

## Museum on Main Street, Smithsonian Institution

### Living in a Small Town Teaches You Loyalty

Hemet, California

Story Narrative:

"You know, I think growing up in a small town has really taught me the importance of loyalty and looking out for one another. It's almost as if the longer your family tree lives in a particular town, you begin to earn a reputation whether it be good or bad. My family has been lucky enough to have a good reputation. I like to think of us as helpful, and kind-hearted. It's as though when people come across you, they say, 'Oh, you're related to so and so.' I'll be like, 'Yeah, she's my aunt and my uncle.' It's almost as if by living in a small town and being so closely knitted together, we as a town, we begin to bond and really get to know people, really get to know each and every individual as a person, as a human being. I think it brings us closer together. That's really important for even a society to thrive. Living in a smaller town has definitely kept me grounded. I'm very, very grateful for that. I'm down to earth. I know that will help me later on definitely."

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