

An Open Letter to CEOs

When I was in middle school, my physics teacher asked if I'd help form a robotics team. So I gathered some of my friends and we built our robot. I'll never forget the surprised look my teacher had when the all-girls team won.

This experience led me to enroll in science and engineering courses in high school. But as I walked into my calculus class, I noticed I was one of only three girls. That's when it really hit me how few women are in STEM. At times, I felt like I had to prove I was worthy of being there.

I'm now an intern at Abbott, where I finally see people in STEM who look like me. It's impossible to describe the impact this has had on me. I have a whole new outlook on what I can accomplish.

Encouraging young women is all it takes to make a step in the right direction. I urge you to create an inclusive high school STEM internship program, so girls can grow up in a world where they see themselves represented.

My hope is that, one day, it won't be so surprising to see the all-girls team win.

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