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### Being Raised By Your Mother Is Not So Bad

Girls always tell me “You’re so much different than all the other guys “. I know that is always my response , because I tend to get that a lot when I talk to girls . I talk differently, I think differently, and I have a whole different approach when it comes many different things . A lot of people believe if a boy were to grow up without a father, he cannot become a man or even act like a man . They say that because they believe you do not have someone to teach you, be by your side and nurture you. Even though this make sense because your surroundings have a big impact on you and how you act that's just one-sided thinking. There's are so many holes in this idea. Being raised by just a mother helps me see things from another perspective. People always assumed I did not have anybody to teach me to be the typical “man “, because my mom went to the parent teacher conferences, she the one who goes to the sports games . Many thought I would have trouble talking to girls, they even believed I would have a challenging time growing up, a lot of the older folks said I would have emotional problems and issues because girls tend to be more emotional then boys and that's who they saw me around .

A lot of people assumed there was not anybody I could reach out to. I wont blame anybody for thinking that you will always believe what your eyes show you but that just was not the case at all, there is someone to fill that void in your life. I tended to latch onto older people I respected to fill that missing piece in my life, like a coach who pushed me to be better, someone who wanted what is best for me, that taught me about working hard for the things you want in life. That is the type of person I would go to when I was confused, needed help, and felt lost. In middle school I used to skip class a lot I didn't care about school or going to class. I would hide in the bathroom , he was a gym teacher so one day he went in and seen my shoes dangling from the stall , I tried to pick them up but he had already caught me . Without going in the stall he just talked to me and said ” for you to get a scholarship to pay for college you need to be a student athlete grades matter too “. He finished his scolding with “ I know you want to help your mom I'm here to make it easier for you to do that ”. All this proves my theory because when something is missing in your life you find a way to fill that void. It is like when you go to the store and your favorite snack is gone you will try to find a different one in place of that. Somebody older than you who knows more is who you will see as that father figure because they are there for you and will drop wisdom when its needed .

Many parents believed I would have trouble communicating and being around females . When you have a father in the house, he could give you advice because he has been through it, he can help you and make sure you do not make the same mistakes. Being raised by a single mother did not make talking to girls any harder, it did the opposite, it made me more comfortable because since my mom is a girl that is what I been around, I was used to seeing girls, hearing them talk

being around girls was only normal to me. I could sit at a lunch table with females and talk about whatever and joke about whatever that was easy to me because that is exactly what me and my mother did. Since I was around my mom and her many mood swings that taught me how to understand a girl's feelings and how to react to situations. In a lot of situations, me and my friends just try to laugh stuff off even if the situations serious, we would just brush it off to the side, it felt like if we stop worrying about it then it would go away, but with my mom it was different. When something serious was happening laughing it off or acting like it was not there did not fix anything, but tapping into my softer side helped, brushing it off did nothing. What we needed was comfort and reassurance. The more you are around something the more you get used to it, that is why this evidence proves my claim, you see something so much it becomes normal. Being around my mom all my life helped me not be shy when it was time to talk to a girl.

In addition just because I did not have a dad I cannot grow from boy to man, many other believed I would struggle in this point of my life, because it is the most challenging mentally and physically, you need someone who has gone through it to help guide you. Growing up is something we all must do eventually; we cannot be kids forever. There comes that awkward stage for every guy called puberty who at home is going to help me my mom? She is not a boy so who can? This is a two-sided answer though, of course if I had a dad, he could answer any questions I have, give any advice we are both boys of course, but I do not have that luxury. The other answer is just me by myself going through puberty is enough growing pain for me to mature and grow up. Slowly learning little by little , slowly going through that alone made me more knowable if had to find answers I had to go looking for them , searching everything up , as I went through it alone there were things that surprised me and caught me off guard , but since I went through it by myself I learned more about myself that growing pain helped . All that talk about me struggling because I didn't have a dad to lean on during that awkward stage didn't even matter , to grow your supposed to struggle it's not supposed to be easy, since all I had was my mother I had to find out another way to get through it , I leaned on myself and by doing that and that forced me to learn about myself.

Many of my mom's peers believed I would grow up with emotional problems, cause as a man you must be strong you cannot be a crybaby. While being raised by my mom, I started to understand emotions and was emotional. She always told me how she was feeling, why, and how to go about it, that helped me understand. I would see my mom reading the mail; I could tell she was distraught, but she never dropped a tear. She would get up and say” I must work harder “. That skill of understanding helped me understand how I was feeling. I asked myself what and how, I was never confused when it came to my emotions, I knew what I was feeling now all that is left is the how I am going to go about its part. Just like how men must be “strong” girls are strong too my mom raising a whole kid on her own with no help that showed me true strength, her strength was instilled into me because of how I watched her react. This evidence proves my claim because I was still taught to be “strong “by just watching how my mom went about life.

In conclusion people assumed since I did not have a dad, I would not have anybody to reach out to either, I would have trouble talking to girls, and I would be able to grow up, they even thought I would grow up with emotional problems. I understand why people feel the way they

do, having a dad around is good but not everybody has that luxury. If you are an older model to someone go be that father figure they need in life, but do not assume the mother does not already have that handled. But that's why girls always tell me “You're so much different than all the other guys ” and to that I laugh and say “ I'm different but I'm still a guy”.