Everyone knows that things are not always how you think they are. That can even be true about what you think is right and wrong. For example some people might think that being a strict parent is wrong, whenever I go out to the mall, I see kids that are totally out of control and parents who just let them do whatever they want. On TV it makes it sound like the only way to be a good parent is to give your child anything they want. Once I would have wished to be one of those kids, but now my opinion has changed.

When I was growing up, my parents were very strict with me. 1)It made me so angry I thought that they didn’t trust me or my friends and they treated me like a little girl even when I was almost old enough to go away to college. 2)I had a curfew while most of my friends could stay out as long as they wanted, even on school nights. I was not allowed to go to parties if my parents didn’t know the family, but most of my friends didn’t even have to ask permission. If my grades dropped it seemed like I wasn’t allowed to do anything at all. My friends had their own credit cards and got to buy whatever they wanted but I had to have a part-time job if I wanted more than what I got for my birthday or Christmas presents. It seemed to me like I got a pretty bad deal compared to the girls I went to school with. It wasn’t just that they were freer than me; it was that I felt like they got treated like adults while I got treated like a kid.

Now that I’ve been out of high school for a couple of years, I have my own job and make my own decisions. One of those decisions was to go to college as soon as I could. Going to college is one thing that will help me to keep making decisions for myself in the future. For example instead of having to work the kind of job that I have now where somebody else makes my schedule and tells me what to do, I want to have my own business so that I can make all of those decisions for myself. The good part is that I know how.

All of those rules that I had to follow growing up help me every day at my job. They were not just rules they were responsibilities. I have an easy time understanding what my I have to do and why, and I have an easier time doing it than other kids my age. Since I’ve been working at the store, there have been lots of people who come in and work for a few weeks, get mad about having to follow the rules and leave. That’s okay for them. But being able to stay here and do my job has helped me to move up enough that I am now one of the assistant floor managers. This means that they will pay for me to come to school.

It’s not just that I know how to follow rules but that I know how to do things for myself. I am ready to make good decisions for myself and then later for my own business. My friends all felt sorry for me that my parents are so strict but now I am glad that I know how to take care of myself and do what I need to do to have a good life.