



Abeel foundation scholarship Entry : By Favour Peter

Question - Identify a by-product of systemic racial issues that can limit or even extinguish the Light of Black Youths in a community, and present your one practical solution for addressing it.

Answer - To me a major by-product of systemic racial issues that can dim and or even extinguish the light of Black Youths is Underinvestment in Black Communities. One of the biggest byproducts of systemic racism is the intentional negligence of Black communities and neighborhoods. When it comes to schools, housing, recreation, infrastructure and even the quality of the environment. All of these things are consistently deprioritized and or intentionally dismissed. Because the people who live in black communities are seen as individuals who won't succeed, we tend to get the short end of the stick all the time. This in turn sends a message to the younger generation that their futures are less valuable. Which causes them to pull away because there us limited opportunities for them to shine and grow. To address these issues, policymakers need to prioritize fair and equal funding for education, healthcare, sports, extracurricular activities, the environment and some much more within black communities. So that the younger generation can thrive and grow even more.

My Art Piece - My art piece shows the weight that follows Black youth every day of their lives. We often have to be ten times better than everyone else just to be considered in rooms that we know we belong in. But even so we continue to thrive and grow, building up our communities and looking out for each other. My art piece displays two teenagers walking through a field of grass, attached to them by a red string is a big ball filled with all the negative and hurtful things meant to stop them from achieving greatness. But despite that they keep walking following a butterfly through a door that is much more vibrant and full of life.

Representation:

The door - Black Youths future and goals

The butterfly - People in the community that help them grow and stay on track (Parents, teachers, coaches, etc.)

Red string - An unremovable bind that symbolizes the ties they have to the injustice they face because of systemic racism

Ball of hate - The pressure they have to carry and deal with while striving for their goals.