Ayleen J. Villacres

Professor Beverley Crawford-Locke

College Writing 1

13 February 2023

<div align="center">If only I had listened to my mom</div>

My entire heart just stopped, that's how I feel when I feel alone when my mom was not with me. Every time my mom used to say, take my hand Ayleen, I never did it. I had 6 years when I got lost, it was an hour, but it was the worst hour of my life. I got lost a lot of times when I was kid, I loved to stop and see everything in my around me, and I always feel like a big girl and never took my mon's hand, until the last time I got lost, that day terrified, and since that day I started listening to her, for the first time I was obedient to her.

I was around 6 years old, I used to see everything in my around. Every detail in a store, clothes, shoes, instruments, candies, every time I passed by any store, I could stare at it, and wait until I see everything. My mom was always worried about me because i didn't use to listen to her. My little brother was a baby at that time, so she has to take care of him. My older brother was the one to give me his hand, and sometimes my mom was too. The phrase of the year was always, "Ayleen take your brother's hand". I felt already grown, and I never used to take it, until one day that I got lost for 1 hour, and my entire heart stopped, with fear of every person who passed by me, the feeling of emptiness, I should have listened to my mom!.

I remembered every moment, I went to a festival with my mom, my stepfather, and my little brother, it was a lot of people going in different ways, and the festival was over so we were trying to find a place to eat. My mom took my hand and I remembered me telling her to let me go alone, that I'm big, she repeated so many times "No, No, No", listen to me, I don't want you

to get lost again". I wanted to go but the store cites, and my mom didn't, so I pull here up there and forcefully my hand broke free of hers, I was finally free! yes, what a nightmare, after a huge mountain of people came by. At first, I was like "Yeah! I made it". I walk through at dress store, it was beautiful, I was looking at everything, the shoes, all of them in different colors, nail polish of every color! I loved this place, it was shining everywhere. The whole wall was full of unicorns and the ceiling had a beautiful rainbow. I walked to the princess part of the store, they had pink hairdressers! And a lot of makeup, wow!! You could do your own makeup! They had eyeshadow palettes, all of them with shapes of princesses, and near to that was the best part, you could take a photo with a princess, I loved it here, but then something really change my mood, something suddenly hit my mind. where's my mom? Every shine and happy thought just magically disappear, and a feeling of fear came to the deepest part of my heart. I realized, that this entire moment I was all by myself. I saw through the window and I feel terrified and anxious, I didn't see my mom, just random people going in different ways. For the first time in my life I feel my heart broken, I didn't know, where to go, or what to do. I started crying, silently, I didn't want to talk to anybody, I was lost and scared. Why I didn't listen to my mom? Why I didn't take her hand? I sat there and realized, where she could be, this was actually my first time there, so I didn't know anything about that place. I had my eyes all swollen and everything I wanted was my mom. I sat down on the floor for like 20 minutes and saw how every person stare at me, I was afraid that someone would do something to me, my mom always told me to don't ever talk with strangers and this time I was going to listen to her. I decided to walk over and try to look for her, bad idea, it was becoming darker! I couldn't even feel myself. I walk for about 10 minutes more and I found a park, the park was all dark and empty, my heart was raising, what if someone comes? What am I going to do? I can't protect myself. I had a lot of emotions going on,

nostalgia, sadness, loneliness, and anguish. I was not a big girl, I was a 6 years old girl, all missing. I waited in the park for like 10 minutes more, trying to realize what I can do. A man with a girl came, no no no, I feel bad, really bad, what if that was a bad guy, would take me, no no, I started to cry and I wanted to run. Hopefully, I didn't. He asked if I was lost, shaking of anguish I said yes, I am. He brought me to a police station, and how could I forget this?! My mom always prepared for this moment, since I have memory, her big goal was to make me memorize her phone number, in case of an emergency. YES!! This was a case of emergency! This hall time I had the solution in my head. I was angry with myself. My mom was close to the police station. hopefully!! She came in 5 minutes. I run to hug her! my heart and my soul came all my body back. I was safe, I was secure, and I was finally with my mom. The hall wait back to my house, my mom didn't say anything. I saw her face, she cried, a lot, I mean a lot, her makeup was all gone, her mascara and the tears made a black around in her eyes, she looked tired, but not of something, tired of being crying. We didn't talk about it. I feel bad, my mom probably faced the worst moment in her life, trying to find her daughter, just cause I disobedience her with the only ruler she gave me. "Take my hand Ayleen, please".What a bad girl, I was mad, angry, and disappointed with myself. If I just would do what she told me, everything would be different.

I imagine how my life would be if I won't listen to her, that day I promise myself that I would always obey her, no matter what, because I will never put her in the moment I did before. I didn't understand why my mom wanted to protect me a lot when I was a kid, until now that I see thousand of lost children, and maybe they didn't listen to their parents too. It changed, I'm 18 now, and even if she tells me not to do something I take her opinion because she wants the best for me and now with things that she already experienced.