

Parenthood – The Road

Parenthood, the road that almost every human being travels down. One of the hardest, stressful, rewarding things I have ever had to do. Most people wait to experience parenthood when they are older, and done with school, but I had turned down that road sooner. I became a teen parent. And life as I knew it had changed forever. All of a sudden I had a tiny person that needed me more than anything. How did I do it? What is it like? Does it ever get easier? These are the questions that most teenagers ask when facing that long bumpy road called Parenthood, I know I did.

When I was fourteen I discovered I was going to be a mom. It was a shock, and I had never been so scared. I didn't know how to tell my grandma, but I managed to muster up the courage to tell her. She was furious but I told her that I wanted to keep my baby, so she had no choice but to let me. I was lucky though, most teen parents don't have any support, but I did. I went through my pregnancy with my grandmother, support from my mother (who was incarcerated at the time), and my boyfriend and his family. I was also lucky enough to have my boyfriend stay by my side through everything.

And when my son came I was happy that my pregnancy was over, but I had only just begin to realize that the first of many problems and hardships were just beginning for me. As soon as I was home with my new baby boy I was exhausted. And he needed so much care, I was overwhelmed. Although my sons father was by my side through my pregnancy, he was not as interested when he was born. I was left to wake up every four hours to feed, burp, and change him, all the while my sons father slept and did nothing. It was very exhausting and aggravating. All I wanted to do was sleep, but my newborn baby made sure that was not happening.

Then the problem came with money. I was poor, and so was my sons family. I didn't work and his father only worked part time and spent the majority of his money on marijuana. So my grandmother and his mother were left to buy the expensive formula that always seemed to run

out to soon, and the expensive diapers that never seemed to last. Nothing ever seemed to be easy anymore. I had lost the majority of my friends, and I was never allowed to hang out with them anymore, because I was constantly on mommy duty. My teenage life had officially ended.

After a year of being a mom, I split away from his abusive lazy father. Him and his family then started taking me to court and lying to CPS constantly about me, and that caused so much more stress and problems in my already difficult life. My sons father and I ended up sharing custody of him. Now his father cares for him on the weekends and I have to worry about him during the week when I go to school.

As for school, I go, but it is difficult. I am constantly tired and its hard for me to keep up with my work but somehow I manage. But I know that school is the most important thing for me. I have to go to school so I can have a happy fruitful life with my son. My career plan has changed twice since I have been a teen parent. I had wanted to be a registered nurse and actually taken part in being a C.N.A (certified nursing assistant). I took the C.N.A. Class because it was a requirement to be a Registered nurse, I even passed the state test to be a C.N.A. But I soon realized that my true calling was to be a high school English teacher.

So now my son is 3 years old, I am about to graduate high school, and start college in the fall. I am ready to further my life, and be successful. So, how do I do it? I have no idea. Is it hard? Very. Does it ever get easier? Not that I've noticed. It is still hard to be a teen mom, I would recommend to any other teenager that they wait and stay on there own path before turning down Parenthood road. Its tiring, stressful, and one of the hardest things I have ever had to do.