

10/20/16: 10:00am: WATCHING FOOTBALL ON TV

DEAR JAMIE,

HI, HOW ARE YOU? HAVEN'T HEARD FORM YOU IN AWHILE. HOW ARE YOU? MUST BE BUSY IN SCHOOL. BUT LIVING A LIFE TOO. I SIT HERE WATCHING MY FOOTBALL PLAY ON NATIONAL TV IN ENGLAND (CINCINNATI BENGALS). HERE IT HAS GOTTEN COLD BUT WINTER HASN'T HIT US YET HERE. I FINALLY GOT TO TALK TO MY DAUGHTER. I SPOKE TO KRISTA ON HER 19th BIRTHDAY & THIS WAS MY FIRST TIME EVER BEING ABLE TO TELL MY LITTLE GIRL HAPPY BIRTHDAY ON HER BIRTHDAY. I WAS SO HAPPY TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HEAR HER LITTLE VOICE. I DON'T LIKE HER DECISIONS BUT SHE'S MINE, I LOVE HER & I DON'T KNOW HOW TO BE A PARENT. SO I WILL DO MY BEST, SUPPORT HER, SHOW HER THAT I LOVE HER & PRAY FOR THE BEST. SHE IS SUCH A GOOD KID BUT NEEDS GOOD ROLE MODELS & FAMILY IN HER LIFE. IT'S HARD WHEN YOU HAVE NO PARENTS TO RELY ON LIKE MOST PEOPLE DO. SO WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WHAT ARE YOU STUDYING IN SCHOOL? I NEVER WENT TO HIGH SCHOOL BUT I GOT MY G.E.D., WHICH IS WHAT YOU CAN GET IN THE USA & IT IS ALMOST THE SAME AS FINISHING HIGH SCHOOL. I WAS GIVEN A JOB. I AM ON A MAINTENANCE CREW. WE GET PAID 19€ AN HOUR TO WORK HARD BUT WHAT FRUSTRATED ME WAS I GOT 19€ TO WORK OVERTIME. IN THIS COUNTRY WHEN YOU WORK OVERTIME, YOU NORMALLY GET YOUR DAILY SALARY PLUS ANOTHER HALF OF THAT. SO IF YOU MAKE 20 EUROS AN HOUR IN SWITZERLAND, DOING OVERTIME YOU WOULD MAKE 30 EUROS AN HOUR. THEY MADE US WORK 16 HOURS ONE DAY. 3 GUARDS WATCHED 6 OF US PRISONERS CLEAN WINDOWS ON LADDERS. THE 3 GUARDS MADE OVER \$50 AN HOUR FOR OVER TIME. & PEOPLE WONDER WHY PRISONS ARE SO COSTLY. IT'S STAFF SALARIES. BUT THATS NOT MY FIGHT. I SPOKE TO MY MOM THIS MORNING. SHE IS BACK IN THE HOSPITAL. SHE HOPES TO GO HOME TOMORROW. I'LL BE 40 ON NOVEMBER 30, MY MOM SAID SHE STILL REMEMBERS ME AS A BABY. I TOLD HER YOU CANNOT REMEMBER WHAT YOU ATE YESTERDAY BUT YOU REMEMBER 40 YEARS AGO. MOM HAS SEIZURES TOO SO SHE HAS A BAD MEMORY. NO JAMIE, PRISON STAFF DO NOT READ OUR LETTERS OR MAIL. YOU ARE A FUNNY GIRL & I KNOW YOU'RE GONNA GROW UP TO HELP PEOPLE. DON'T EVER LET ANYONE ELSE DISCOURAGE YOU FROM PURSUING YOUR DREAMS & GOALS IN LIFE. DON'T LISTEN TO ANYONE WHO SAYS YOU CAN'T DO IT. I'VE LEARNED A PERSON CAN DO ALMOST ANYTHING IF THEY PUT FORTH THE EFFORT. SO IF YOU TRULY DO WANT TO HELP PEOPLE, STAY IN SCHOOL, GET YOUR EDUCATION & DO WHAT YOU WANT TO DO. I'LL BE YOUR FIRST GUINEA PIG IF YOU NEED ONE.

WELL I GOTTA GET GOING. ALOT TO DO IN MY CELL. WE ARE ON LOCKDOWN. A GUARD ARGUED WITH A PRISONER, THE GUARD SPIT IN HIS FACE, SO HE PUNCHED THE GUARD. NOW WE ARE ALL ON LOCKDOWN & MUST SUFFER. TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, DO YOU LIKE SWITZERLAND? I HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU SOON. GOD BLESS, CIAO. PS: CAN YOU SKI?