

## **Tatianna Podhradsry Essay**

Preparing to graduate, I look back on the 18 years I have spent in this community. This community has given me a great childhood, and I hope my children can experience the same things. A great number of people who live here have great ethical values including accountability, integrity, and honesty. They are the base of this community and are what have caused it to thrive.

Accountability is the act of being responsible to someone or for some action. This trait I have seen tremendously in the other members of my church. Each Sunday morning I see parents leading their children in a positive way. They strongly believe that being great role models is a necessity if they want their children to grow up with ethical values. When their kids stray from the right path and do something wrong, I see them apologizing for this action and taking this action as their own wrongdoing. Apart from them being great role models, I have also learned from the adults at my church to take responsibility for my actions. They have shown me that as I grow older I cannot blame my actions on somebody or something else. It all comes down to the choice I make.

Integrity is the adherence to moral and ethical principles. Multiple teachers at my school carry this trait. I don't think many students in my high school would be where they are today without the help of these teachers. The ones who really possess this trait become more than just a teacher. They aren't just teaching because it is their job; they are teaching because they really do care about the students. Their integrity has helped me strive to my best and get me through the difficult times. Their honesty has given students a place to learn where they can feel comfortable. Learning becomes so much better when you have great teachers who you can trust to help you through it.

Honesty, the condition of being honest, really has an impact on my community. Honesty allows people to work together and help others. Each week I see community members working together on events in our area. Honesty allows them to freely share their opinions with each other and work toward a great plan. Great community service events have been done that helped others and united our area. This wouldn't be possible without everyone using their honesty to thrive.

Ethical values are what have caused my community to be such a great place to grow up in. It has turned a small town in the middle of nowhere into a wonderful place of unity and possibilities. Adults have accountability, integrity, and honesty gives children great role models to follow. Every day at school I see high school students begin to take these traits in to their own lives as many mentors to younger students in their free time. Ethics in my community has formed me into the person I am today.