

ESSAY PAGE

"My Hero, My Father"

An American Hero in my opinion is someone that is willing to sacrifice their time to assist others. Webster's Collegiate Dictionary defines a hero as a person that is noted for courageous acts or nobility of purpose, especially a person that has risked or sacrificed their life. Many people may consider a prominent civil rights leader, wealthy philanthropist, superb entertainer, professional athlete, U.S. president, or even a notable author as their American Hero. Although there are numerous people that can be titled as an American Hero, my number one American Hero is my father, Fredrick Lloyd.

My father is a true role model that is supportive and encourages me to strive for the best and to never give up regardless of the situation. Although my father is always supportive of me, he is always helping others by imparting valuable knowledge and inspiration into the lives of both young people and older people. My father may not be a well-known author or world leader but he displays the qualities of one. My father has always taught me to be a leader and not a follower. He always tells me, "A leader is not a person that just carries a title but a person that is influential and respectful of the well-being of others." My father has taught me how to be a true gentleman. From him, I learned to open doors for ladies, respect others, care for the elderly, and maintain good character and integrity. Also, my father is very active in the community and gives young teens, whose fathers are not in their lives, the opportunity to have a father figured in their life.

While growing up, my father demonstrated to me how a husband should treat his wife. I have never seen my father disrespect my mother or any other women. My father has treated my mother as a virtuous lady. Regardless of their disagreements on certain issues, his respect for my mother never changes. In addition, he is a man that puts God first in everything he does in life and he has a bible scripture for any situation. For example, if I was wrong and did not want to admit to being wrong or be corrected, he would say, "Be humble, listen to what has to be said and let down your pride." To back up his statement he will use a scripture from Proverbs 29:23 that states, "A man's pride shall bring him low but honor shall uphold the humble in spirit."

Now that I have entered college, my father still gives me encouraging words to help me during times that I have difficult challenges concerning classes or professors. As I get older, I am able to make a smooth transition from a young man into adulthood because of the foundation that my father established inside of me. Truly, my number one American Hero is my father!