

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

I was born in Bale, Oromia, Ethiopia, my mother's hometown. My parents had lived and worked there for a few years. I spent most of my toddler years with my maternal grandparents who raised me until I was old enough to attend school. During those years, I was able to be around not only my grandparents but also my aunts, uncle, and cousins. Having these people around me made those years amazing. Once I was old enough to attend school, however, I had to move to the capital city, Addis Ababa, where my parents and sister were living. Though I enjoyed living and attending school in the capital, it wasn't ideal. I was no longer surrounded by my extended family and both my parents had to work so my sister and I were taken care of by a full time nanny.

My family lived in Addis Ababa until 2000 when my parents decided to immigrate to the United States. I was very reluctant to make the move because I didn't like the idea of moving so far away from my extended family. I remember being very upset about coming to the US, but as is to be expected, my reluctance did not make a difference. My father came to the US first and my mother, sister and I followed and settled in Portland, Maine. As one can imagine, this move was a huge change for me. However, I eventually adapted to the new environment. I attended elementary school in Portland before moving to a neighboring town, Westbrook, Maine, in 2003. I lived and attended school in Westbrook until I graduated high school in June 2011.

Currently, I am a sophomore at MIT majoring in Course 2A (mechanical engineering). After having taken a semester of 2A classes, I have decided to concentrate in product design and development. I'm not entirely sure what I want to do with this degree after MIT, but I hope to find something that I am passionate about. I would very much like to work with some sort of global development project at some point in my career, though I don't see that happening until at least 5 years after MIT.

MIT OpenCourseWare
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

17.922 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. IAP Design Seminar
IAP 2013

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.