

I chose to include this work as both a description of who I am, as well as an example of the zest I bring to assignments in my education. It is a mission statement that I wrote for my Alpha Seminar class.

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I love my life. I love laughing with my friends until we lay gasping for every breath. I love sitting with my brother on a cool granite cliff that juts out of a lush emerald hill, watching the last dying rays of a sunset reflect off of a river hundreds of feet below, talking about philosophy and God.

I love the sanctity and compassion I feel with my knees touching the padding while I kneel in a pew, rosary in hand, admiring and praising my Lord. I love the feeling of adrenaline flowing through my veins when I fly off of a cliff, falling into oblivion. To attempt to quantify my life would be impossible, for I exist in a uniquely qualified state, thus a mission statement would inevitably fail me. I do not live my life for a purpose, rather, I attempt to live my life with purpose. I want to embrace every emotion, every experience, every conquest, and hold it close to my soul. I want to hold it so close that every moment becomes a part of me, defining me by my passion for life and my exuberance to be a part of my life, instead of sitting idle and watching it pass like a faceless stranger on a crowded city street. My unbridled sense of self, as well as my love of community, comes from a childhood that structured my idea of love as this: Love your God above all, love your family with trust and loyalty, love your friends with compassion, and love yourself with respect. Through this principle, I have been able to enjoy life as a type of journey through stages of love. I suppose if I had to define my purpose that would be as close as I could come. My mission is to love, be loved, and eventually find the greatest love of all: a life everlasting, Amen.

Jacob Allyn Beck  
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