

Being a Parent

The following is a collection of statements by some of Humewood House's students when asked, "*If you had to make a statement about being a parent what would it be?*"

"If I knew life was going to be like this I would have crossed my legs and waited to bring forth another mankind. I would have waited until my guy was more mature in his mind. I feel more grown up during this time and pissed off that he's acting like life is not worth the fight. I wish I knew all this before. I would of protected myself from all lies. I love my son with all my might but if I had a choice I would of waited for a better time."

"I used to hang around silly kids and drink to have fun. After having my baby, I became a more responsible person. I started to care for myself rather than everyone else. I realized that my actions could have my baby taken away from me in a second as I was from my parents growing up. I know now that what you do and what you say can have an affect on your child and although I'm still growing I've learnt that sometimes you have to do better than your best to be a good parent to your child."

"I use to think that parenting was easy until I had got pregnant and started to learn all the things that I needed to know in order to parent positively. There is so much you need to know breast feeding vs. bottle feeding or both; how to care for your baby if he/she is ill with a cold, fever or simple teething. I used to think it was easy until I went through the sleepless nights. I had to learn and use all the supports that I could to help because believe even if it's an open ear, it helps."

“Before I got pregnant everything in my life was fine. I had a family who loved and supported me and a boyfriend to die for. When I found out I was pregnant everything changed. My family disowned me, my friends became distant, and my boyfriend was no longer by my side. My daughter was born, my boyfriend returned and became a better figure in my life. Right now I’m trying to be the best support in all our lives.”

“Life is hard being a teenager, but it gets much harder being a single teen parent in our society, where people are judged for being young and indifferent.”

“I will be a good parent that I am sure. All my life I had to struggle with family and friends in my life. People are sometimes just damn right mean. People say I’m dumb and I caused all the problems in my life.

My answer to them is I will be a good parent, of that I am sure. If nothing else that I am sure.

I once meet this lady who told me I had the power to do better things with my life, that people’s expectations of me were always fair and concrete. Also that I deserved to be loved just like any other child.

My answer to that is I will be a good parent, of that I am sure. If nothing else of that I am sure.

It was hard to comprehend that sometimes people make comments before using their heads. I had a child and soon realized what people thought of me was now irrelevant in my life. It only mattered that I had to care for a special little life.”

All About Me

Everyday I wake up in the morning ready for another day, but sometimes troubles comes my way. I feel like the world is no longer apart of me, but I know in my life it’s all about me. I’m no longer looking for myself. I’m now a mother-to-be. I got to make the right decisions for me and my family. It’s no longer about me. Time is ticking as the days goes by; the nights are longer, the days are shorter, but my child’s life has just begun. But it’s not all about me.

—Thanesha Sterling

To my son Sincere:
Sincere my baby bear
I love you more than you’ll know.
Since you I only smile
Even though you changed my style
You really are a dream come true,
Coming straight from your daddy boo.
Thank God for blessing me,
For Sincere with eyes to see.

Love, your mother, Alisha Bright.