

Niku Tabatabai

Mr. Speice

Independent Study and Mentorship- 3A

27 October 2017

Interview Assessment #3

Name of Professional: Dr. Ali Guerami

Profession/ Title: Reproductive Endocrinologist

Business/ Company name: Frisco Institute for Reproductive Medicine

Date of Interview: 17 October 2017

Assessment:

Passion may simply appear as a seven letter word to some people, but others base their entire lives off of what they are passionate about. This is the feeling I left with after my interview with Dr. Ali Guerami, a Reproductive Endocrinologist in Frisco and Dallas. From the moment I expressed my interest in the area of women's health, Dr. Guerami began questioning me on the "why", which made me reflect on my goals and ambitions.

Dr. Guerami comes from a background of strong academics and strives for constant intellectual stimulation. Therefore, he was quite curious as to why the whole field of women's health interested me so much, for he never truly enjoyed areas such as OB-GYN. When presented with this question, I came to a standstill. Why was I so interested and passionate about women's health? Never before had I truly thought about the "why" of my passions in-depth, and I certainly never had to articulate the "why" behind my answer. Is it simply because I just relate to this field more? Has my familial background impacted my career aspirations? Before I was

able to come up with a quick answer to his question, Dr. Guerami challenged me to go home and think about this some more. It is important to know where your passions stem from, for that is the motivator that will keep you succeeding throughout the grueling process of Medical School and so on. In retrospect, it is quite clear that my passions have stemmed from a mixture of relatability and my background. Growing up in a household dominated by women, the most important people in my life were largely female, which has made me more aware and sensitive to these issues. Furthermore, after experiencing some health issues of my own that had an impact on my life, I have found that the area of women's health should never be neglected. So if there is anything I can do to assist in advancements in the field, I will give it my all. With all this said, Dr. Guerami gave me an essential piece of advice that I have heard from many individuals: always keep your options open. We think we know what we want, but the reality is that people grow and evolve, which means that passions and priorities may shift with time. This acceptance of change and new ideas is a motto that I live by everyday, and the further acknowledgment from Dr. Guerami has reaffirmed my beliefs.

With Dr. Guerami's passion and immense knowledge of Reproductive Endocrinology so evident, I set out to receive his perspective on my original work project. He provided many ideas that I could possibly explore throughout my ISM school year. From studying the byproducts of reproductive technologies, the children, to comparing the pregnancy process in married and single couples, there are many possibilities for studies that can be conducted. While the possibilities are grand and the choice will ultimately come down to the logistics, I have realized that I truly want to branch into the scientific research aspect of medicine. In college I am looking forward to conducting research and attending a school that excels in research as well. Therefore,

any experience and exposure I get at this point will be beneficial. While Dr. Guermai assisted me greatly in realizing how to articulate my passions to other people, I am still unsure about the direction I want to take my original work in. This is alright, however, because as I conduct more research, I am confident that I will have new ideas. Overall, my goal at the moment is to keep researching and meeting with my new mentor, Dr. Marius Meintjes, until I find the perfect original work idea that will best suit my ISM 2 journey.