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Personal Statement

Hair is an essential accessory to every girls "look." Most of us find ourselves trying to copy Beyoncé or Rihanna's look, when majority of the time it is unachievable. Black girls are so used to seeing long, straightened her on their role models that they begin to hate what's growing out of their own head. I would know because at one point in time, this was me. In fifth grade, every girl had a

relaxer-unless you were one of the lucky ones who had the long hair with the loose curl pattern, and since I wasn't, I found myself trying to constantly fit in with the norm of straightened hair. Even the teacher's hair was bone straight. This way of thinking followed me all the way until the summer of 2011 when my mom made, in my case, a life-altering decision for my sister and I. She announced that we would go natural telling us of all the horrible things relaxers did to our hair.

Now of course once the news hit me I was completely against it, how could something I have been doing for years be harmful? But my mom being the persuasive woman that she is, convinced us that this is what was best. Naturally, she was right. Going natural has made me into who I am today and even though I still have a long way to go I know I'm heading in the right direction. Yes, the thought of something as simple as hair changing a life sounds almost comical but it has also impacted me in such a positive way. When I was younger I was self-conscious constantly wishing to be anything but myself. The first time I wore my

hair natural in 7th grade I was extremely nervous of what everyone would think. Personally, the hairstyle gave me a sense of comfort like I was finally being myself but of course this feeling was short lived. Walking out of the art room, a boy noticed my new hair and indiscreetly asked what was wrong with it. Any slight increase of self-esteem felt previously was gone. I restlessly awaited for the day to end so I could go home and straighten this mess. Looking back on this now it's almost hysterical to think of how I used to look at myself, especially compared to how I perceive myself today.

When I entered high school, I ignored the negativity and truly came into my own as a woman, and embraced my curls. Now I'm in my final year of high school with a head full of curls and the next step of life quickly approaching. Although hair could not have exclusively prepared me for college, it gave me the experience of finding who I am and what direction I need to take to reach success. I took a leap of faith, which resulted in renewed confidence and I plan on letting that carry me to prosperity at Tuskegee University. .

Goals & Aspirations Essay

When I was younger, my dream job was to be a veterinarian. After that it was a teacher, then a lawyer, and finally in seventh grade I had my heart set on being an actress. Starring in multiple plays, winning first place in speech & drama competitions, and various people telling me I could make it I knew it was perfect for me. For a while, I truly believed it was what I wanted to do. And then the realities of the world began to hit me and once again I had no idea what I wanted to be when I became an adult. For the majority of my high school career I was clueless. It seemed as if everybody had their life all figured out and I was stuck wondering what should I do. Not until recently did I discover that I

wanted to do something that would give me a better understanding on how I can help those around me. Sociology is the study of the development, structure, and functioning of human society. While studying this major I plan to branch out into criminology and focus on becoming a criminal investigator. With this career I will investigate crime scenes and criminals, and with my background in sociology not only will I be able to solve the crime but understand why the suspect did it to further prevent another occurrence. I look forward to studying this in college and starting my future as someone who can make a difference. Although this has not been my lifelong dream, it is something that I truly believe I can do to make a change for the better. My aspirations are to accomplish this goal to the best of my ability, ensuring that my future will be a success.