



This I Believe

[name]

[institutional affiliation]

mycustomessay  
This I Believe

When I consider what motivates me, including my professional passions, and what I believe in, the answer itself is very simple. There are two things which I motivate me and my professional passions and in which I believe: investing in people and mentoring. These two things are closely related and involve focusing one's attentions on people, but there are differences between them which motivate me in different ways. However, I believe deeply in both of them because I believe in people and their capacities.

Investing in people motivates me because I believe people have potential. We are all born into this world with different strengths and weaknesses, and we all face different barriers and challenges. However, I believe that people can, in spite of and even because of, their potential overcome these barriers to realize their capacities and abilities. Investing in people helps them unlock that potential through connecting them with resources – both physical and personal – that can help them identify and realize their goals. Sometimes investing in people is as simple as encouraging them; sometime it is as complicated as helping them pursue an education. Either way, investing in people helps them build their own capital and their own capacities. This helps them become greater contributors to society including helping them invest in other people.

I am also motivated by and believe in mentoring. Mentoring is a form of investing in people but it is much more one-on-one and focused. Mentoring represents a more intimate version of offering guidance to help someone unlock their potential. I see mentoring as a much greater time investment than investing in people. Investing in people can involve setting up workshops to teach people certain skills or connect them with resources. Mentoring means productive, professional coaching. Another difference between investing in people and mentoring is that investing in people can be an ongoing process. However, a healthy mentoring

relationship expires at some point. At some point, the mentee learns to stand on their own and mentor others. They become established individuals in their own right. Their mentor may always be there for the mentee and support and encourage them, but functionally the mentee matures beyond needing the kind of sustained support that many mentoring relationships provide.

Regardless of the differences between these two people-focused approaches, both represent ways of helping people become better equipped to deal with the challenges they face in society, whether those challenges are social, economic, educational, or personal. Helping people equip themselves to face and overcome those challenges is what motivates me. It is what I believe in. Helping people realize and unlock their own capacities and abilities is my professional passion. I want to help people learn what they are capable of; I want to help them access and actualize their own abilities. I want to help them see how they can help others. Most of all, I want to show them that someone believes in and cares about them and their development as individuals. This is my motivation.