

SEPTEMBER/2011 BLOG...

Today is the first day of the rest of my life.....

How easy it is for society to view Inmates as nothing more than objects, lock 'em up and forget about them. I think sometimes people forget that we are human beings that each possess hopes and dreams, potential for what they might achieve, we all feel pain. There are some of us who have a goal of having a 'Normal' life and will achieve that. I love my new roll as a Transgender activist fighting for the rights of the Imprisoned Trans Inmate. I love my new found extended family. I have never in my whole life felt as loved as I do now. I have the continuing support of my family, friends, both old and new and I have a whole new outlook on life. I know I will have a good life once I leave. I know it will be a fight, to be me, I know that my father doesn't quite understand the whole Trans thing but is supportive none the less and I love him dearly for that.

My Brother Mark who always listens to my ramblings and when I need anything always manages to get it to me. I have met new friends thanks to my blog, I know what I want to do with my life and I am taking steps to realize that goal. As strange as it sounds I have met my soul mate here. Life will be what you make of it and that is the biggest lesson of being incarcerated. You can continue to stay involved in the same drama here, that you were in on the streets or you can shake it all off, create a new life and go out and live it. Will it be easy? NO. Can it be done? absolutely. I look forward to my new life. Prison will make you realize what is important in life at least it did for me. I absolutely refuse to be the same dummy when I leave as when I came in!!!!!!! :)

You live and hopefully learn!!! I so wish I would have learned younger :) I had some really good opportunities but blew them all. I think because I had never really felt loved, sure I had people who were around me and cared but I never really felt like I mattered, I was always searching for something and I think part of it was the Trans thing. I have grown up in the last 8 years of my incarceration, I still have alot of child like ways :) but now I don't have to hide or be afraid of who and what Iam. The hardest thing I have ever done was to tell my father that I would spend the rest of my life as a woman. Scared the hell out of me. I still can't quite bring myself to sign my name when I write him so I just initial with a flare. He absolutely accepts me unconditionally and has taught me to do the same. I will be spending the rest of my life trying to show people that it is O.K. to be who and what YOU choose, don't be confined or constricted by other's opinions or attitudes. There is a whole big life out there that you can live. If you allow yourself to live it. I have nothing else to be afraid of...I Can now be me in ALL my fabulousness!!!!!!!  
I think the next post will be about my life as a young Trans and the traps I fell into... TERRA

BLOG/ SEPTEMBER 2011...

I was appalled and disgusted today...I was on the prison yard today and saw an Inmate stabbed! The reason he was stabbed was because he called someone a punk. I can not believe that life here has so little meaning. He is barely hanging on to life. Im more shocked at the attitudes of people here. Most think he had it coming because he talked shit to the other guy. DISGUSTING. The scary part is that this is the pervasive attitude with both guards and Inmates alike. What do we do? How do we change it? How do we make this enviroment something that is positive? how do we convince people that they can live differently? I hate this place. How dare people have such a small disregard for human life. You can not imagine the constant fear of living here, the constant stress of looking over your shoulder. It is insane. I sometimes take on too much emotionally and this almost has me going over the edge. I realized what a crazy place I live in. I feel so bad for the gentleman he was older like senior citizen old and the guy who did it was a youngster. NO ONE CARES and that is the scariest part, well almost no one. How do we change this prison culture? How do we teach people that a better life is possible? That they don't have to live this way any longer? How do we teach them that life has meaning.

I don't know where Im at emotionally right now but I know that this place is crazy and I hope that i make it out with my sanity. I can't get over what happened today...I want to keep my head down and get through this without any incidents, But i FEEL I can't do that...I have to get involved and I have to try and show or convince people that there is a different way...that though can be just as dangerous as you have to be extremely careful how you say things, no matted how innocent they can be twisted...it seems that your damned if you do and damned if you don't. All I want is for people both LGBT and Straight and everything in between to live the best life they can and to realize that every life has meaning...

I guess thats enough for now, when life gets you down or things seem out of whack just remember life is not that bad and it will always get better. I know I said I would write about my life as Trans, I promise I will start that i my next post....

All my best

TERRA