

Why is it Important to stay in school?

Hello my name is Jennifer Johnson. I was living in poverty, by the age of 23; I had four children out of wed-lock. All I knew was welfare, ~~and~~ food stamps and wic program. Why did my life end up this way? Because I lost hope when I became pregnant in the father of my baby said this is not my baby, which is the norm for our African American men as it appear. Prior before that I had a job at McDonald and was a Private 1st class in the Army JROTC in New Jersey. I was happy until I start sneaking around with men that drug deal or older than me, I begin to party all the time. This lifestyle lead to one bad happen stance after another. Some men can make you feel so bad, mine started after I came out of my mom wound through my stepdad. So I already had low self esteem, men ~~prey~~ preyed on that. Because I had open wounds that fester like poison ivy that led me to do things like hanging out with the wrong crowd of people, that didn't have my best interest at hand. I became the ~~pipe~~ pipeline of incarceration with a life sentence with possibility of parole at the age of 23. While hanging around my home girls that I would have gotten in trouble earlier but my moms stop me from hanging around them. With me becoming the product of incarceration, I beat myself up because not only didn't I finish school, now I am not going to be able to raise my 2, 3, new born baby and left with a circumstance surrounding a deceased baby that was 4 months old.

I have alot to face and too much to wrap ~~me~~ my head around. I had my 24th birthday in diagnostic at

a State prison in Georgia. Am I going to admit I have issues that I need help with or try to continue on a road to destruction? There was a muslim chaplain who grabbed me placing me in her group. She gave me words of wisdom. Chap told me I was a beautiful young lady even though I fall for the enemy plans. I can correct whatever mistakes that cause me to be in prison. She said do you know how you are going to do that. I said no, she said do you have a GED? I said no, ma'am. She said you have a second chance ~~at getting~~ to get your education. Chap said you need to get it because your going to need it whenever you hit society. Once again she said you are beautiful, you might not feel that way because so many people have torn you down, my child.

But I am here to tell you are somebody special and hold your head up, stop walking around with your head down. I never told this lady anything about me but she was a angel from almighty ~~go~~ God that sent her to me. So when I got to next prison, I remembered her ~~encouraging~~ encouraging words. I never wore makeup at home. I begin to take color pencils and begin to do my makeup daily. I kept my hair fixed up knowing that I was somebody special in spite of my circumstances. I know how it feels to go through as a child. Since I been in this world people always mistreated me, lied on me, setting traps and picking at me as if I am nobody.

I even had adults who withheld things from ~~me~~ me even though I was deserving of whatever it was. I want all my children ~~all over~~ all over the world to pick your self up, because you are somebody special. One thing nobody can take away from you once you have earned it is your education.

I went back to GED school. I graduated with honors, Then I find myself taking vocational classes where I earned certification in Residential and Commercial Plumbing, Associate of Hospitality, Business Technology and customer service, Culinary ART, has many OJT- Sanitation-Janitorial, data entry, line server, prep-cook, sewing machine operator. Then I find myself ~~enrolled~~ enrolled in Ashland University Just graduated with my Associate of ART Degree. Currently working towards my Bachelor of ARTS in Business communication. I was already double minoring with business management and sociology. I was suppose to graduate December but I decided to take up a third minor of Business administration. I have a eligibility Parole reconsideration for October 2023, at the age of 48 years old. The reason I am telling my age because some people will wonder what is her age today.

I will continue my education upon release because I am trying to get my doctrine degree in the mental health counseling. But I am headed in the government and business world. For the Summer of 23 I made the dean list for Ashland University with a GPA of 3.7525. I am proud of myself and self esteem is better than it has ever been and my attitude is way better as well because I have learned how to carry myself as a lady of eloquence with passion and gracefulness for others. Prison has taught me many things that was worth the time. I have grown into a beautiful lady on the inside and outside that is for society.

My speech to the youth don't want to you become a pipeline of juvenile, jail and prison to pick yourself up from where people have mistreated you and damage your identity. Pick your self up

now, right where you are. You are worthy to say to
change direction knowing you are somebody special
and you created a for a purpose on this earth. When
I look upon any child on TV or when I go out to society,
I see future doctors, lawyers, judges, congress women and
men, governor, our next presidents. Babies you got
look farther to future. You can shape your own life
by what you put into your mind and who you keep
company with. Adults teach these children to love
themselves as well as others. Sometimes teachers, the
neighbor, strangers has to help these babies to get
on the right path.

For the most every child under the sound of my voice
please get your education because it's worth it in the
end. If nobody told you babies that they love you
today, I love you babies. If nobody has told
our little men they handsome. I am telling our little
men I see ~~a bunch~~ a lot of handsome men out there,
Look in the mirror in say to yourself I am fly,
yes sir I got going on. For our little girls I see
a lot of beautiful little women. Look at yourself
in the mirror say to self I am beautiful on the
inside and outside, say to yourself I am sexy
and beautiful woman. Jennifer Johnson loves all
of you babies. I know you are somebody special
with a purpose on earth that don't include drugs
& early death, jail, prison, juvenile detention - I say
to self I have a real destiny but these things are
off limit above.

written by Jennifer Johnson

noted to my present and future faithful viewers. I want to
thank you for continue support. I humbly ask for help during
these tough times. All donation of any amount is desperately needed
and greatly appreciated. You can forward all donations to my
CASH APP: \$ Jenny J. 228