PRESENTING

ISSUE 2

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON



APA



Theirworld

A ROLE MODEL CAN BE HARD TO DEFINE, BECAUSE IT CAN BE DIFFERENT FOR EVERYONE. YOUR ROLE MODEL DEPENDS AS MUCH ON YOU AS IT DOES ON THE PERSON YOU ADMIRE. IN MY OPINION, IT IS A PROMINENT FIGURE IN YOUR LIFE WHO DOES SOMETHING THAT INSPIRES YOU, OR SOMEONE THAT YOU WOULD LIKE EMULATE.



THAT FIGURE IN MY LIFE IS MY FATHER, SHIVA AGARWAL.



IN DARJEELING WHERE MY FAMILY RESIDES, WE RECEIVE SEVERAL TOURISTS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD THAT VISIT THE TOWN THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. DURING HIS FORMATIVE YEARS, MY FATHER WAS PASSIONATE ABOUT LEARNING NEW AND DIFFERENT CULTURES, SO HE WOULD TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO INTERACT WITH THE TOURISTS AND EXCHANGE PLEASANTRIES IN ORDER TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR VALUES AND TRADITIONS.

HE WOULD COME TO USE THE KNOWLEDGE THAT HE LEARNED OVER TIME TO EDUCATE THE LOCALS THAT WERE RELUCTANT TO MINGLE WITH THE TOURISTS AND BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN THE TWO DIFFERING CULTURES.

AS A YOUNG MAN, MY FATHER TOOK AN INTEREST IN VARIOUS SOCIAL ACTIVITIES. HE TRULY WANTED TO HELP HIS COMMUNITY IN ANY WAY HE COULD, SO HE TOOK THE SPARE TIME HE COULD AFFORD TO DO SO. BUT IN A SOCIETY WHERE MONEY AND POWER WEIGHED SO HEAVILY ON ONE'S STATUS, MY FATHER WAS CONSTANTLY CHASTISED BY HIS FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS FOR HELPING OTHERS INSTEAD OF SEEKING POTENTIAL EARNING OPPORTUNITIES.



REGARDLESS OF WHAT PEOPLE THOUGHT,
HE DID WHAT HE LOVED AND CONTINUED TO STAY SOCIALLY ACTIVE.

GROWING UP, MY FATHER USED TO TELL ME THAT IF I WAS PASSIONATE ABOUT SOMETHING AND WANTED TO CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY IN A POSITIVE WAY, THE UNIVERSE WILL SOMEHOW FIND A WAY TO GIVE BACK IN SOME FORM. WHETHER IT WAS COOKING, LEARNING HOW TO SURVIVE IN THE WILDERNESS, OR SPEAKING DIPLOMATICALLY, ALL THE LESSONS THAT HE HAS TAUGHT ME IN LIFE WAS AN AMALGAMATION OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF DIFFERENT CULTURES HE HAS ENCOUNTERED OVER THE YEARS.



I GREW TO APPRECIATE HIS PENSION FOR EDUCATION, AND TO THIS VERY DAY, HE REMAINS A POSITIVE FORCE IN MY LIFE.



MY FATHER ALWAYS SERVED HIS COMMUNITY WITH A PURE HEART AND THE BEST OF INTENTIONS. THE BYPRODUCT OF HIS CHARITY TOWARD OTHERS HAS INSPIRED ME TO CONTINUE HIS WORK AND USE HIS PASSION FOR EDUCATION AS MY FOUNDATION. AS I LOOK TO THE FUTURE AND THE GOALS THAT I HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH IF GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DELHI. I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT I TRULY AM MY FATHER'S SON.

SHIVA AGARWAL IS, AND ALWAYS WILL BE, MY ROLE MODEL.



OMANG AGARWAL CURRENTLY STUDIES POLITICAL SCIENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DELHI. HE'S A PEACEBUILDER WORKING ON GRASSROOTS PROJECTS IN AREAS OF CONFLICT AND DISASTER THROUGH ADVOCACY ON YOUTH AND PEACEBUILDING EFFORTS

AS A YOUTH AMBASSADOR OF A WORLD AT SCHOOL, OMANG HAS WORKED TOWARDS THE #SAFESCHOOLS CAMPAIGN AND WAS ABLE TO CONNECT 40,000 PEOPLE TO IT. HE HAS COMMUNICATED SUCCESSFULLY WITH GERMAN GOVERNMENT IN ASKING THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT AND CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE GLOBAL EDUCATION FUND.