

Melvine Vukhaya

Form 3

REFUSAL TO ABORTION

Sometimes we can really face challenges in life to the point of giving up but if we realize our value, we can overcome the challenges and become the standard measure. Sharleen is a true example of this. She went through two difficult times in her life and rose up to become a banker and a person looked up to by her relatives in life. She made me realize that if one commits a mistake, they can still rise up and correct their mistake. She lives in Dagoretti.

Sharleen was the last born in a family of five children. She lived in a one roomed house together with her family. Her mother struggled to make ends meet. Sharleen's two brothers both finished high school and moved out of their mother's house. Sharleen and both her sisters finished primary school and both joined secondary school. They used to be sent home for school fees almost all the time.

Sharleen usually tried to talk to their class teacher and tell her about the condition at home. Her teacher was very understanding and used to intercede for her to the principal to let them stay in school. Sharleen was very bright and had an outstanding performance throughout her form one. She used to lead her class in discussion and helped them in ways of reading and passing the exam.

Her mother was very proud of her and encouraged her to continue working hard. At the start of form two, Sharleen's mother was diagnosed with cervical cancer. She went for several chemotherapy's. She later had to inform her children about her condition. Sharleen was very sad being that she has a single parent who was sick. She loved her mother very much. Unfortunately her mother died in March. Sharleen felt that she had lost everything in her life. How could she move on?

Her uncle Odero took up the responsibility of paying Sharleen's school fees for high school. Sharleen went back to school but her grades dropped greatly. She was devastated she got involved with a boy. Later on, Sharleen got pregnant she went into depression for she did not know how to break the news to her uncle who paid her school fees. Finally, she gathered courage and told her uncle.

Her uncle drove her out of his house telling her to terminate the pregnancy or else he would not pay school fees for her. Sharleen went to stay at her friend's house. The pregnancy was made known to all her relatives. Everyone advised her to abort the pregnancy so that she could continue with her education. Sharleen decided firmly that she was going to own up for her mistake. She was not going to abort the pregnancy.

She even moved out of her friend's house who was advising her to abort. She moved to Kibera and found work as a house maid in Lang'ata. She broke up with most of her friends and relatives. When she was eight months pregnant and could not work anymore, she started selling groundnuts and household stuffs. In the ninth month of her pregnancy, on this particular day, she sold groundnuts to an old man. They became friends and Sharleen shared her story to the old man.

The old man agreed to help her and she told her story to the sisters in a certain orphanage. The sisters congratulated her on her decision not to abort. Finally, Sharleen gave birth to a girl. The sisters agreed

that they would pay for her education so that she could finish her high school and join her dream university Egerton University. Sharleen was determined to not let her mistake define her.

She finished her high school and got an A-. She joined Egerton university where she studied to be a banker. Her child was well taken care of at the orphanage. Her education was catered for. Sharleen finally started working and helped in running of the orphanage. She was really loved by people for her kindness and her caring nature.

Sharleen was finally ready to forgive her relatives and inform them about her life. All those who mocked her including her sisters realized that they have been very unfair to her. Her uncle sought forgiveness from her for all the horrible things he had told her. Sharleen was very relieved. She was happy that she had not terminated her pregnancy even with the circumstances it bore. Her baby was a source of joy to her and a blessing. Truly, her firm decision had born good fruits.