

Who I am

The unpredictability of life can be, both shocking and confusing. From my birth to present day, each year has brought an overwhelming feeling of bittersweet reality. The bitter turned out to be: a father who chose not to be in my life, later imprisoned; a mother who would eventually have to raise five and a half children on her own; and the constant moving I went through due to increasing violence in each community I moved to. The sweet was to have the ability to see my mother overcome and rise to any challenge she faced; accepting change as a part of life; and living with an acknowledgement that I am not a victim of life rather I am a fighter.

September 15, 2010 can be called a life changing day. It is a day that allowed me to put things in perspective, and focus on what I wanted most in life. I became pregnant as a sophomore in high school and gave birth to a beautiful baby boy in the autumn of my junior year (September 15, 2010). Abortion was in mind but as I started to contemplate about the situation, I wondered if it was a blessing rather than something bad. I decided to keep the baby and with my mother by my side the entire time, going through my mind was, "What am I going to do next".

First I must graduate high school which is a start. After high school college is definitely not optional, but a must. I have decided I want to major in something that requires mathematical skills, some type of career in accounting or business is what I want to do. I plan to be very successful in anything I do, so I can have it all; have a career instead of a job; take care of my son; put him through school; take care of my mother so she wouldn't struggle anymore; and pay my mother back for all the years she took care of my son.

Being the oldest out of five children and a role model, I want to show my siblings they can accomplish anything if they are focused and determined. Also, I use my baby as an example to let them know they can make the best of any situation. Since my mother had kids and got sidetracked of her education she makes sure that we do not do what she did. My mother is also a great motivator; when she lectures us it makes us indeed think about our future. She does not judge anyone, especially her children. She lets us know always that she will be there for us all. Witnessing my mother struggle to take care of us, it makes me want to be a success for her.

Having a baby at a young age forced me to open my eyes and think about my future. I am dedicated to my education and I am willing to do what ever to live my life my way. Before, I wasn't thinking about my future and education as much as I do now. I would go to school only because my mother made me. Now I go to learn and to gain knowledge. When I first told people I was pregnant all I heard was: get an abortion; your life is going to be over; you won't be able to finish school or go to college; and you will not be able to live your life or dreams. People that told me they will be there for me no matter what changed. people I loved even changed. I thank God for my mother she stayed by my side, and continues to this day.

So now my plans are to prove everyone wrong that said I wouldn't be able to do the things that I am doing NOW!