These days, there is violence all around whether it’s on the television, the streets or in your own home. Sometimes we can control it, sometimes we can’t. It just happens without a warning. It can happen at any time, or any place. Most people don’t notice what they are doing is violent when they are doing it. Not many people know how it could affect the people around them, especially the people they love. It’s not their fault. It’s just because they are in a situation and it’s hard for them to deal with. That’s what I learned.

It was a nice, sunny, and warm Saturday morning. The wind blew at just the right speed. Not too fast, not too slow. I felt that it would be one of those days where things would be perfect. Well, I was wrong. It wasn’t going to be a perfect day. It was never going to be. While I was brushing my teeth, I heard yelling at first. I rinsed quickly and went downstairs. While I was walking down, I was wondering who it could be. A neighbor? No. A baby? No. Children playing? No. I finally reached the bottom of the stairs when I saw my mom. She was crying. I never saw her cry before. All my life I would never be prepared for this moment. The one moment that could have changed everything. I didn’t know what to do. She was usually so strong for our family, for me. I seriously thought that this would never happen but of course every family has its flaws. Maybe this wouldn’t of happened if I were awake and with them. That was what I thought but I just doubted myself at the time. I was desperate. Apparently, she had been fighting with my father over something. I wonder what it was. I asked her but she wouldn’t tell me so I didn’t ask her again to remind her of it. Over the next few days, they were just ignoring each other. It made me sad because the two people that I love the most were ignoring each other. I tried thinking of ways to get them back together. None of them would have worked. I felt helpless. I couldn’t do anything but just watch them ignore each other. After a few more days
they started talking again but always arguing here and there. To me, it was still progress. They were at least getting their feelings out. I wondered if everything will ever be back to the way it was again or if everything would end. The only way for me to find out was to wait and see.

Everyday went by so slow. One day I came home from school and went to do my homework. I was stuck on a problem and felt hungry so I decided to go downstairs to get food. When I reached downstairs I heard laughing. It was my parents’ laugh. It’s been a long time since I heard their laugh. Suddenly, I wasn’t hungry anymore. It was like their laughter filled me up. I went back upstairs so I wouldn’t disturb them. To this day, I never found out what they were fighting about but that’s alright, I don’t need to know.

The way violence has affected me was because my parents were fighting and ignoring each other. I felt helpless like I couldn’t do anything. I felt like I could have done something to help their relationship but didn’t know what to do. Today I don’t feel like that anymore. My mom said that I did everything that I could.

Well, that’s my story. Many people may have also experienced violence that has affected them also. The violence that happens doesn’t just affect the person that’s involved in it but the people that witness it, especially the children. Youth violence is caused I think because of the difficulties in one’s life. I think it’s usually because of family crisis’s, after the loss of someone dear to them or financial crisis’s when their family can’t afford some things that they want. Youth violence is caused by many things and every person has a different story. What people can do about youth violence is to talk to parents about youth violence and tell their children to not get involved in youth violence. Also I could inform people to not watch too many violent TV shows
because they could get influenced by them. I could also tell people to not just stand there when there is a fight and watch. There could be children watching too. They could break up the fight so the children would know that violence is not good. Violence has affected me and could have affected millions of children around the world.