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Education 111

Dr. Gitau

September 7, 2004

Autobiography

This is a brief autobiographical look at my life that will contain information about my family, growing up, joys, and disappointments, and how I got to Manchester College. My life has been fun filled and exciting. I have experienced more highs than lows, and done more right than wrong. This essay will give you a small glimpse of my past and a vague idea of who I am.

I am the daughter of Mark and Wilma Dennis. I was born on September 27, 1985 at King's Daughters Hospital in Madison, Indiana. I was soon taken to my home in Fairview, Indiana, where I have lived my entire life. My father is a welder employed at Aurora Casket Company, and my mother works in house keeping at Grand Victoria Casino and Resort. I have two brothers Adam, a senior at Manchester College, and Anthony, a fifth grader at Jefferson Craig Elementary.

As a young child, I was my older brother's shadow; I looked up to him. I followed him everywhere he went and tried to mimic what he did. He has taught me much about life and has been a huge support all of mine. We spent summer days playing in corn fields and winter nights sledding down enormous hills in our pasture. I had the perfect childhood, I was able to run around and let my imagination run wild.

When I turned five I was enrolled at Switzerland County Elementary School. Those were years filled with learning, laughter, and fun. I learned basic education skills

that I would build on as I continued through school. I had also learned that there was going to be new addition to our family; my mother was going to have another baby. Anthony, my younger brother, was excited to see the world; he was born two months premature and had to spend the first six weeks of his life in a hospital. Those six weeks were an emotional rollercoaster. However, in the end it all worked out; I have a rambunctious little brother that I could not live without.

In sixth grade I attended Switzerland County Middle School. It had just been built and my class, the class of 2004, was the first sixth grade class to attend. It was an exciting new experience; the students from Jefferson-Craig and Switzerland County were consolidated. I build bases for friendships that have continued to grow and I learned skills that helped prepare me for what lie ahead in high school.

While in middle school my world was turned upside down. My parents were getting a divorce. My family was falling apart and I had no control over what was going to happen. I no longer had a care free world with a perfect family. I was forced to choose between my mother and father. In the beginning I commuted between the two. I stayed with my mother a week and then my father; however, that quickly become old and I wanted a permanent residence, so I chose to live with my father. That decision was the hardest one I have ever made. However, I believe that everything happens for a reason, and while I might not understand it now I am sure that what happened was for the best. I also believe that my parents; divorce has made me a stronger individual.

After middle school I attended Switzerland County High School. There I was very active in athletics, as well as, clubs and organizations. I participated in basketball, track, cross-country, Student Council, Pep Club, Letterman's Club, Fellowship of

Christian Athletes, Prayer Group, and National Honor Society. I believe that by being so active I learned time management and gained self-discipline. I also remained very dedicated to my academics. I tried to take the most challenging courses my school had to offer. I maintained a 3.7 grade point average and graduated with honors.

My senior year was spent applying to colleges and filling out scholarships. I knew I wanted to attend a small school and Manchester seemed like the perfect fit. Here I am able to be in small classrooms and participate in cross-country. I also received the Dean's Scholarship, which helped make Manchester affordable.

I have chosen to major in elementary education due to a love for children. Children fascinate me and I love being around them. I want to make learning fun and enjoyable, I want students to be excited about school, and I want the satisfaction of knowing I made an impact on some child's life.

This brief autobiographical look at my family, growing up, joys and disappointments, and how I got to Manchester College is somewhat of a look into how I became the person I am today. I will never forget my past; there are too many good memories. The road I have traveled has had its bumps, but it has been a blast getting to where I am.