

## **Yasirah Ogunbote**

Attending college is important to me in achieving my dreams and aspirations. With my education, I'd love and hope to enlighten all women in my community on how being educated is the best path forward. The need to change the world to a better place has been my motivation to pursue my desired profession which is to ultimately be an entrepreneur. With the knowledge I have gained in high school and the one I'm about to gain in university, I can proudly say I've learned, and I can promote mutual respect among all ages and genders. This really channeled me to become an adult who can address cultural differences to make amendments for things to get better. Most women in my community as of today lack both economic and social skills. This is because they were not encouraged to learn more. They were forced to become housewives for their husbands. I've always thought of making a great change because I see how things fall apart in today's world. Through my future work I hope to create a global brand that employs and inspires women from my communities- here in Brooklyn, back home in Nigeria, women of the Muslim faith as well as other Black women to break cultural shackles. I hope through my example they are inspired to further their education and become independent. This is not to say they will not have families but that they will not have to solely depend on their husbands. Dr. James Emmanuel Kwegyir of Ghana once said "If you educate a man you educate an individual, but if you educate a woman you educate a family (nation.)" My hope is to be educated and to educate other people around me. I absolutely feel like I'm destined to achieve success because I know the struggle and obstacles, I've been through, yet I still follow through and stay focused. Also, I feel the need and urge to help and raise awareness to people in my community and seeing them learn or flourish is my passion.