

Student Name

Professor Name

Course Title

Due Date

### Undergrad Admissions Essay

I was born in Fresno, CA but moved to Indonesia with my family when I was a young kid. I returned to the U.S. last year to attend Robert Louis Stevenson High School in Pebble Beach, CA. In addition to English, I am also proficient in Japanese and Indonesian and am currently learning Chinese. I believe that our life experiences often have a major impact on our intended field of study; in my case, they have shaped my desire to major in Psychology.

I grew up in a city that was neither too big for everyone you met to be a complete stranger, nor small to the extent that there would be nothing interesting to do. I loved the fact that people knew each other by name and acknowledged each other's presence whether on the street or in a Starbucks coffee shop. Being the child of a Chinese-Indonesian father and a Japanese mother, diversity has always been a daily fact of life for me. In Indonesia, I studied at a Japanese school, and one fact many people are not aware of is the cultural and ethnic diversity in Indonesian society. When you live in a multicultural society, you often can't help but notice the difference and wonder how these differences came to be in the first place and what purpose they may or may not serve. In other words, diversity exposes you to different perspectives and helps expand your thinking. These experiences also helped me better understand my own biases and

turned me into someone who doesn't see cultural differences as a problem but instead appreciates the variety they bring into our society.

I have always been interested in observing people and keen to understand their mindset but a guest visit by a psychologist to my school finally made me realize that I also want to become a psychologist. The guest visitor gave us a brief overview of her profession, inspiring me to do my own research. The latter helped me learn about psychology pioneers and the various theories they came up with, and my interest in the field has only grown over time.

I enjoy research but I am also interested in the practical applications of theories. Thus, one of my goals is not only to gain new insights into human psychology but also determine how they could be used to the benefit of the society, such as greater appreciation for diversity and improved worker rights at workplaces.

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