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My Three Role Models

When I think about a role model, I define him or her as a person to look up to. To be considered a role model, this person has to have good values. A role model should be able to demonstrate motivation, dedication, and success to others. In my case, my role models are my mother, my grandma, and my stepfather.

To begin with, I look up to my mother because she has shown me how great motivation can guide someone toward a better future. After my biological parents divorced when I was two years old, as a single parent, my mother made sacrifices to be able to take good care of me. She worked two jobs, day and night, to afford necessities: food, clothes, and medical care. I struggled with seizures and asthma as a toddler, conditions which motivated my mom to work harder for a better future for us. Within time, because of her motivation, my mom and I did achieve a happier life, and we are now part of a family of five who provide emotional support for each other.

Secondly, I consider my grandma as a role model because she was always dedicated to find whatever was best for her children. She struggled, battling a brutal, toxic marriage with my grandpa. For example, my grandpa made my grandma, while she was pregnant, work in a cornfield to earn money. Later my grandpa abandoned my grandma and his daughters for his pregnant mistress, and he took his sons to live with him. My grandma was devastated to have her sons far away from her, but she dedicated herself, as a single mother, to move forward by

striving for a better future for her other two children, who were my mom and my aunt.

A third example of a good role model is my stepfather because he succeeded through a difficult childhood. Like my mother, he and his family struggled to afford food, clothes, and shoes. He survived with one pair of shoes, about five outfits of clothing, and little food. When he was fourteen years old, he was separated from his mother and sister when his dad took him and his brother to the United States for job opportunities. It has been twenty-five years since he last saw his mother and sister except through video chats. Although I know that he misses his mother and sister, I am grateful to have my stepfather in my life as a role model. Although he is strict, he leads me toward a better future by motivating me to strive for success through a higher education and by being responsible.

I can say I have a family history of good role models. My mother and grandma taught me that dedication and motivation are important. I look up to my stepfather for the same reasons. They are all role models to me because they were all able to succeed because of their hard work.