

STORY OF J: Emotional, Social and Cognitive Development

“As my son turn 9 years of age, I had basically lost hope that he would awaken from “his world”. I was convinced that there was no other avenue but the conventional ones to label his disconnected mind and behavior and bring some type of comfort and meaning to justify his awkward interaction with others. Mingling with his peers became more of a forum of ridicule and in “his world” this was not even a point of concern. It was at this juncture of his life that luckily Dr. Serrano crossed the path of his life, as his fourth grade teacher, while she had taken a year of sabbatical leave to work further in her research of exceptional learning. With certainty and confidence, she assured me that he did not fall into those labels others, including his mother, had so quickly jumped to assume. After all, I was an educator and how could I not know what was happening to my son. What I didn’t know at this time was how amazingly she would overturn his life and my perspective of exceptional education.

Empowered by her knowledge, experience and her natural talent to reach into a “child’s world” slowly but surely, the signs emerged as my son was able to connect with others and integrate himself with his peers, friends and others. This outcome was the result of many efforts on Dr. Serrano’s part to insist on bringing me on board to trust implicitly her non-conventional intervention strategies connecting the home, school and child. While this transformation occurred over a period of a year, her coaching and empowering gifts made what seemed an impossible become a reality.

Since his awakening, my son has managed not only to establish dear friendships, maintained his grades through middle school and high school and keeps up with his athletic training. Consequently, he has developed exceptional athletic abilities in basketball, presently 17 of age, holds a relationship with a girlfriend for over a year, enrolled in 3 honor classes in a traditional school program and holds a promising future as a future college scholar athlete.

My son is a living testimony of Dr. Serrano’s love, dedication, expertise and knowledge of how a “child’s world” can indeed be transformed, if you allow her to touch the life of your family.”

UPDATE (From message sent in December 2014)

I want to tell you that your masterpiece is finished J went on a flight back to college. He finished the first fall semester at without mentoring and completed 18 credit hours with an average of 3.1 out of 4! He played against other universities and their games are televised by ESPN – Fruits of the love you gave him THANKS. He always remember you with much affection and admiration.