

The Greatest Sacrifice

By Hershel Shah

Some people want power. Some people want money. Some people want to live a modest life. I want to change the world. I want to do great things. I want to make a difference.

Despite how conceited it sounds, my goal is to change the world and make a difference. I can't sugarcoat it in anyway. I can't make it seem easier than it is, nor can I tell you that I will achieve it. I know it is arduous and an improbable dream, but the uncertainty makes it worth pursuing. Greater the risk, greater the reward; I'm willing to risk *everything* for my dream. *Everything*.

Changing the world means changing the lives of the human race. Whether it's elevating the human race to newer technologies or uplifting third world countries from the dirt and dust or whether it's elevating the understanding of humans to higher plane, I want to change the world. As a future engineer and programmer, my goal is to change the way humans live, especially those who are barely living in third world countries.

So how does one go about changing the world? Who knows? Each great person in history has changed the world their own way. Einstein solved four of the five great problems in physics in a single year. Galileo's theories were considered heresy in his time, but became universal after his death. Marconi had his invention stolen from him and only was recognized as the inventor of the telephone after he was awarded the Nobel Prize after his death. My guess is that I will have to carve out my own way in life. My activities and goal all contribute to my dream of changing the world.

During my junior year, I took an interesting opportunity from the Rotary Club which aimed to teach the basics of business in a few days. In the summer of my junior-

senior year, I started up The Octopi Project: a group dedicated to promoting and using STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) to change the world. In my sophomore year, I created a cheap fifty dollar wind turbine that would efficiently harness the power of the wind. During my sophomore and freshman years, my friends and I participated in a national high school mathematics modeling contest. As for my dreams, I want to go to Stanford and then start something substantial.

The tools I need for my dream are just inspiration, knowledge, and creativity. Although developing these tools takes a lifetime, I believe that they will help me when the time for them arises. Until then, I need to live life and continue to carve out opportunities. I may not succeed in changing the world, but to me, it is a goal worth sacrificing your life.