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Team- 529 C

## Girl Powered Essay

The name of our team is "Team 529 C, Southwest Miami High" and is composed of 4 students, each with different goals in the future but we all share a common goal now, to succeed in the VEX challenges. When we hear the phrase "girl power" what comes to our mind is how women should be able to act independent and not fully rely on a man, also what a woman is able to achieve. This phrase is reflected on our team because women have the power to be leaders not just men. "Girl power" is not just a phrase but an inspiration to future generations to women that want to be involved in the technological, or engineering field. We believe little girls with dreams become women with visions. Our society has been set on a belief of men being above women, and that women are not set to be future leaders. Team 2 in Southwest Miami High consists of 4 members, 2 are girls and the other 2 are men and we all have equal parts to contribute to. We include "girl power" here every day because we see that our girls here have enough potential to be leaders in the future and to be future engineers. When we first established our team, we first discussed the roles the team had to portray and we all agreed on what role we wanted to play a part of, we all had an equal say in everything and every role. Our team consists of 3 sophomores, and 1 senior. Even though we may not be from the same grade level that does not stop us from communicating effectively with each other or learning something new that is essential for our team's success.

The roles in our team were easy to assign and adjust to everyone's abilities, when it came to picking roles, we all discussed what our strong and weak roles were, because of this we were able to make a team with a more diverse aspect. Our fellow freshman Natali Barredo is our reporter/log keeper who has been in SECME for a years, our sophomore Alexis Llanez is our programmer who has been in SECME for 4 years, our other sophomore Andres Cobas who is our driver/tester, and finally Paula Gomez (me) a sophomore who has been in SECME for a year who is our team captain and builder. Our team has taken an initiative to create a more inclusive environment that attracts a diverse group of students by being explicit about the way our team will work and communicate and share ideas, opinions, and value. We try to make our team as open and communicative as possible so we can listen to any innovative ideas or roles anyone may want to portray. We do not exclude anyone here because equality is something huge, we factor here because everyone has a huge part to contribute to in our team to make it as successful and fun as possible. When it comes to challenges like the electronics competition, I would disassemble the laptop, Alexis would grab the parts and put them in a bin, Natalie would identify each part with Andres we all had a part to do. We all worked as a synchronized machine so we would spend less time on this to be able to complete other challenges. Natalie always keeps count of everything we do or need for a competition or project. Alexis would report to me a malfunction or error in the robot or program and Andres would test the final product or show me what may be going wrong what we might be missing to make the final product a better version of itself. We all try our best to work well and be able to understand each other to be able to work at our fullest to have the best outcome.

A diversity of perspective is to be able to see things in someone else's point of view, to be able to see or think how someone else sees things. Team 529 C knows that diversity of perspective has a tremendous impact on a robot's design. It has a tremendous impact because we all have different ideas and sometimes, we cannot combine all of them. We try all sketching something or using an online website to create something that makes us all satisfied, because we do not want to exclude anyone when it comes to the design process, everybody has a brilliant idea that we could use. Diversity of perspective can also affect our chance of success because if our team has different perspectives on which strategy to use when confronting a challenge or idea we tend to fall apart because we all want to input what we have.

The stem role model for team 529 C is Grace Murray Hopper. We chose Ms. Hooper as a STEM role model because in 1952 she designed a compiler that could translate written language into computer code. Despite everything this shows how smart women are and how capable they are of doing great things. Ms. Hooper also helped Harvard Mark I computer and was part of the team that developed COBOL. She inspires us to do the best we can do, to work at our fullest potential. Women are incredible and things like these make little girls want to grow up and be just like them. It is incredible how back then there was limited technology, but she still created something that is used very well in the technological field.

