

Oklahoma Hope

“The disaster itself was mind boggling, but the response from the community, and everyone involved with it, was overwhelming,” was the quote I picked from the video. I chose that quote because I think it really shows what Oklahoman’s will do for each other. In a time of need, almost any Oklahoman would help you at the drop of a pin. That is why I still have hope for our future and any curveballs life throws our way.

The Oklahoma City bombing had a tremendous effect on many families. People from everywhere stepped in to help, even if they weren’t impacted. In the video, it showed how far people went out of their way to assist in any way possible. They weren’t only worried about victims and families; they went out of their way to lend a hand to first responders too. This video showed me how everyone helped one another. People fed victims and first responders, handed out helpful supplies, and opened churches for victims and their families. Even today this love is shown for everyone to see. This event matters to the younger generation because it showed how so many Oklahoman’s stepped up and became role models. It showed how kind human beings can be. It also matters because it teaches life long lessons. It teaches us to not only worry about ourselves in a time of need, but to think of others as well. It matters because the love everyone showed for one another really made me smile and lit up my soul. It makes me want to go out and help those in need!

Another thing that I very much respect about Oklahoma is that even though this act was committed almost 29 years ago, about 24,000 people run the marathon every year. I have tremendous respect for all of them because they go out of their way to show they care about what happened. This also shows younger kids the importance of the attack and how to honor those who were impacted. My favorite way people have commemorated the attack is the memorial itself. We went there on a school field trip and it was truly one of the most beautiful places I have been. They did so well not at just honoring everyone involved, but they did an amazing job at informing young people who didn’t experience it. The outdoor memorial was breathtaking as well, it really made me think about everything that happened there. I learned so much, and it made everything sink in. The whole memorial is a great gift of respect and it gives us hope for the future.

I experience this kind of hope daily, even at school where people try to tear that down. My classmates are some of the best I could ask for. They are always there to support one another, and will always be there in tough times. But I don’t experience it just at school. Just going around Oklahoma I see acts of kindness everywhere. At many restaurants, they give free or discounted meals to veterans and first responders. Another time I was at Walmart, and there was an old man who didn’t have enough for groceries. Then a nice woman stepped up to pay for it. This made me smile from the inside out because seeing others do these acts of kindness warms my heart. That is why I try to do as much as I can to help those in need.

The quote that spoke to me is, “The disaster itself was mind boggling, but the response from the community and everyone involved with it was overwhelming.” The quote and the whole video showed that in a time of need, what others would do to help you. It gives me hope for our future because of the kindness so many people displayed in such a hurtful time. Watching that video made me want to go out and help others because I saw how much that can mean to someone.