

Abstract
Today's Volunteers – Are They Compassionate Angels
or Just Tired of Being Alone?
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This paper deals with the cultural phenomenon of volunteering. It gives a first hand perspective of a placement at Trillium Health Centre in Mississauga, Ontario. While serving as a recruitment campaign volunteer within the volunteer department, I was able to obtain an interactive understanding of what it is like to volunteer within today's health care system.

This essay gives a thorough description of a multi-care facility that serves over one million patients in Peel and West Toronto.

The essay attempts to answer why exactly people are motivated to volunteer in today's society. There are patterns and trends in volunteering and within this essay; I examine which ones are relevant now. I attempt to draw a correlation between loneliness and volunteering. As well, this paper examines the negative and positive aspects of volunteering and attempts to determine what the "payoff" is for people.

Compassion will be defined and considered as both a positive and negative impetus for volunteering.

I believe that the future of volunteering is about to change drastically and this essay describes some of the societal factors that will contribute to these changes. As well, predictions are made regarding the way volunteers will be recognized within society, and why they will continue to become an increasingly valuable and scarce resource.