

Otavia Nicely

I want to be just that or even better

Her father died when she was the age of nine and unfortunately, she was one of six. She was raised in a 3rd world country where poverty was high as well as crime and violence. The school system was and still is pretty great. Athletic, music, drama, and academic programs were a big deal. Small groups from each school would compete against each other; these competitions would appear on t.v yearly and would last for a very long time. Which causes celebrations for the entire country as well as the individual schools who participated in the activities. My mother took part in a few of these school activities which kept her busy and distracted from all the crime and violence and all the negative chaos happening in her neighborhood. Worst of luck some people can not find the light on the other side of the tunnel. Well, what does that mean? It means my mother was a smart girl. She was not a straight-A student but she was on the honor roll and she was very mature and independent as a young teenage girl. She was on her school track and was very good at it, but life wanted a different path for her. She got pregnant with me at the age of 16. She has no money, no job and she was still in school but not for long. Jamaica's school system is so strict that you are not allowed to attend school while pregnant. So my mother had to drop out of high school, nine months later had me. She decides to make a tough decision but in the end, it was all for the best.

At the age of 16, my mother left me with my grandma and migrated to America. This was pretty rough for her here. She slept in the laundry mats at nights, sometimes on the floor of her friend's house who didn't always treat her so nicely. My mom's situation eventually changed. In 2011 she got her a place to live, and I migrated to live with her. The palace wasn't

much but at least we were comfortable. Eventually, my mom started to take her life back. By this, she has two kids with a nine to five job, a high school diploma, and no college. My mom wanted more for herself and her kids. She started attending school at first for psychology and then switched over to nursing school. She was in school for six years and was not working for at least 4 years. My brothers and I holidays and birthdays were always sad because my mom had no money to celebrate. The little money she got from our fathers was used for bills and rainy days.

Today I can look at my mom as a successful mother. She was a teenage mother but she didn't let that stop her from wanting better for herself. My mother is a Registered Nurse. She graduated from College of New Rochelle with Honors. Now my mother works at my local NYC public hospital and has been there for about a year.

It's common for someone to look up to their parents. In my case, I personally think there is more to it. My mother's life story is scary but it amazes me how strong she is. To face all these hard challenges and never giving up even when she had thoughts about. There are more in-depth details about the challenges my mother had to face but that's a different story. My mothers life story changed the way I view school. Before my mother was struggling because she didn't have the education that will allow her to thrive in life.

Growing up I hated school. I did well n school as child but I just hated the school. The long hours of sitting in class with rude students who sometimes who dont want to learn. This could be very frusting especally for students who are interested in there learning. I am oneof thoes students who hates a disruptive class. Also the work sometimes become overwhelming. As a young girl I didnt value school the way I do now. It is important that I get an education

because with education I am will be respected with an education and the education I will can have a career and not just a job.

Nursing is not a job to my mother. It is a passion for and something that she is comfortable to doing. I am extremely proud of her and the person she is toady. She is strong young black women who proved to the world that young mothers are able to thrive. Young and pregnant doesn't mean you cannot be successful later in life. My mother is proof that no matter how life knock you down, you can be successful if you put your mind to it. I didn't get pregnant at 16 and I didn't have to experience the hardships that my mother faced growing up, but I want to be just like her. Successful.