always came in not knowing my potential and starting a slow pace in terms of academics. I took public transportation to get to St. John's College High School all four years while most of my friends had school bus or parents to assist them. When things got rough or I wanted something, my mom always told me "it's hard times," and she instilled my drive to not quit and work for what I want. Again, I did not know my potential or about MIT because my school had not sent anyone to MIT for about 10 years prior. A friend told me to apply, and another friend reminded me about the admission decision coming out. I probably would have forgotten about MIT, but today, I appreciate the community here. At MIT, I am a current course 14 sophomore because I want to go to management and technology consulting.

Overall, I am a chill, laid-back person that appreciates good conversation. I watch a lot of sports and have been a committed DC sports fan through thick and thin. I used to wrestle and do judo, but a lower back injury has set me back. I really enjoy swimming and have previously done Navy Seals swim training. I like traveling to tropical places with beaches, listening to and playing music, and just having a good time with others.

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