Malika Chaib

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As a little girl, I grew up in a household that stressed working hard for what you believed in. My mother and father always told me that getting to where I wanted to be was going to be difficult, but that I should never give up even though it was challenging. My older brothers also told me of their hard times getting jobs or doing big tasks in life, but that in the end they were able to push through because they never lost their motivation. From an early age, I learned the power of perseverance and all the good that it could bring me. I believe it is my best trait because all throughout my adult life, I never gave up.

The perseverance I showed helped me to get through difficult times and tasks I had once deemed impossible. My move from Algeria to America proved to be quite the challenge since I didn’t know anyone, I did not speak English, and I had to go back to school to provide for myself and my family. Looking back, I remember feeling so overwhelmed and unhappy with the situation. Moving to America had seemed like such a mistake when I realized all the hardships I needed to overcome. But, I knew that if I changed my attitude, then the situation would follow suit. I slowly but surely learned how to speak English. I stuck with it and continuously tried my best even though at times it seemed hopeless. Every time I felt like giving up, I reminded myself of why I was doing it and my resolved strengthened. Perseverance also played a big part in helping me get through going back to school. It was very difficult and at times I became discouraged since I felt as if the time for me to graduate would never come. But no matter what, I kept working hard and I tried my best to succeed. I pushed myself to do better and never let myself think about stopping.

My ability to get through difficult things didn’t end after I became a nurse. I have learned that even till this day, I use my greatest strength against failure and negative thoughts. I constantly channel my perseverance into motivation and drive to get work done. Even if I am not sure of myself or I am told what I have done is incorrect, I will still use it to correct my error and keep trying until I have achieved what I set out to do.