



## **Jea'niqua Jefferson, Prairie View A & M University- c/o 2017, Social Work**



**Name :** Jea'niqua Jefferson

**Your HBCU :** Prairie View A & M University

**Graduation Year :** 2017

**Major :** Social Work

### **1. Where are you from? Who introduced you to HBCUs?\***

I am From Dallas, TX. My high school school counselor told me to apply to Prairie View. I did not know anything about HBCU's.



### **2. Why did you choose an HBCU over a pwi?\***

I did not know there was a difference in schools considering I am The first in my family to attend college. PV is very known in Dallas & I felt Like I would like this school because of the culture they brought to Dallas.

### **3. What is the story of your "experience" at Your HBCU given its heralded status as a stellar and prestigious institution?\***

I have gained professional experience. I have Learned what it truly means to be Black. I have really gotten in touch with my culture. I have Grown as an individual at my HBCU. I was tested spiritually and mentally and I would not trade this experience for any other.

### **4. "First time" experiences at your HBCU?\***

I experienced Homecoming like never before. Lol. I never knew homecoming could be so much fun and you can actually meet strangers/alumni that treat you like family with open arms. I got My first job in an office at my HBCU. My spirituality was tested for the first time. Overall, everything I went Through at Prairie View was a "first time" experience!

### **5. Who are the professors that have impacted your life in and out of the classroom? How did they do that?\***

Dr. Bright - Dr. Bright taught me in many classes but the first was Intro to Social Work. She was the first professor that I had taken in the Social Work department. She impacted my life because she was and still is just always available. She was always there to give me advice whether it was personal, job related, or school wise. She helped me through the hard times. Dr. Wilson - Dr. Wilson was my professor for General Psychology . He had a different approach in how he taught. He challenged your thinking and that is just what he did for me spiritually. I thought and considered my religion and spirituality in ways I was taught not too. Things are passed down for

generations and we don't question it and he taught me that it is okay to ask and figure out the "whys". Dr. Colvin - I can Say Dr. Colvin is the professor that pushed me. He did not accept any kind of work. He was not afraid to embarrass you in front of the class. He taught me that everyone is not going to be easy and when we get in the corporate world, we need to be prepared because considering I am Coming from an HBCU and I am Black, they expect me to mess up. I need to be top of my class and always 10 steps ahead. I did Not always like the way he did things but if it's easy then it's not worth it.

