

**NATIONAL JOB CORPS ASSOCIATION
FUTURE OF JOB CORPS ESSAY**

By Kim Martin
Cincinnati Job Corps

I come from pain...from scars...from a fight I thought I'd never win.....
I come from fear & hurt...from abuse & lies...I come from a world split in two...
One was imaginary, third person words on paper, all my hurt spilled out like blood
across the paper...All of my fears were revealed to the world under a different
name, from a different time...
The other world I occupied was a reality I tried to hide, a world where I feared for
my life & was broken inside...Then I was lost, helpless & alone...For a time, I
didn't want to survive, I wanted life to be easy...I wanted a normal family without
abuse...I wanted my life to end...

But, I survived...I have learned to cope with both the mental & physical scars of
my past...I have found strength from the hurt & ink from the pain...My two
realities are one & the same...
No longer broken, I have found my chosen path & have begun a long journey
toward happiness & peace for myself & help & encouragement for others...Job
Corps has helped me find my stride & honestly without this place, I would
probably be dead...I plan to use this time here wisely, I don't want to just survive.

I want to live...Yes, I want to have a family & a husband that loves me, just like
every teenage girl...But, my life will also be devoted to others...I want to make a
difference...I want to make a change...I want to become a speaker against
domestic violence & suicide...Having gone through it for years, I want to help as
many people as I can break the chain...to gain strength & to find themselves
again... I am Kim Martin, an 18 year old automotive student at Job Corps...and I
plan to make a difference.