

JOSH D. SHAPIRO

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INTERESTS

I want to dedicate my life to ending social injustice in society. This commitment has evolved from several different experiences, including reading the works of philosophers and statespersons; the development of a tailored major in Social Thought and Analysis targeting nonviolent conflict resolution, morality, ethnics; relevant internships and international travel. The vehicle I've chosen to accomplish this aim is an academic career in sociology because of the explanatory power of group dynamics in analyzing causes of conflict.

GOALS

My goal is to be a professor of sociology conducting research and teaching. I intend to focus on nonviolent approaches to conflict resolution, war and peace, collective memory, nationalism, and ethnic identity formation. In particular, I would like to refine and extend the theoretical model of conflict mediation I developed in my Honors thesis as well as study its implications for developing innovative and more effective real-world interventions. I envision this program of study will prepare me to make a substantial contribution at both the national and international levels.

EDUCATION

Washington University in St. Louis (B.A. Cum Laude August 2004)

Major: Social Thought and Analysis (GPA in major: 3.8)

Double Minor: History and Legal Studies

Laguna Beach High School (graduated June 2000, Summa Cum Laude)

Attended the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) in Alaska, Summer 1999

AWARDS RECEIVED

- Selected as a finalist for CORO—public policy fellowship. Spring 2004
- Selected as a member of the Social Justice Institute. Provides seed money to carry out a project related to ending injustice in the St Louis community. Fall 2003-Spring 2004
- Single recipient from the junior class of a monetary award from the CHIMES Honor Society at Washington University to cover expenses for summer internship. Interned in Washington D.C. at Search for Common Ground. Fall 2003
- Awarded grant for research in Macedonia from the International Activities fund at Washington University. Fall 2003.
- Received recognition from the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity through the international essay contest on ethics. Was a semi-finalist out of over 450 applicants from universities around the World. Fall 2003
- Elected to Kai committee of my fraternity Beta Theta Pi. This is the Judicial branch of the fraternity. 2002-04
- Washington University Dean's List Spring 2002; Winter, 2002; Spring 2003; Winter 2003; Spring 2004
- Festival of the Arts Scholar in Writing; received a monetary award for excellence in writing. 2000-2003
- Kauffman Fellowship (Kansas City); administered through the Anderson Graduate School of Management at the University of California Riverside. 1999-2000
- Regional Occupational Program (ROP) Student of the Year for Laguna Beach High School. 1999
- Best ROP student in Small Business Management. 1999
- Received monetary award for college scholarship from National Endowment for Financial Education. Essay on financial literacy received 2nd place out of over 1,200 applicants nationwide.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Member, Americorps: National Community Civilian Corps (NCCC).

Stationed in Charleston South Carolina; worked on community projects such as rebuilding houses, education in low income areas, repairing forest trails, and volunteer work at the Children's hospital. Training in CPR/First Aid. September 2004-June 2005.

Internship, International Center for Conflict and Negotiation (ICCN), Republic of Georgia.
Worked in the Religious Intolerance Unit. Responsible for research on current violence related to religious fundamentalism and orthodoxy in Georgia. Summer 2004.

Editor, CaucasUS Context published by the US-Caucasus Institute for Strategic and Cultural Studies.
Helped edit Issue #2, 2004 pre-publication. Also helped with transcription of interviews and research for future articles. Spring 2004

Internship, Search For Common Ground
Worked in the Southeast and Eastern Europe sector primarily focusing on Macedonia and Ukraine. Responsible for conducting research on the current state of affairs in each country; preparing reports for funders; and finding new grant resources May-August 2003

Counselor, RAVEN (Rape and Violence End Now).
A non-profit federal and state funded nonviolent community approach to domestic violence. Counseled men in nonviolent alternatives to their current abusive behavior. Participated in Missouri Coalition of Domestic Violence training as well as RAVEN training. May-August 2002.

Employee, Hi-Tec Copier
Responsible for design projects for customers, including posters, lamination, and creating booklets. August-January 2001-2002

Internship, Performance Racing
Learned the “ins-and -outs” of an entrepreneurial company. Worked in all departments including: sales, marketing, graphics, customer service, and financial records. 1999-2000

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

- Participated in an institute on Emerging Democracy and Civil Society in the Republic of Georgia. Studied on a theoretical level how a successful democracy originates. Concurrently, studied on an applied level these ideas by meeting with both the political elite and local citizens who were responsible for the Rose Revolution. Summer 2004.
- Selected as one of fifty delegates to attend an international conference on Human Rights and American Responsibility held at Northwestern University. Issues explored included universal human rights v. local culture expression, causes of genocide, and alternatives to military intervention. Spring 2004
- Selected by the Hillel branch of St Louis to attend the Spitzer conference on Social Justice held in Boston. Dealt with how to prepare students to become activists on their campuses and in the local community by mobilizing efforts for social justice projects. Spring 2004
- Attended an International Conference on Morality and War, held at the Army War College in Pennsylvania. Major themes explored were nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, asymmetrical warfare, and whether there can be an international consensus on the moral aspects of war. Spring 2002
- Participated in a nuclear studies institute sponsored by American University; traveled throughout Japan. Visited Hiroshima and Nagasaki, met with the mayor and Hibaksha (A-bomb survivors). Studied the present situation of nuclear weapons proliferation and how peace can be achieved through open dialogue between nations. Summer 2002.
- International Travel: Israel, Egypt, Mexico, Japan, Italy, Republic of Georgia, Greece, Hong Kong, China, and Thailand.

PUBLICATIONS

- Undergraduate Honors Thesis: “Collective Memory as a Contributing Determinant of War and Peace: The Case of Ethnic Relations in Macedonia.” Published by Washington University Library. May 2004
- Opinion editorial: “A polemical society?” Published: Monday, April 19, 2004 Washington University Student Life
- Opinion editorial: “The need for a more global approach to patriotism” Published: Wednesday, March 3, 2004 Washington University Student Life
- Opinion editorial: “A polemical society?” Published: Monday, April 19, 2004 Washington University Student Life
- Opinion editorial: “Intelligence without wisdom: a deadly combination” Published: Wednesday, January 28, 2004 Washington University Student Life