

Sample Essay

My name is Tuauna Boutwell. I am a young African American female of thirty-seven years. I have three wonderful children who I have devoted my life to from a very young age. I became a mother at sixteen, so taking care of others is all that I know. I believe motherhood has shaped me and helped make me who I am today. Three important characteristics that help me be a good mother, and make me who I am, are my devotion to my family, my dependability, and my generosity.

My first quality, and the most important to me, is my devotion to my family. Devotion to my family is important to me because I care deeply for all of my relatives. A while back my aunt was struggling in her life and was going to lose her children. I could not bear the thought of a family member living with a stranger, so I was given temporary custody of my cousins until my aunt got herself together. This is just one example of why devotion to my family is important to me and makes me who I am.

The second characteristic that defines me is my dependability. This quality, I feel, makes me a great person. I have friends, family members and even friends of my children that depend on me on a daily basis. For example, I have a vehicle and most of the people in my life do not. Due to this they depend on me for rides to get to and from school or work. This takes up a lot of my time, but I always find a way to make it happen and help everyone. My dependability relates closely to my third and final quality, my generosity.

The final quality that makes me who I am is my generosity. I was taught when I was a child to always help people in need because the good deed will always come back to you. I'm the first person to open a door for someone, I have given a homeless man the coat off of my back, and I will even feed total strangers! Not only am I generous for good karma, but also because it's the right thing to do. In other words I follow the Golden Rule, which states, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

In conclusion, the three qualities that define me are my devotion to my family, my dependability, and my generosity. All three have developed in me because of my experiences as a parent and in life. I hope that as a parent I can instill these and other positive qualities in my children.