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17 years later after the photo had been taken, Steve McCurry went to Afghanistan to search for the model of the photo. After through the intense search for the model, she was found and was between 28 and 30 years old. She survived through the hardships, married, and had four children. To me, the young Afghan girl is a symbol of strength and beauty that I will forever remember in my life. The two symbols, the picture and the flag are perfect metaphors of my life: they both represent symbols of strength, responsibility and resilience, which I will always be. I know that studying abroad would be tough but also give me the chance to learn and challenge myself in new ways. Remembering these two symbols help me to persevere even in the darkest moments. When I have to go through hardships, I don't quit until I get it done. As a young boy, I made some wrong decisions; but as time passes and I get older, I find real joy in accomplishing through the hardships and bring back success.