

1 = Interviewer

2 = Interviewee

1: Hello there, want to tell us a little bit about yourself?

2: Hi I am 22 years old. I'm a fourth-year journalism student at Cal Poly from [redacted to protect confidentiality].

1: What do you study?

2: Public relations and my minor is in integrated marketing Communications

1: Awesome, and what do you plan on doing with your degree?

2: I would like to do entertainment marketing or entertainment PR [redacted to protect confidentiality].

1: Okay, all right then lets get down to it! So, what does resilience mean to you beyond just the basic definition?

2: I would say just overcoming an obstacle or being tenacious in the face of obstacles.

1: Perfect, so the purpose of this interview and ultimately this project is to basically get a bunch of people from different walks of life and figure out how they have overcome their obstacles in life as well as find out what resilience means to them specifically. So, has there been anything in your life that you feel was an obstacle that was very difficult to surmount where you showed resilience?

2: I think something that's been the most persistent would be the drug use in my family, specifically my mom and my dad. They got divorced and I was young, so they were not in the same household, but they had the same narcotics addiction, opioids, so that was prevalent in my life growing up because when I was at my mom's she was struggling with that and then I'm going to my dad's and he would also have the same issue.

1: So what time is kind of split and you never really got a break from it?

2: No, not really. So, I don't exactly know how it all started, but I know that they both have had issues with it pretty much their whole lives and it's kind of been a running problem in my family. My dad's mom also had issues with it and then so did his younger brother. He went to prison for 15 or 16 years because he robbed a retirement home trying to get medication from them. But with my mom she's pretty much using it I think from the time I was a toddler up until when I left for college. It got bad for her when she had cancer, ovarian cancer. She got a hysterectomy and she started taking a lot of medication, so her body just became really depended on it and then my dad got in a bad motorcycle accident when I was about five or six he was hospitalized. He broke just

about every bone in his body and came very close to death. So that kind of furthered the issue that he already had. But they just seemed to be really checked out in life. It was hard being a kid in that environment, with no real parental outlet.

1: Was there any specific time or occurrence that you really had to

2: I just, you know, when you're young you don't really know what's going on you just think that that's how they are. I don't think I was ever really told exactly what happened I just thought that that's how my parents were. Its kind of made me do everything by myself and made me work a little bit harder and I think that that is going to kind of carry on to other aspects of my life outside of, you know, what I experienced in high school or what I work for in college and everything. It makes me want to do things by myself and makes me not want to ask for help because that's how I grew up, so I feel like it's so much more rewarding to have something done that way then kind of going through life with some sort of help or aid from someone else.

1: So, was there ever a time that you can recall where things just got out of hand and you realize, you know, this isn't how you want to live your life and you decided to make a change from there?

2: I think specifically with my mom it got bad in high school. That's when our fights got physical. I can recall one fight when I was getting ready for school in the morning and we were in a huge argument that escalated. She got in my face and she pushed me and we just kind of started pushing back and forth, hitting each other. And she ends up pushing me down the stairs. I was 17 and had my license so I drove to school and I had a math class with a one of my friends. One of my friends' parents was the teacher and I looked like I had been crying or something is wrong, so he pulled me out of the class and talked to me and let me stay the night at his house with my friend.

1: So, what did you take out of this experience, when you were being resilient throughout high school?

2: I wanted my independence, so I didn't have to answer to anyone. When I left I had done just student loans for tuition. I didn't want to have to owe them anything. I didn't want to have to rely on them and I got my first job or my first like professional job right out of high school when I graduated. I worked for an engineering firm that was a family friend and it helped me save up enough money to be able to keep myself self-sustained. So, I was able to pay for sorority dues and do all that and kind of keep myself afloat at Cal Poly. and I kind of trade that through all of college I started working two jobs during my Junior and Senior year of college and I did all of my school work even in high school really independently because neither of them went to college or graduated from high school so that in itself was really a struggle just because I couldn't get any help like when I had issues with homework. So that was another thing that just kind of drove me to be more independent was just doing everything on my own and so I did all my college applications by myself. I paid for all my furniture like anything that was paid for or done in college was paid for by myself and you know I'm thankful for it. Going through all that

made me realize that I don't want to have to rely on anyone for anything and that I want to be able to rely on myself throughout my life.

1: Awesome, thank so you much for your time.