

A Hero's Influence

By David Feldpausch

“... We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live...” this is the part of the Gettysburg address that has had the best influence on my life and on my opinion of the 16th president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. This part of his speech inspired me because it makes me think that someone that is willing to die for a cause must have great courage in order to give their lives for the people of this country and for their freedom. Abe Lincoln was able to express that through words that made me think that the cause was worth fighting and dying for.

Abraham Lincoln's life has moved me because even though that he was not the strongest, fastest, or the most respected person during his life, but he was by far one of the most caring and selfless people that America has ever had. Just like me he had a rough child hood and not enough education but he was able to beat all odds and became the best president in American history. If he was able to go from dirt poor kid to the president, then I am sure that we can accomplish anything. He inspired me and many people, but the thing that he did for African Americans is by far one of the best things that he accomplished. I learned that ending slavery was not Abraham Lincoln's original goal but he was able to end it anyway and the civil war.

Thanks to him I can go for my goals, even if they seem out of reach for someone like me, and to try and make everyone feel equal, no matter how different they are, and that what I believe in is something worth fighting and dieing for. Abraham Lincoln's death may have been a tragedy but those that fought against him could not stop what he had started. Without Abe we might have not been able to finish what we have accomplished during the years of his death and we probably might have not gotten the African American people to the highest point of government.

If Abe was still alive I am sure that he would be proud of what kind of influence he has had on the U.S. today, and everyone that is gifted to live in it.