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I feel that I have affected quite a few people in my 13 years. Although I have affected many people, today I would like to emphasize how I have and will affect three people. Although there are three people, there are only two stories. Here is the first.

One evening in December of 2007, I was eating dinner with my Mom and my Step-Dad at a place called Cracker Barrel. As we were leaving the restaurant, I happened to notice a giving tree. So, I walked over to the tree just to take a look at the names on it, and one little boy stood out to me. This little boy was seven and all he wanted that Christmas was a blanket, a pillow, and a sheet. The little boy wasn't asking for much so I walked back over to my parents and I asked them if I could grab the little boy's name. They both responded yes.

After I had grabbed his name, we left the restaurant. Then, we went to Big Lots to buy the little boy his gift for Christmas. Once we had picked up the things he had asked for my parents insisted on leaving. This was when I had to make a choice.

The choice I had to make was important. At that time, I spent most of my free time on the computer. My mother said to me that if I gave up my computer privileges for two months I could get the boy a little something extra. At that moment I immediately responded that I would forfeit my time on the computer for two months to make that little boy's Christmas just a little more special.

That day I left the store with not only the sheets, pillow, and blanket that he asked for, but also with a bed spread, an additional pillow, and a stuffed animal. I feel like I made a huge difference in that boy's life. When I really stepped back and looked at that boy's living situation, I almost felt ashamed that I gave up the computer for a bed spread and an extra pillow for that little boy. That is when I realized how privileged I was.

As I mentioned to you before, there was a second story. This is the story where I will affect two people. Although this story will bring me to tears, I think it would be perfect for this application.

I had a very great and close friend named Jacob. He had been one of my best friends since first grade. He was smart and a great friend. Also, he had one of the best personalities that I think anyone could have. One day of the summer in 2007 I got a phone call that changed my life.

That day was one of the most terrible days in my life. Like I said before, it completely changed my life forever. I cried for the rest of the day, it was so devastating. That day I was told that my best friend, Jake and his sister, Sydney, had been murdered by their mother, who afterwards had killed herself.

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Our whole school remembers Jake and Sydney. So this year, in remembrance of our beloved friends Jake and Sydney, six of my friends and I ordered wristbands. The wristbands said "Jake and Sydney Wittich Always in our Hearts." We charged three dollars for the wristbands, but they only cost about a dollar each. So, with the extra two dollars from every wristband, my friends and I are going to give the money to Mr. Wittich, the father of Jake and Sydney. Mr. Wittich, as the gracious person he is, created a scholarship for one boy and one girl at my school. We will give the money to him so that he can use it for next year's scholarship fund. By making the wristbands, I will affect two people's lives at my school.

Again I feel that I have affected many people's lives in my life. Also, I honestly hope to affect a lot more people in my years to come. A way that I know I can affect at least another person in my life, is becoming an organ donor. As a result of what I just said I have recently, become an organ donor.