

Second place, Jeishlamar Rojas

Susan B. Anthony once stated "There is just one thing that makes your dream become impossible: the fear of failure".

In the present, many students won't chase their dreams because they are afraid to fail.

Many students would be afraid to encounter challenges in education and won't even try to pursue a career because of the fear we face every time we are in doubt. Doubt is our biggest enemy because we, including myself, try to put limits to our future. We constantly question ourselves if we are ready for challenging classes. Will we be able to handle the work? Will we even graduate from college if we try? I state "we" in each question of doubt because I myself have doubted if college is worth the tears and hard work. I have questioned myself many times wondering if I am able to be successful in a career I want to excel in. Throughout my High School experience and I can even say throughout my whole life I have proved myself wrong in each doubting question that I ask myself.

My first encounter of doubt I have faced was when I moved to New York after leaving my home town in Puerto Rico. English was very hard for me to comprehend. Struggling and being behind all my peers was so devastating. Devastating in the sense of I was encountering self doubt and kept telling myself I am going to keep failing if I keep trying to learn this new language. I wanted to give up because I did not understand why I was taking so long to catch up but then I realised that it was not a race everybody has their own pace. I constantly reminded myself that if I kept doubting my ability to learn it would never happen. Now older and being a senior in High School I arn able to say that doubting yourself is the worst thing you can do. I also doubted myself in school. My counselor and parents always try to reinforce in me a hard work ethic, and because of it I am able to succeed. Taking advanced classes in High School was a blessing but also an experience where I learned more about myself. Self motivation was my key to success.

Thoughts of how I would be able to handle all this work in college and how am I going to pass classes knowing I am going to face hard situations made me question if college was for me. Feeling like you never have time and your running on little time is even worse, but the truth is college is for everyone who puts their mind set to a goal. High School and all the advanced classes I have taken has proven me I will be able to handle the work because I know I want to be more in life. Success is what I crave and that is what I would seek for and not being afraid of failure is a big step. Failing in life is normal, many people fail. People like Oprah Winfrey, Stephen King and others have failed at least once in their lifetime but they never stopped trying. The key to life is to never try to doubt your abilities because every time you fail you find one way not to do what you are trying to achieve. Especially for students, failure should never be something you are afraid of it should be a way you learn not to do something. College and the work should never be something you are afraid of it should be a motivation to manage time wisely and to teach you how to make decisions. It is always okay if you fail but that should not be a reason for you to stop trying. Your dream is never impossible if you never give up trying and this is why I can agree with the quote Susan B. Anthony stated because even herself kept fighting for what she wanted even if she had understanding it was going to be difficult.