

Feature writing and journalism



I recently interviewed a 22 years old woman who is working in an information technology firm as a cleaner. Her name is Linda Brown and she comes from rural Dakota. She has come this far in search of work but unfortunately, a mere school certificate has seriously limited her scope of professional growth. She is highly optimistic and hard working with long term goals. She wants to head a firm one day.

As an orphan, she was twice taken to foster homes where she was ill-treated and had to run away. She always found that foster parents and their children treated her differently. At one home, she was even denied the right to study. She had early realized that education is very important to earn money. After she had run away from her second foster home at thirteen years of age, she had ensured that till sixteen years she would remain at the orphanage and study. Thereafter, she would move to a new place and pursue higher study while working. She had left Dakota when she was sixteen.

She is a very determined young lady who is not only smart but also very intelligent and focused. She does part time cleaning job at the IT firm and works late night shift at the local bar as waitress. As jobs are scarce, she believes that any work would do so far as it is able to pay her college fee. Her black belt in Judo has helped her to ward off the attention of street Romeos and drunkards while working later night shifts or attending night classes of management. She shares her accommodation with two other girls who have now become her best friends and family. While this may not give her the requisite privacy, it nevertheless has helped her to survive in new place

Her short term goal is to get management degree and later do apprenticeship in some established company. She has already talked to her

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supervisor at the IT firm who has assured her that once she gets the management degree, she would be considered. The firm employs young talents and gives them huge opportunities for growth. She had also made friends with many people at the firm who also help her in gaining computer skills. She also believes that campus interview would also help her in getting a job. She therefore has kept her options open. I really liked her focused approach to dealing things and issues. She has her priority well defined and works towards it with utmost seriousness. She tells me that she has already passed three semesters and after fourth one, she would be eligible to apply for junior management position. This is a great achievement, especially considering her background.

She is proud of her work as cleaner and strongly believes that any work done honestly is to be proud of. The salary from cleaning job helps her to survive in this hard conditions and her waitressing job, along with tips, is able to pay for her higher degree. She was not able to get bank loan because despite of having good grades, there was no one take guarantee for her loan. This is very sad because it deprives genuine students of the opportunity for personal and professional growth. But her strong will has enabled her to set goals and achieve them. I am sure that one day soon, she would achieve her ambitions and attain higher social status.

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