

February 14, 2012

Dear Mrs. Vuong:

This letter is in regards to our daughter, Robin. Three adjectives that describe Robin best include: determined, dependable, and compassionate.

Robin has been highly successful in speech and debate. She also received state recognition for reading comprehension when she took the ACT in seventh grade for Duke Talent Program. What most people do not know about her is that she has had to overcome two major obstacles in her life. First, she was diagnosed in second grade with a reading learning disability. She was tested at West Virginia University where it was determined that although her IQ qualified her for the gifted and talented program, the difference between her verbal and reading score was statistically significant. Evidently, she was one of few readers who are not a phonetic reader, but actually the type of reader who needed to memorize all the words she read. She was tutored for a year, and in that year alone, she raised her reading comprehension score from the 20th percentile to the 70th percentile. The second obstacle Robin has had to overcome is her speech disability. She had a slight lisp and spoke fast which made it difficult for many people to understand her clearly. Speech therapy and hours of practice have helped her overcome that disability to achieve great success in speech and debate.

Because of her ability to overcome these obstacles, we believe one of Robin's greatest strengths is her determination. When Robin sets her mind to do something, there is nothing that she cannot accomplish. When she was younger, she played on a co-ed soccer team and was much smaller than most on her team. Our friends still tell the story of her getting hit in the nose, blood pouring down her shirt, and her refusing to leave the field because she did not want to give up. Robin attended a law camp after seventh grade, and since then, she has been focused on preparing herself for a career in law. She has earned the highest number of points of her grade for the National Forensic League (the national speech and debate organization) each year in high school. Her awards are too numbers to list, but she has consistently won awards in each debate tournament in which she has competed in the last few years.

The second characteristic that describes Robin is that she is extremely dependable. She holds leadership positions in every organization in which she is a member. Her classmates, as well as her teachers, would tell you that Robin is always prepared. When she participates in debate or mock trial, she is not only personally prepared, but she assumes a leadership role and makes sure everyone else has what they need to compete. For her assignments and exams, she prepares well in advance so that she does not have to rush at the last minute. After Robin's freshman year, she became involved in the Henderson County Teen Court as an attorney. When she first began, the students participating were not professional or prepared. Robin set the standard with professional appearance and presentation, impacting all who have been

involved in that program. She has served as a mentor to other participating students, helping them to more adequately prepare for court.

Compassionate is the third characteristic that best describes Robin. She typically volunteers at least 100 hours per year including service to mission trips, Teen Court, the food pantry, church nursery, and hurricane relief efforts. She is extremely generous with her time and her own money. When she hears of a need, she responds immediately without hesitation. She is passionate about community service and wants to continue those efforts throughout college and in her professional life. Robin also baby sits during the school year and summer for several local families. Those families tell us how responsible and kind she is as she cares for their children.

Other adjectives we would use to describe her include: ambitious, competitive, tenacious and trustworthy. One of Robin's weaknesses is that she expects a great deal out of others and is often disappointed when other people do not work as hard as she thinks they should. She is also sometimes intolerant of other's viewpoints, but mostly when their words or actions hurt others. Her most difficult adjustment in college will most likely be to sharing her room and "space" with someone else. She values her private time and enjoys resting and reflecting on her own.

We have no doubt that Robin will be success at whatever she desires to do in life. She has also given so much thought, time and energy to preparing for a career in law that we believe she will accomplish that goal and have a successful law career as an attorney. We believe she will have a great impact on her community because of her passion for others.