

My Personal Experience | **HEATHER J. HELDMAN**

The ethics writing contest presented an exceptional opportunity for me to explore an issue of deep interest and concern outside of the classroom setting. My essay was more political than it was personal. Through writing I was able to draw attention to an issue that receives little international consideration, despite its moral imperative – I hope I can continue to do this in the future. Doing well in the essay contest reaffirmed my belief in the importance of engaging issues of international ethics and justice even when these issues appear distant.

Having the opportunity to meet the other essay contest winner and share our essays with each other was incredibly rewarding and educational. Being able to put a face to each author's name allowed me to develop a stronger understanding of each essay and a greater insight into the lived experiences that motivated such writing.

Meeting Mr. and Mrs. Wiesel was an honor and a privilege - if only all young writers were so lucky. Their work to improve the fate of disenfranchised and marginalized communities worldwide and their persistent encouragement of humanitarianism are inspiring to all.

Heather J. Heldman