

Positive experiences

Soccer

• Moved

• Piano/Band

• College

• First Car

• Trip to England

• Lunch Road Trip

• First Relationship

Age

5

10

15

20

• Period

• Black Forest Fire

• Uncle's Stroke

• First Job

Negative experiences

Significant Events Life Map

Soccer: Age 5 – I started playing soccer when I was five years old and I continued to play it into my twenties. Soccer is not exactly a cheap sport as far as kits go, so I suppose because of my class (middle-class) had an effect on me being able to play soccer. As a female, playing soccer helped boost my confidence in my physical prowess, and with my ability to make friends. Soccer did get more difficult when my eyesight started getting poor. I was made to wear sports glasses and I was constantly made fun of. As for ethnicity, my mother is from England, so people would assume I was a naturally gifted soccer player. I did play differently from things I would learn from my cousins in England, but other than that I played what my coaches taught.

Moved: Age 6 – We moved out into Black Forest into a house that we built. I suppose that moving out into a rural community into a house that we built was because of our class. My parents were making enough money and wanted to move into a bigger house.

Piano/Band: Age 9 – My parents had me and my brother taking piano lessons, and made us join band in school. These are both also a case of our class to be able to afford instruments and piano lessons. It was positive and negative for me because I was often judged for being a nerd.

Period: Age 12 – I started menstruating at the age of twelve in middle school. I was quite the tomboy, and I hated it. It really made me grow up some and take on responsibilities of being a woman, and it still does. And I still hate it.

Uncle's Stroke: Age 14 – My uncle had an almost life taking stroke. It really changed everyone in my family and was really heart breaking to deal with. I cannot really think about how it applies to gender, sexuality, religion, disability (besides his own disability that he has to deal with now), race, age, ethnicity, or class.

First Relationship: Age 15 – I had my first real relationship at the age of fifteen. As a straight woman it effected my confidence greatly (it boosted my confidence).

First Car: Age 16 – My dad bought my first car for me from my grandparents, which is another representation of class.

Trip to England: Age 16 – One of the only trips I have made to England to see my family that I actually have memories of. It was an amazing trip and I loved seeing my family. Being able to afford a trip to England is another representation of class because my parents paid for it. It does make me think of race somewhat though, because spending time in the countryside, there was a very large white community. But in London, there were people from all sorts of races and it was interesting to see that difference.

Black Forest Fire: Age 17 – We were effected by the Black Forest Fire. Luckily we did not lose our house, but we have had to deal with the aftermath. The only way it really affects any me, is as a female. I am now very equipped to handle chainsaws and other power tools that people often judge me for being able to know how to use because I am a woman.

College: Age 17 – This is a very positive experience for me as a woman because not too many of my female family member have attended college, and it makes me very proud to be working towards my four year degree. It is also another representation of class, because my parents are paying my tuition for me.

First Job: Age 19 – This is a positive and negative experience for me because I like the people that I work with. But it is negative because of how sexist the work environment is. I am also a fairly young worker in this job and so people are ageist towards me because they do not think that I have the skills, responsibilities, or experience that they do. It is also a very white work environment even though it is a blue-collar kind of job. This is also a representation of my class because I did not get my first job until I was nineteen and already in college.

Canada Road Trip: Age 20 – This was an awesome road trip that I took with some of my friends to go see the FIFA Women's World Cup. It was a great experience for all of us as woman to get to see some of our idols in person. Even though I saved for months and paid for every part of my trip, people still might view this as a privilege of class that I could afford to go on this trip anyways.