Lauren Ba Janet Rinehart-Kim Biol 294 November 30, 2020

Personal Statement

From a young age, I was always told what to do, where to go, what to be, and that what I wanted, did not matter. I was raised by African parents who instilled their beliefs that a woman should be at home caring for the children and the house. I knew I wanted more for my life and rebelled against my parent's belief and took interest in the medical field. I began watching medical documentaries, shows and live surgeries to familiarize myself with medical terminology and procedures. I informed my parents that I had a passion for medicine and wanted to be a doctor. To my surprise, they were supportive of my decision and encouraged me to pursue my dream.

When I was in the 11th grade, I attended a medical seminar at Old Dominion University where I was able to observe and manipulate cadavers and listen to lectures from doctors, medical professors, and medical students. My interest in medicine reached a peak and I knew that this was the path I wanted to take. I talked to many doctors about their experience before, during and after medical school and asked for any advice that could benefit me on my path.

I decided to apply for Old Dominion University, and about a month later, I received my acceptance letter from them. I am now enrolled as a full-time student at Old Dominion University majoring in biomedical science with an emphasis in pre-health in hopes of pursuing a medical career. I believe that my calling is to be a gynecologist and obstetrician. I want to advocate for women's health and eventually open my own practice that is affordable for women

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and babies who are underprivileged and in need assistance and basic necessities for women's health and pregnancy.

In conclusion, I am appreciative that my parents have broken the social stigma and allowed me to pursue my calling. I can do all things through God because he will never put me through something I cannot handle. I know that I will be another successful black woman in America and in the end, I will make a difference in medicine and women's health. I am proud to embark on this journey and am privileged to be able to pursue my calling.