Stephanie Diaz

Prof Guthrie

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 Nothing is darker than the phases of adulthood. As a teenager, everyone wants to become an adult but overlooks the challenges they have to face. Life can take a huge toll on you once you begin college. Three main difficulties that I have dealt with was becoming more responsible, maintaining my relationships and building up my finances. My transition from high school to college was a big challenge I had to overcome.

 Once I began college, my life seems like it quickly transformed to a young independent adult. High school was just baby steps into the college world. I had to become more responsible and make sure I handed everything in on time. College gives out twice as much work and longer reports which only makes it more difficult when you have no time in your hands. I am a full time student and working a full time job, controlling my time management was my biggest impact to becoming more responsible. I was able to manage my class schedule so it can be flexible with my work schedule as well as getting a day off both in order to get my homework done as well as running errands. I also struggle with lateness, which I could’ve easily got away with in high school. In college three lateness counts as an absence, so getting up earlier was definitely my main priority. Becoming more responsible made me a strong independent lady, as well as a versatile human being.

 After high school, you realize who your real friends are. Most of the peopled I used to speak to regularly became strangers. Out of all the friends I had, I only maintained close with my best friend. College taught me that some people would only act like your friend because they see you all the time and you just happen to be around. This taught me the difference between my real friends and just associates. As I matured, I also changed the way I think when it comes to relationships. I didn’t take my relationships serious because I felt as if I’m too young to love. Which quickly changed because now my only goal is to build, grow and get married. My relationship with my mother also changed because as I got older I was able to see where she was coming from so I began to help her out with the bills. Not every relationship you build lasts. But the ones I’ve built with now are definitely worth nurturing.

 Another huge difficulty I faced once I hit college was struggling with finances. Now that I started working I had to help my mom out with bills. Paying rent became a huge responsibility because I had to begin to manage my money. Also, with a full time job its hard being a full time student. As a part time student, I’m only eligible for a small coverage of financial aid which leads me to more bills. In high school everything was free, but college is different. I have to pay for my tuition, books, metro cards and food. This definitely has stressed me out but I like to think about it in a positive way. All this hard work will pay off, so switching to a full time student and working to manage my bills will be soon worth it.

 As you can see from my personal experience, college can build independence, can open the doors to new relationships and helps to create my own source of finances. These are the things that can be surprising for a teenager but are the first steps to becoming an adult.