



Character

NAME HERE

Mr. Maguire & Mrs. Suessen

National Junior Honor Society

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### My Father & Character

Character, a nine letter word that is defined, according to dictionary.com , as the quality of courage, honesty and integrity. When I read these words my mind visualized of a lot of people, but only one stood out like a red scarf in a funeral: my father. The man that raised me and taught me right from wrong.


He still has not accomplished his job as a father, but he has gone a long way and he didn't always have character. From an intolerable mother to an alcoholic father. He heard his father abuse and make her mother's life a nightmare that she could never wake up from. He then, to cover pain and suffering, turned to alcohol at an alarming young age. Raised along side his brothers and two sisters he still felt alone.

At age sixteen my father met my mother. They don't call it sweet sixteen for nothing. He fell in love and married in his later twenties. He was still consuming alcohol.

Then there was a turning point in my father's life: me and my sister were born. I was first born and my sister came in to this world a year later. A year too soon for my liking. He finally decided that enough was enough. He took a self-examination and realized that drinking wasn't going to help him raise a family. He didn't want me or my sister to go through what he had to go through. Don't all parents who have had a dreadful past feel the same way?

My father thought and decided that his way and behavior is repeating what his father

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was like. He wanted to prove wrong the saying "like father like son." He wanted to have integrity, unlike his father.

He has character, there is no doubt about that. Not only did he stop and think about what he was doing and how it would affect his family if he kept doing it, but he kept improving. Not once did he relapse into how he was before. He is a changed man. He is now honest, trustworthy, and has integrity. He has immeasurable character.