

Collegkid,

9/22/13

It's good to hear from you no matter how late the hour, and I'm honored that you've asked me for my opinion.

Social work is a duty & an honor (a gift to yourself as well as others), and one should not limit themselves on how they serve. Your contribution can be more effective if you are well informed and happy in your work. Learning "The System", and working it from the outside of a social worker's office, will afford you the freedom from a broken system, overworked & bogged down by red tape & politics. If you look into the eyes of today's social worker, you'll find the broken spirit of a great humanitarian. They start out wanting to help save the world, but then "The System" beats them down at every turn. There are many great organizations out there performing humanitarian services, and you can choose a few of them to volunteer for in your spare time. Keep in mind though, that you can't neglect your studies (education is important), and you can't save everyone ( but it doesn't hurt to try). So find a healthy balance in the pursuit of your dreams, and follow that yellow brick road. Try a summer internship at a Dept. of Human Services agency for the experience. Your school bulletin board may provide some suggestions. This will not only look good on a resume, but you will also gain valuable insight on how "The System" fails us, and how you can make it work for you. Overseas service is a little dangerous right now, but you may be able to find "Kenya" calling if you can find a "Red Cross" group with your safety in mind. Your school or church may have a missionary trip you could join. Short term commitments right now could provide you with the experience & insight you need to help you make your future plans. Also, consult your school counselor for guidance, and be sure to check out your selections--there's a lot of bad people out there. Finally, "Networking" is an essential tool to making connections & getting things done.

Good Journey:)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Daniel Sawyer". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned at the bottom right of the page, below the main body of text.