

## **Equality Towards Police Officers**

Did you know that Thomas Edward Goodwin was shot in the line of duty and was a U.S. Army veteran and served with the Goshen Police Department for 8 years? Police officers have a big impact in our society, whether they help find a missing person or they help save someone's life, and as a community, I believe that we should show the equality and freedom that our police officers deserve. My own father is a cop, and there are many hardships that police officers have to go through. But a problem in our community is saying that police officers don't do anything to help our society, but all those things are not true, police officers have such a big impact in our world.

When my dad first became a police officer, I didn't know much about it. But as the years went on, I finally came to realize what they actually have to do. Some people say that police officers don't have an impact on us, but they do! For example, recently a girl went missing in Goshen. My dad and other cops stayed an extra 9 hours just to make sure she was safe with her family. I will say not all police officers are all good, but the good cops are the ones that impact us the most.

One of the biggest fears that people have is losing a loved one, and to me, that is very true. When I wake up each morning, I wonder if my dad is going to come home today. And the answer to that is I don't know. You never know what can happen when being a police officer; something could happen unexpectedly and you could be out of time. Some police officers may just want to be a cop for the money or the fun of it, but if you would really appreciate the effort that police officers show to us, then you would probably realize that the good police officers are the ones that put in the effort to help you.

One of my favorite things that the police officers of Goshen do is that every year around Christmas they take a child or two that can't afford much or that have been in past trauma and they take them back to the police station, and they get food and get to hang out. After that they get a budget of around \$100, and the kids get to spend the money on what they want. As a daughter of a police officer, I get to experience going with the kids, and I just have to say it is one of the best feelings to see the joy on the kid's faces when the police officers treat them so well. This is just showing that the effort that the police officers are showing is a big impact to the children, that don't get much of a Christmas.

Even though some police officers are not always good, that does not mean that we have to discourage the good police officers because of someone else's actions, and as a community, we should show the respect that our police officers deserve. The police officers that are going out of their way to help the citizens of Goshen are the ones that mean the most to us. Not only do police officers help people, but they also take children to the store that don't have enough money to get Christmas gifts, they save lives, and they have such a big impact in our city of Goshen.