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1. How important should diversity be at Harvard? What strategies should the University pursue regarding this?

It is critical that Harvard promote diversity on campus as the university is well-equipped to elevate opportunity and access. Diversity is essential in order for Harvard to achieve its mission of educating future leaders of society. I believe in affirmative action to help achieve this, as well as scholarships and financial aid to ensure socio-economic diversity on campus. Diverse classrooms expose students to experiences, backgrounds, and views different from their own which is essential to understanding the multitude of experiences in our country and in our world.

Diversity at Harvard further ensures that when employers recruit on campus, they are selecting from a group of candidates who will continue to reshape the American workforce so that it looks like our country and our world.

2. How can Harvard encourage more diversity among its alumni leaders and activities?

I recommend that Harvard evaluate its programs, marketing, and outreach to alumni. Other universities have surveyed alumni in key identity and affinity groups to request feedback on their work. Meet alumni where they are and host listening sessions to find out what it would take to get more diverse alumni leaders involved.

3. Please state your views on affirmative action and race-conscious admissions.

Affirmative action enables those without equal access to opportunities a chance to pursue those opportunities. The policy has an important place in any admissions process that aims to be conscious of race, to promote diversity, and to create a more equitable society.

4. What do you think Harvard's role should be in creating a more equitable, inclusive and just society?

I believe that higher education, and especially Harvard, plays an important role in creating a more equitable, inclusive, and just society. Diverse classrooms challenge students' thinking on campus and better prepare them to grapple with the world as alumni and rethink systems of historical power.

5. What steps have you taken to bring diversity and inclusion to Harvard, to your workplace, and/or to an organization that you have been involved with?

At Girls Who Code, we value diverse and inclusive classrooms. We recognize that a diversity of ability, background, culture, experience, identity, status, and opinion makes our organization stronger. We respect and lift up one another, knowing that our different backgrounds and experiences will help us expand our impact. We acknowledge that historical and institutional barriers—particularly racial bias and discrimination—play a role in the widening gender gap in computer science and who has access to opportunities in these fields. We consider race, ethnicity, and socio-economic background in admissions to our Summer Immersion Program, offering a need-based financial stipend to qualified candidates. We strive to ensure that half of our students are under poverty line and half are black or Latina. We strive to ensure that every girl has opportunity and access.