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Why the freedom to choose a school is important to me and my family

Between birth and age eighteen, kids learn the majority of the fundamentals for life, such as talking, writing, reading, and socializing. Some of these skills are learned in the home; however, for most children, many of these necessities are developed in a place many kids hate: school. School is obviously extremely important to the maintenance of American society. So, why do children seem to loathe going to school so much, when it's so important for their future? There are multiple reasons, yet I bet the main one is that students don't enjoy their particular school. Now obviously, no school is perfect; however, specific schools fit individual students better than others. For example, shy students probably shouldn't go to a large school, or they might never break out of their shell. However, a small school could put too many limitations on a more boisterous student.

Take me for example. I was homeschooled through 6th grade, and though it was a positive experience, our situation, didn't allow for lots of social time. I was excited when my name was drawn from Victory Charter. On my first day, I was scared to death, but, after a couple days, I was totally fine. The only major difference between Victory and home-school was the paid teacher versus my mom, and the thirty other students versus my three other siblings. Overall, it wasn't a huge change for me; however, if I had gone to traditional public school, with a class of six-hundred, I'd have been eaten alive and gone through a serious culture shock. My small school and class have made me an extremely outgoing person. I don't think I would've gotten the same results from a large public school.

Being able to choose where the children go to school is so important to my family and me. My parents really love school choice because it allowed my siblings and me to go to charter. Private school for four kids was too expensive, home-schooling was getting to be too much for my mom, and public schools are filled with bad attitudes and disrespect. My parents felt that the only option left for us was charter. When I got into Victory Charter, and my older brother David got into Liberty Charter, we decided to keep the family planted in those two schools. These two schools have flaws, just like any other school, yet they have still been a true blessing to my family. Both schools teach the importance of kindness, so the amount of bullying that goes on is kept to a minimum. Another characteristic of Harbor charters is pushing to achieve high academic goals. Victory and Liberty Charter are college prep schools; therefore, the homework load is demanding, and the curriculum is slightly above public school standards. Sometimes it's extremely difficult to keep up, but it's good practice for college.

In conclusion, my family and I feel it is extremely important to have the freedom to choose which school we go to. The saying, "different strokes for different folks" is applicable here. Not every school suits every child; therefore, families need to be able to choose the best environment for their child to learn, grow, and reach their full potential. This freedom of choice is the American way and is what makes America still one of the greatest countries in the world. We're grateful for the opportunity to select where we believe is the best fit for us to get a great education, and learn social skills and good citizenship, and those schools for us are Victory and Liberty Charter School.