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## **A LAW OF LIFE**

Throughout my life, I have learned many lessons that have helped me to become the person I am. Some of these lessons I am sure to forget, but many have stuck with me so far in my 15 years. The one law of life that I think is the most important to me is to be myself no matter what others think. The best advice I ever got was that it's not our job to make others like us, but it is our job to like others, and the only way other people are ever going to like you is if they see the real person you are. Of course, not everyone is going to like you, but if you can't be yourself, how are you going to be able to ever live a fulfilling life? I have heard so many things on the news about kids going to drastic measures to fit in or do something horrific because some people couldn't accept that they were different. It makes me very sad to know that these people are ruining their lives because other people have so much cruelty in their hearts not to show some acceptance.

I am a regular 15 year old girl with a nice family, a good home and lots of friends. The one thing I have decided to do throughout my life is to accept people for who they are, even if I don't agree with their way of life. As teenagers, everyone is trying to figure out who they are, and unfortunately, I think a lot of young people try to be like others because they don't want to make their lives any harder than it already is. These are the people, however, that are going to grow up to be insecure and unhappy because they couldn't be comfortable with themselves.

Everyday, I see lots of diverse kids at my school, and some snicker and laugh at the ones who don't wear the brand name clothes or that don't hang out with the "cool crowd". I realize that this is not the type of person I want to be. I admire those kids that are different and show it, but I pity those who can't be themselves because they are the ones that will never be able to be at peace with who they are as long as they

keep this attitude.

I am one of those kids who is extremely lucky, because I am comfortable with myself and don't care too much about what others think. Consequently, I will try new things without caring too much about what it will do to my image. I have joined students council and tons of sports and have met many people who have the same values and enjoy the same things as I do. Being myself and realizing who I am will give me a huge advantage over those who don't because I will know what my dreams and goals are in life, and I will not live my life for others. I am not saying I don't have times when I am insecure, because that is definitely not true. I am still a teenager and having some doubts is good, because it keeps some balance in my life. But never change the way you feel about yourself because of what others say.

I have found that setting goals for yourself, and maybe writing down things that you want to accomplish throughout your life, gives you a better chance of sticking to your goals and dreams which is, in turn, making you the best person you can possibly be.

The only advice that I can be sure to tell others my age is not to become a lawyer or doctor or rock star because your parents want you to, or act a certain way to be able to fit in with friends. You will regret it when you get older. I have noticed that this world is so money and power-hungry, but I know that having the most money in the world will never fill your life the way confidence, love and acceptance of yourself can. You can have all of the power and money in the world, but without these qualities, these things won't mean anything if you can't be yourself while you have them. I know not everyone is going to understand what I am saying, but, in my opinion, being you is the best advice I can give because, to me, spending your life comfortable with yourself will open many opportunities for what you want to do and not what other people want you to do.