If success is your style...

Career Beginnings
1992
Beatrice Alcantar
Wasco High School

If I Could....
I would make this world a more peaceful and safer place to live. I would stop the violence and end prejudice, one of today's biggest problems. I would change the laws against violence and racism.

CAREER BEGINNINGS

Beatrice Alcantar
Wasco High School
Raquel Arambula  
Arvin High School  
If I Could.....  
I would change people's attitudes. If people weren't always so negative and were more positive, we wouldn't have so many homeless people suffering. If people were more positive we would have world peace. There wouldn't be any more wars. People's attitudes have to do with our everyday life. Our prison systems are overloaded because of wrong attitudes displayed daily. Negative attitudes make our lives more difficult. Everyone would receive positive attitude pills in my changed world.

Diego Armendariz  
McFarland High School  
If I Could.....  
change one thing in this world, I would change all the gang violence that is occurring everyday. We have Mexicans against Mexicans, Blacks against Blacks, etc. What is the point of all this? I wouldn't want to die over a color or a street. Gangs are okay, but if they're nonviolent, I myself hang around with gang members, it's fun. But when it comes to killing, it's no longer fun, it's serious. My point is: we should all stick together.

Quentin Arthur  
East High School  
If I Could.....  
change the minimum wage, I would increase it to $5.75 an hour. Also, if I could make a difference, I would build an apartment complex for all the homeless to live in and give jobs to the unemployed. That is what I would do.

Juan Ayala  
McFarland High School  
If I Could.....  
end world hunger and poverty, I would start by making those problems disappear from the eyes of children so they can grow up to be good people who don't have the urge to do crime, just live a good life. It's the truth, if a child doesn't have what he/she desires, they will want to steal and that starts them off on the wrong foot. By ending hunger and poverty, a child would have a more relaxed mind capable of overcoming anything or any fear they might have. That's my point of view of ending hunger and poverty.

Rosa Bernal  
Wasco High School  
If I Could.....  
change things, it would be racism. There are so many people out in this world who are so cruel to other humans because he/she is from a different race. People look at you and they treat you real mean or cruel and the person doesn't even give you a chance to get to know you.
If I Could

change one thing in the entire world, it would be how man, himself, purposely creates difficult situations.

First of all, man creates war. Researching past wars, you'll find that all have been imminent for one simple reason; man has tried sometimes successfully, to overstep his geographical and moral boundaries. If I could briefly speak to Hitler, Castro, or Stalin, I would simply ask "Why not love thy brother?"

In percentages, 99.99% of the wars this planet has seen would have never occurred if a little patience, and love for others had been present.

Man creates prejudices. This concept relates to how man creates war. According to Webster, a prejudice is "an a opinion, favorable or not, formed without fair examination of the facts." In my mind, we were all placed on this planet by the same God and probably in the end, we will go to one of two destinations. God views a person by his soul, and souls do not come in designer colors.

Man creates controversy: abortion, euthanasia, and capital punishment. Anyone who has read a newspaper in the past quarter of a century has heard the controversy of these subjects. Why such a big deal over an individual's ideals versus another's? Many controversies are based on a person's right to choose; all except capital punishment, that is my belief and that with the advice and will of God, a person will do what they feel is right.

Lastly, man ruins his environment. Okay, yeah I know, recycling is the hip thing to do. But why did we wait this long to understand the effects of our living has had on our planet?

Ideally, there are many things that need to be changed; but the few that I mentioned I feel are the most important. These things can and will be changed.
If I Could.....

I would change the gangster life. All gangsters would go to mandatory counseling meeting twice a week. At counseling meetings, they would realize that being in a gang is wrong. The gangsters could let out their feelings and express what is on their mind. Maybe after attending counseling, the gangsters would look at the world differently. There would be no more graffiti. In fact, gangsters would have to paint over the existing graffiti. With so many people writing on the walls it is making our cities look trashy.

Most importantly, I would like to see all gang related activity stopped such as fighting, shooting, and getting more youngsters into the gangs. All they are doing is shooting their own raza and causing too many problems everywhere. Gangsters always say, "We can do what we want." If they can do what they want why don't they stop all the violence and start living a better life?
Luis Camacho
Shafter High School

If I Could.....

Relieve world hunger
Cure all deadly diseases
Rid the world of poverty
Stop racism
Insure happiness for the whole world.....I would.

Cary Carrigan
Highland High School

If I Could....

I would change the past to where Martin Luther King Jr. was never assassinated. If this was possible, there would be a change in the way Blacks are treated and how America would stand as a country. If Martin was alive today I think there would be less black people dying and more graduating. Martin was a great role model for young black Americans and is dignified for his non-violent ways to getting blacks their rights. I really believe that if he was here today, America would be a lot different and a more organized country.

Ana Ceron
Shafter High School

If I Could.....

I would go back in time and change the way I have lived. I would go back to when I was 7 years old and still lived in El Salvador where everything was fun and it was a secure place to live in. I'm not going to put the U.S. down because it's not the fault of this country I've had an awful life. I don't think I would come back here if I had the chance. I would have loved to stay in my country where everything was away from the evilness of the world. Now I'm stuck here and I'm going to live life to the fullest and make the best of it.

Alex Cervantes
Shafter High School

If I Could.....

change something, it would be racism. People would not be able to distinguish color, race or religion. I know that if this were so, the L.A. riots would never have occurred. There would be no need for gang violence, social or class possessions. The right of students to be employed and equal education would not be denied. No one would be denied the equal opportunity for employment no matter what race, color or religion they are. You can see that this would be a solution to many problems that are rooted deep in many people.
Adriana Chavez
Shafter High School

If I Could.....

accomplish something in life, I would finish my education and become a police officer. I would be able to serve and protect victims who are being abused in today's society. I want to help people who are in life threatening situations.

I would want to work with teenagers. I would teach them the many things life has to offer. I would prevent teenage pregnancy and help the runaways get a decent home where they might be able to pursue a better lifestyle.

Israel Covarrubias
Wasco High School

If I Could.....

close the violence, I would change it. I would change all the violence in the world. There is too much hate, fighting, and killings. Violence is everywhere you go. It is in cities, states, and countries. Everywhere you go you hear about it. And gangs, they are using violence Everyday when you turn on your T.V., you hear about one person killing another person, people are killing each other. We all need to get together and stop the violence.
Bella Diaz
Shafer High School

If I Could.....

I'd make the world a unified team. It's not only for 2 1/2 weeks but forever. By extinguishing all forms of human government and letting God's love run the world as it should rightfully be: making it impossible for a nuclear holocaust, civil wars, riots, and rebellions. This could all be made possible if we all had one belief and the same laws to follow. Even if we all didn't have the same belief we would still have the same laws to follow. This would allow us to maintain the economic state and educational equality, leaving no room for class distinction, prejudice, racism or degradation. Of course, no matter how one looks at it, there will be some conflicts. Yet being unified would spark hope and harmony. It also has a nice ring to it.

Dario Diaz
McFarland High School

If I Could.....

change anything, I would change the government. Our government has lost its values and is not living up to its standards. I would also change the President and his advisors. For example, George Bush is not helping the American people. He is only involved in foreign affairs and he is letting our country fall apart. If we had a government that was worthy and dependable our nation would be a better place to live.

Ruben Diaz
Wasco High School

If I Could.....

protect the people that are endangered by gangs in the 90's, I would give the gang-related juveniles more time in juvenile hall. If I could change the environment, I would help make the ozone layer safer. I would make sure that the toxic waste dumps are safe with no hazard to the communities of its surroundings. If I could change people's attitudes, I would make them nicer so they would help others more. I would also want them to strive for their goals with more enthusiasm. If I could eliminate child abuse I would because men that abuse children should be put in prison for life. If I could stop homelessness, I would give the homeless an opportunity to work for a roof over their head. If they are not able to work, I would help them by giving them charity.
If I Could......

I would make the government give us the money that they are keeping from us, or sending off in plane loads to other countries. I would force them to stop taking it away from teenagers that do want to learn and make something of themselves. I would ask them why they take it and how much they take (budget cuts) and what they do with it.

Why doesn't the government care about the kids or their futures? Is it because there is no future for us to look forward to?

I would order them to explain to us why they make it so difficult for us to get into college and start our careers and our lives.

Esmeralda Espinosa
Arvin High School

If I Could......

just make everyone colorblind, maybe then we wouldn't have racism. If we could just be gray, maybe we wouldn't fight with each other. Then again, we will always have something to hate each other for. Perhaps because one has a weight problem, quality, or simply because no two people are the same.

Francisco Espinoza
Highland High School

If I Could......

change anything, it would be the educational system. I would try to motivate and encourage more people to stay in college. I would accomplish this by encouraging upper division college students to be mentors for marginal students. The students would hopefully take the advice given to them from the college students. The reason I believe the students would listen to their mentors is that they (students and mentors) are part of the same generation. One of the main reasons students do not follow advice obtained from school counselors is that the students believe the counselors are too old to really understand their problems and what they are going through. To students, talking to counselors is almost identical to talking to their parents. I look forward to having a peer mentor in college.
Alfred Figueroa  
McFarland High School  

If I Could.....

change the world, I would get the United States to stop throwing away the money. For example, what is the point in spending millions of dollars to send people to other planets? What about the ghettos and the poor communities who could do something useful with that money? They can use that money to rebuild the communities and themselves. If one doesn't think that will change the world, then let me.

That's what I would do if I could change the world.

James Fragoso  
McFarland High School  

If I Could.....

change anything in the world, I would change the way people look at themselves. It's often the way people look at themselves that causes racism. If people would stop looking at themselves as "Mexicans", or "Blacks", or as "Whites" first, and start considering themselves as just people the world would be a better place.

Also, if I could change anything, I think I would change my underwear.

Abelino Garza  
McFarland High School  

If I Could.....

change society, it would be very different. I would have a home for every person. There would not be homeless people. I would have a job for every person so that they can do something to do. The world would have no more racism. I'd make everyone love one another because if we don't, we'll end up killing each other. I would make people find out about each other's cultures so that they can interact with each other. I would try to make everyone get involved in what is happening.

So if I could change society, that is what I would do.

Miguel Garza  
McFarland High School  

If I Could.....

change the environment, I would make it a lot cleaner. If I could, I would change the educational system and build more schools. That is what I would do.
Preston George
South High School

If I Could......
change the attitude of every person in the world,
make it so that no one was hungry in the world,
be one of the smartest people in the world...... I would.

Erica Gomez
Shafter High School

If I Could......
change something in the world, I would want world peace. I would like to see people caring and loving each other. I would like each individual to put money and material things aside to help this world become stronger. If we could change this problem, I think this world would be a better place to live. So make a change. Care a little. It will help.

Reina Gomez
McFarland High School

If I Could. .
change anything, I would change the hate that exists between races. All races were created equal and no one should be treated bad for that. I think that if we learn to get along we can get rid of a lot of problems. If we learn to accept each other for who we are, we could do without racism.

Manuel Gonzales
East High School

If I Could. .
I would stop world hunger. Not just in Africa, but everywhere. People starve everyday. Even in our own community people die from starvation. Some people have a lot to eat and are wasteful with food. They don't think about those that really need food.

If I had the power, I would give families that can't afford to buy food, certificates to purchase food at the grocery store. I would also set up places where you could go to get food if you needed it. I would also go out into the streets and deliver hot meals to the homeless.

I would make a difference by stopping death tolls in hunger. I would feel great about doing this because no one has ever been able to.

Changing the way people live is important. People can't help it if they are starving. If I could help them I would. We must stop world hunger.
Maryanna Gonzales
Wasco High School

If I Could...

make a difference in people's lives, I would clothe the naked, feed the hungry, and shelter the homeless. This would greatly change the lives of many Americans who are homeless or disadvantaged. I would also like to help the advantaged. Sometimes it seems that they are without problems but in reality, they are full of problems. If I could make a difference by helping the needy, the troubled, the sick, and the homeless, I would.

Adriana Grajeda
McFarland High School

If I Could...

make a difference in a person's life, I would do it for an abused child. I would make a difference in these children's lives by giving them love and support. I would also try to show them that there is more to life than abuse. A child doesn't deserve this kind of treatment, especially from their parents. A child needs love from the parents.

Melissa Granillo
East High School

"Life is good, you just have to learn to live it."

"Nothing in life is to be feared, but understood."

"If you must hate, hate to hate."

Nashimen Green
Wasco High School

If I Could....

I would like to end world hunger. I will try to start a nation-wide program that is like the Peace Corp. to help send and issue food to starving people. Then, I'll provide everyone with a stable education. I would love to help the world, but it all has to begin with me.

Carlos Guerra
East High School

If I Could....

help stop teenage pregnancy. I would tell teenagers to try to practice abstinence. If it is too hard for a teenager to abstain from sex, I would try to tell them to use some kind of protection. Also, I would tell teenagers some of the dangers of sex, like some of the deadly diseases that can make one suffer. That is what I would tell teenagers so that teenage pregnancy can stop.

Armando Guzman
McFarland High School

If I Could....

make a difference in my community and school system, I would run for office on the school board. I think this is a good way to make a difference because this way the school system will get some new ideas from young people who care more about school than from people who have little or no interest in school.
Victor Heredia
McFarland High School

If I Could.....
change people's attitudes, I would. I would change their attitudes so that they can think more of themselves. I would also change everybody's attitudes. Their attitudes would want to make them strive for what they want. People say it is all in the attitude and that is right because everything you do depends on your attitude.

Lupita Herrera
McFarland High School

If I Could.....

change the world, I would get all the world to believe in God. Most people do not believe that Jesus Christ, a human, died for us. It is written in the Bible "That for God so loved the world that he gave his only son so that anyone who believes in him will not perish but have everlasting life." That phrase is always in my mind: in school or in my job and it always reminds me day by day to try to make the best of everyday. If I could change the world I would get the entire world to believe in the same God as I do because thanks to him we are what we put our minds to. We can succeed with the love we feel for him.

Monsie Huisar
Arvin High School

If I Could.....

I would have world peace. World peace is all one needs to stop racism and the economic problems that exist today. With world peace, we could get many things in society accomplished. World peace would get us somewhere.

CAREER BEGGINNINGS

Because everybody's future has to start somewhere

Donna Jones
Arvin High School

If I Could.....

change something in this world, I would change the way some people judge other races. I do not understand why some people have the right to judge others just because they are of a different race or background. The world can be a better place if everyone just accepted each other and stopped stereo-typing one another. God created us to live on this planet with peace and without racism or prejudice. I do not see why we all can't get along with each other.

There are many other things wrong with this world, but this is a very important issue.
Benito Juarez
Wasco High School

If I Could.....

I would change the attitudes of people about the environment. We could live in a much cleaner and happier planet. Many people dump chemicals, trash, and other substances into the water so they won't have to worry about it anymore. But what they don't see is that they are killing animals and putting to waste precious water that can be used for different reasons. Oil, aluminum, paper, plastic, rubber, and glass can all be recycled if they are not thrown away. If every person would stop and think about what they are doing, they could make a difference and make this country a better place to live.

Felipe Lopez
McFarland High School

If I Could.....

change anything in this world, I would get rid of gangs, because I feel they are stupid and people should not kill each other over a color or territory. Gangs cause many problems in today's society. The United States would be a better place to live if there weren't any gangs.

"Anyone with a heart full of friendship has a hard time finding enemies."

Jacob Lostaunau
Highland High School

If I Could.....

change something in today's world, it would be three things: the budget, school system, and crime. I would expand the budget so that there could be more jobs for kids and adults. I would have more programs like Career Beginnings because the program places students in job sites and in an academic environment. I would like to improve the school system so that more kids have the opportunity to go to college. I would make lots of improvement in elementary, high school, and at the college level. I would make law enforcement more reliable. I would like to get rid of the gangs. I would organize an anti-gang program with counselors. I would also get rid of the crooked cops. We don't need cops that go out looking for trouble. That type of person is not considered a cop to me.

If all this is accomplished, our country would be the greatest place to live. All this can be possible if we can get a good president as a leader. I wonder if I'll become that leader.
If I Could.....

I would eliminate discrimination and greed. It seems that in our society people judge each other by the color of their skin.

I feel this is not right. People shouldn't hate each other because of their skin color. God created men and women equal regardless of their skin color. I would do away with discrimination. Also, I would set up a law that would ridicule those who chose to treat people badly.

Another problem is greed. Today's world is mostly based on materialistic things. It seems that people judge a person by what they have outside not by what by they have inside. I would like to give everybody some advice about materialistic things and remember the values of true friendship without all the money and greed.

Elizabeth Maese
McFarland High School

If I Could.....

change anything in the world I would change people's attitudes. One very good reason why is because I hate it when people act smart, and think that they are better than everyone else. I think it is real stupid to act rude with your friends or especially your parents.
Joaquin Medina
Wasco High School

If I Could...

I would change the way the American government treats Latino aliens that come from south of the border. First I would make the government understand the situation of illegal aliens. They come here because of the economic problems they face in their own country. They come here and must fight against things like poor living conditions and racism. After this they must be on constant lookout for the immigration so they don't get deported. They come here for the same reason the early American settlers came: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The American government refuses to see this. It doesn't seem fair to close the doors on people trying to pursue happiness.

Juan C. Medina
McFarland High School

If I Could...

end something in this world, it would be gang violence. I have a negative opinion toward gangs. Gangs only cause trouble in our community. Gangs are eliminating the young Hispanic and Black teenagers for dumb reasons. They are killing each other to get attention and respect from their gang. They don't get attention and respect at home, so they get it from their gang friends. If parents would pay attention to their children, the children would avoid gangs. This way gang activity would stop. When you see a gang member all you see is an evil, sinister, teenager whose purpose is to cause terror instead of laughter. Deep inside he is calling for help. Once you are in a gang, you are in for life. It will always be a part of you, torturing you as if it was your fault that your brother or close friend died in a gang related shooting.

Every parent should start treating, caring and paying attention to their children. If they don't the gangs will continue to destroy the children and our future. Increase the peace and gang activity would stop.
Moses Medina
Wasco High School

If I Could,....

change the world I would rid the world from nuclear weapons. I would help the people who have AIDS. I'd help the homeless and the U.S. economy get out of debt and help it establish a secure budget.

First I would give millions of dollars to help find a cure for AIDS victims. This way doctors could afford more time and efforts in finding a cure for the virus.

Second I would help the budget crisis in California by giving money to the state. This money would help fund schools, major projects and water problems.

The third and final thing I would do is rid nuclear weapons from the world. I'd collect all missiles and send them off into space.

CAREER BEGINNINGS
PROOF. POSITIVE.

"Knowledge is like a precious stone ready to be found."

"Be a leader not a follower."

"A smile is always welcomed."

Andrea Mendoza
East High School

If I Could....

change one thing, I would change the medical system in America. I don't feel that income should be the source of qualifying for good sanitary medical treatment. I can say from personal experience that the county hospital care is very different from a private hospital. I believe all human beings have the right to the best hospital care. The country claims to be benevolent, but those who have the money are assured quality care. I don't understand why. Human life is worth more than money. Everyone should have the medical care they need.

Jose Meza
Wasco High School

If I Could,...

make a change in the world, it would be to put an end to all kinds of weapons. If there weren't be any more weapons there would not be any wars. Without wars there would probably be world peace. Without these wars there would be more money and with this money we could help people in Africa.

CAREER BEGINNINGS
Norma Miralda
Arvin High School

If I Could... 

I would make a love potion. That way there would be no more wars. People would then live in peace. Rich people would help the poor, so there wouldn't be homeless people. Everyone would help each other and the world would be a better place to live.

Tsude Montes
McFarland High School

If I Could... 

change the world, I would change the environment. There is a lot of pollution in the air. I would like for the earth to be clean so that my children can grow up in a clear and safe environment.

Ruben Mora
Shafter High School

If I Could... 

make the world live in harmony, I would. Today all you hear on the radio or television is about new weapons being developed and nations declaring wars. You hear how billions of dollars are being invested on national defence. If the world lived in harmony this money could be invested on better homes, better education program, hospitals, technology, and programs to train people for future jobs. I know that if the world lived in harmony there would not be borders separating nations. There would not be world hunger, homeless people, or racism.

Maria Morales
McFarland High School

If I Could... 

I would end world hunger because I don't like to see people dying. They don't have enough food to eat. I would also like to give everyone the opportunity to continue on with their education after high school. I would give my time and effort to make this possible. Lastly, I would change my attitude so that I would be able to cooperate with others.
Michael Morales  
McFarland High School

If I Could... 

change anything, I would probably change the place where my father works. My dad works for Paramount Farms. He is an irrigator. One day he took me to see where he works and I realized it wasn't as easy as I thought. He had a shovel and had to spend all day opening ditches for water. I tried it and it was not easy. If I could change his work place I would let him work as a mail man because he likes walking. This would be easier than working in the fields.

Elia Moya  
McFarland High School

If I Could... 

I would increase the peace by uniting all races and teaching them about all cultures and help them understand their ways of life. I would teach them the meaning of love and not to hate and kill each other. I would get rid of hunger around the world and get young people to finish their education and upgrade their way of life.

Adolfo Ocampo  
Wasco High School

If I Could... 

I would make a different way of life. I would change and establish new rules, where there wouldn't be crime. I would make a rule that if anyone killed someone they would suffer the same consequence.

CAREER BEGINNINGS

PROOF. POSITIVE.
Javier Olguin
McFarland High School

If I Could... solve any one big problem we face in this world I would solve the homelessness problem.

I feel our government is not doing enough for these people. These people wander the streets looking for food, and searching for shelter. Meanwhile, our government goes on spending millions of dollars on worthless weapons and wars in other countries. We need to take care of problems here at home first.

I have many ideas to help correct the homeless problem. We should build more shelters to house the million of homeless people in the United States. Another idea is to help people before they become homeless. We must create more jobs, increase pay, handle education more efficiently because after all, this is the "land of opportunity."

To conclude, I think it is about time to start helping the people survive in this world before we go out and spend too much money. We must start now before problems become to big, and there is nothing we can do about it.

"Friendship is love with understanding."
"All great achievements require time."

Ana Olvera
McFarland High School

If I Could... change the world, I would make peace between every country. If I could change people's attitude, I would eliminate the word "negative" from their minds. If I could improve technology, I would do such an awesome job that accidents would not exist.

Gustavo Olvera
Wasco High School

If I Could... I would free the world from nuclear weapons. I would make every country destroy nuclear warheads. I don't want to see everyone killing each other. I would also get rid of armed weapons except the ones needed by law enforcement. This would keep the world from crime and killings.

Isaias Olvera
McFarland High School

If I Could... change things, I would change my father's work habits. He works too hard and too much. He is hardly at home. When he is home, he is there for 2-3 days and then leaves for 3 weeks. I would like for him to stay longer than three days. Another thing I would like to change is the Career Beginnings program. Last year and the year before that were better. They got to see the people they met, more often we don't. One thing I do like about the program is the job site.
Jose Oropeza
McFarland High School

Margarita Padilla
Wasco High School

If I Could.....

make a difference in this world I would be the best medical surgeon. I would work for all the minorities and I wouldn’t charge them very much. I would also set up clubs and have meetings for all alcoholics. I would also set up booths for recycling. This way we could help our environment.

Patricia Pelayo
Wasco High School

If I Could.....

I would change the world. It would be a world where there wouldn’t be greed. The environment would never be damaged. The rivers would sparkle forever. There wouldn’t be smog. The rain forest would never be used as a waste basket. Oil would stay where it belongs.

Francisco Perez
Wasco High School

If I Could.....

I would change the educational system in the United States. I would try to make the education system equal for all students. I would try to do this by making kids experience different cultural backgrounds. This is what I would do if I could.

Jareth Perez
Arvin High School

If I Could.....

have the power to make the world a better place, I would start by eliminating hunger. All diseases will be gone; there would be no danger. I would eliminate all the things that harm people. Weapons, drugs, racism, hate, and evil will be gone. People would not be depressed and full of anger at the world. People would not be greedy and envious. People would not hurt others physically as well as mentally. The pressures of life will be gone. There would be no suffrage to succeed because success is already available and possible to get. People would work together to make the earth a better place to live. People and nature would live in harmony. There would not be any prejudice. Everyone in the world would be equal. Education would be available to everyone. Countries would work together. There would not be any economic problems. Crime would not exist. Everything and everyone would live peacefully without any problems.
Jesse Perez
McFarland High School

If I Could.....

change anything, I would give people more opportunities to receive scholarships to continue with their education. If I could make a change in today's society, it would be to stop racism. We have to learn to live with each other. I would also protect the poor people. I would help them get a roof over their heads. That is what I would do.

Luis Perez
Shafter High School

If I Could.....

I would make a difference in this world by helping all of the minorities. I would protect the minorities from racism. I would give the Blacks, Mexicans, Anglos, Asians, etc. an opportunity to succeed in life. If I could, I would eliminate violence and hunger. I would put the drug dealers and those who pollute our planet in jail. If I could, I would bring my family in Mexico to the United States so they can be close to me. Most of all, if I could, I would find a cure for AIDS.

Jose Prieto
Highland High School

If I Could.....

stop abortion, I would. Many unborn fetuses are killed each year as a result of people's mistakes. They have a right to live too.

Jose Ramirez
Highland High School

If I Could.....

help people, I would. It is sad to see how we all treat each other. We can see someone suffering and decide not to help that poor individual. Some don't have the heart to give a homeless person a quarter. Think of others before you think of yourself.
Maria Rangel
Arvin High School

If I Could.....

help the homeless, I would. I would help them get jobs. I would change the way people look at them. Others look at them as being dirty and disgusting. Everyone needs respect, even the homeless.

Jose Raya
Wasco High School

If I Could.....

I would change the government because I feel it is getting out of control. The government is cutting down on education and giving themselves a raise. Another thing I would change is the world hunger situation. I would not let anyone go hungry at any time of the day. I would get jobs for people so that they would have money to support their family.

"He who accepts nothing has nothing to return."

"Anyone with a heart full of friendship has a hard time finding enemies."

"There is no future in any job, the future lies in the man who holds the job."

Jose Razo
Highland High School

If I Could.....

change the world, I would change the way money is spent. Everyone knows about the billions of dollars this so called "promise land" throws away on weapons and drugs.

The money could be used for experiments and tests for all the diseases that are killing people. There is money going into research efforts but it is not enough.

A lot of the money wasted could be used to help out the homeless or families that don't have food. A part of the money could also be spent on scholarships for students that are eager to further their education. In addition, if I could I would help the Dodgers get a new pitching staff.

Sofia Reyes
Shafter High School

If I Could.....

change anything in the world it would be world hunger. No one in today's world should starve. There is a lot of people who can not afford to buy food. To help this situation we should build more centers to feed the people who can not afford to buy food. Starvation needs to be stopped. If we all work together we can stop the problem from expanding.
Gerardo Rios
Wasco High School

If I Could....

I would help low income families afford a home. I would find better jobs closer to where they live, so they wouldn't have to go far for work. I would build factories where people who don't speak English can work for good wages. I would provide tutoring for students needing the extra help. I would increase the wages for those working in the fields under extreme hot temperatures. I would also build more health clinics in small communities.

Graciela Rios
Wasco High School

If I Could...

make a difference I would eliminate world hunger. I would organize a group of people so that we could send food to the poor. I would like to make sure no one goes to bed on an empty stomach. No one should die of hunger. If everyone cooperated a great difference could be made. By helping to feed them we would be saving many innocent lives.

Rogelio Rios
Wasco High School

If I Could....

make all the children of the world happy, they wouldn't have another tear to shed. If I could make deadly diseases go away, people wouldn't worry if they were going to die. If I could make everyone love each other for who they are and not for what they got, then the world would be in peace. If I could accomplish all of these things, think of how much better this planet would be.

Rafael Rodarte
Shafter High School

If I Could....

make a difference and leave a lasting impression on the world, it would be that I was satisfied with my life. I would have become successful and reached my goals by working hard. Then I would have set a good example for all the young students and earned their respect. I then insured a good future for my family and myself.

Autographs.......

...
Janie Rodelo
McFarland High School

If I Could . . .

change things, I would change the stereotypes people have about minorities. Most minorities are considered dumb and incapable of succeeding. This is not true. I know lots of people who have succeeded. With help from God I am going to prove to all the people who have put me down that they are wrong. I will succeed and so will many more minorities. This program has not only given us the opportunity but also the confidence and encouragement to go on and make something out of ourselves.

Belinda Rodriguez
McFarland High School

If I Could . . .

change anything in this world, I would change the prices on things. Right now everything is too expensive and people are limiting themselves from buying things. I think lowering prices would help the economy because people would be able to buy more things.

Francisco Rodriguez
Shafter High School

If I Could . . .

change the world, I would. I would change it so that there would be no more hunger, poverty or sorrow. There would also be no more wars or tears. There would only be tears of joy. There wouldn't be violence or drugs out in the streets. There would only be healthy people who know how to have fun without drugs.

Robert Rodriguez
Bakersfield High School

If I Could . . .

change the world I would make racism illegal. Racism should be illegal because it is a hate against some one because they are different from everybody else. No one should be treated differently because of their shape, size or the color of their skin.

In conclusion I think racism should become illegal in the United States. Hopefully my dream will come true.

Gabriel Salazar
McFarland High School

If I Could . . .

change things in the world, I would change the hunger in the world because a lot of people are dying of hunger and it's a lot of pain to watch those people die.
Elizabeth Salinas  
McFarland High School

If I Could...  
make a difference in this economy, I would do my best to help people in need. There are many people in this world that have no resources. Everywhere you turn there's someone in need. Half of these people don't have any means of getting health care, so they die from some kind of deadly disease or maybe something else that affects other people. People just don't realize we need to do something about this big problem!

Many people think that just sending them rice, beans, and oatmeal will do. But these people need more than that. Maybe instead of sending them so much food "we the economy" should get together and find a solution to encourage these people to look toward the future. We should build schools so that they can become educated and can get themselves out of that hole! This country is very rich and I can't believe that the government is not doing a lot more for these people. Instead of trying to take away the little they have, we should try and support them more.

Johnny Salinas  
McFarland High School

If I Could...  
change anything in the world, I would eliminate air pollution by using more buses and solar cars. I would stop the smog that comes from big companies so our children won't have to deal with these problems.

Richard Samaniego  
McFarland High School

If I Could...  
change anything in the world, I would make college education affordable for everyone. The reason I feel this way is because I believe getting a good education is the key to a successful life and people should not be denied that right.

Felipe Sanchez  
Highland High School

If I Could...  
If I could change the world, I'd change it so that all nations in the world could work together. They would work to change and consolidate the governments of all nations in order to progress the human race. I would change the mentality of all people in all societies, so that there would be no more racism or stereotyping.
Jose Sanchez
McFarland High School

If I Could......

change anything in the world, I would change the community in which I live. I would accomplish this by adding a shopping mall to the town. The addition of a mall would bring many changes to the community and the people living in it. It would bring joy to the people because they would not have to travel to another city to do their shopping. This would also save them time and money spent on gasoline. Also, I feel that if a shopping center was added, it would liven up the community and bring the people closer. Finally, the shopping center would give the young residents a place to hang out whenever they run out of things to do. This is the change that I would make if I was given the opportunity.

Robert Sanchez
Arvin High School

If I Could......

tell people to stop cutting down the rain forest, I would. The government should spend more time trying to figure out what the people are doing to the rain forest. It would be so much better. It would also be a good example for the generations to come.

Rosalina Sandoval
Shafter High School

If I Could......

I would end racism by making people understand that no matter where we come from or what the color of our skin is, we are all human. By ending racism, I feel it will also eliminate many problems we are facing today.

Victor Serrano
East High School

If I Could......

I would help the U.S. get out of its recession. This can be accomplished by cutting salaries in the senate. Also, we can take money from defense spending to create more jobs for people.

Reyes Soberon
McFarland High School

If I Could......

change anything in the world, it would be to eliminate poverty. Many people live in really poor environments. They don’t have much to eat, a home, or enough clothes on their backs. If I had the chance, I would put more effort into saving their lives.
Araceli Soto
Wasco High School

If I Could.....

change one thing about how our government is, I would change the educational system. The government is becoming careless in how it is educating teenagers. I feel teens should be required to stay in school if they want to learn. If they are going to make no serious attempt to try to learn, I see absolutely no reason for them to be there.

The United States, in some ways, discriminates against many students at school. For example, the student that is always getting the high scores in tests is the one that gets the most encouragement, but it should be that everyone gets the same amount of encouragement from the teacher. The reality has always been that the student who is favored by the teacher is the one that gets the better grade. They are asked more questions; therefore, they receive the higher grade. The student that is less outstanding in the first tests, becomes discouraged. This should not happen.

Jose Soto
Wasco High School

If I Could.....

make a difference in my life, I would change my economic status. Many people believe a person is born to money. They don't believe a person can work to change their economic status. I was born to a low income family.

One way I can change my economic status is by obtaining an education. A good education can change anyone's economical status. It sure would help my status.

Gabriela Stairovici
Highland High School

If I Could.....

change the way men and women see each other, I would. We all have to get along no matter what race, color of skin, and/or sex is. I will try to help them understand that we all have the same blood color and it should mean something to everyone.

If I could make a difference, I would let people know that the planet won't last any longer if we keep polluting it. I also would change people's attitudes.
Elliot Tellez
Highland High School

If I Could...

change something in our world today, it would be of a sociological nature. Violence and abuse continue to increase, when it should be decreasing. Society made it admissible for men to abuse women. Now it is time for society to correct itself. Through rehabilitation people can accomplish this. We as human beings need to treat each other with respect.

Santa Tlatelpa
East High School

If I Could.....

I would change the educational system. I would give the Mexicans the same opportunity the Americans have. I would help them with their English grammar and encourage them to go to college. I would help them get a professional job so that they can have the honor to help other Mexicans.

Alma Toledo
East High School

If I Could...

I would become a famous artist like Walt Disney. I would be a proud artist knowing that all my effort would be rewarded and worthwhile. I would start my own business for the Hispanic people and I would also make cartoons in Spanish for children to see.

Maria (Lupe) Torres
McFarland High School

If I Could.....

make a difference in this world, I would want to stop the slash and burn catastrophe that is going on in South America. It is affecting us now, and will affect us in the future. I want people to realize that this is the worst problem we have ever had and that we need to solve it.

Rene Torres
McFarland High School

If I Could.....

change the environment, I would get people to plant trees, ride share, or ride a bike to work if they can.

I would get people to plant trees because trees help clean up the air so that we can breathe better.

I would get people to ride share because it helps clean up the environment.

I would get people to get to ride a bike because you can get some exercise and fun at the same time. That is the way I would change the environment.
Lauri Torrez
McFarland High School

If I Could...,

change anything, I would get rid of racism. Racism has become a focal point in today's society. If a person is seen with another person from a different background or culture, some people will start to think bad about it. I feel that everyone is equal no matter what. The world would be a better place to live without racism.

Bobbie M. Trujillo
Arvin High School

If I Could.....

change something, it would have to be racism. If we could end racism and learn to work together, we can get a lot of things accomplished and make the country a better place. I would also help those in need. I would give them food and a home. I would also help them get a job so that their lives can change.

Leticia Tule
Arvin High School

If I Could.....

choose anything in the world, it would be to make a difference in someone's life. I would like to give someone with potential and intelligence the opportunity to go on with their education. Many do have the intelligence, but are lacking the funds to make their dream possible. I hope to make it possible for someone.

Ana Velasquez
Arvin High School

If I Could.....

make God a priority in everyone's life, I would. If everyone had a religious frame of mind, there would be reform in government, education, and a whole new attitude in our society. I believe that before there are any serious changes, one will have to look to God first. Government leaders can't change the hearts and minds of people, but God can.
Dolores Ventura
McFarland High School

If I Could.....

change one thing in this world, I would change the capitalist system. The system is so corrupted. The rich get richer and the poor get poorer. If I could make a difference, I would create a system where everyone is equal. There wouldn't be any bosses to rob the workers. We wouldn't need money, we would cooperate and work together. If I could, I would make this world a better and peaceful place to live.

Blanca Villa
Arvin High School

If I Could.....

I would go back to the time of innocence; to the time when I was a little girl. One of the most important things in my life was having my mommy hug me. Another thing I enjoyed as a kid is when I sat on my daddy's lap to charm him. I remember when every little accomplishment was a victory. For example, when I learned how to tie my shoe, or when I learned how to make mud pies. If I could go back to my childhood days to rediscover the taste of dirt, I would.

Miguel Zepeda
McFarland High School

If I Could.....

change something, I would change the way guns are sold. I feel that it is wrong for just anyone to buy a gun. I feel that if people are not responsible enough, they shouldn't have a gun. They are dangerous. Nowadays, many people are getting killed by guns. I feel that laws should be enforced on the people that own guns. If this was my world, I would let only the responsible and the qualified own a gun.