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**Dear Mr. Dad:**

I wasn’t in the delivery room when my daughter was born. I was in another room, a campaign office, talking to volunteers. But the day my daughter was born is my favorite day ever. The room was filled with people, and the air was tinged with the scent of new life and anticipation.

The night before my daughter was born, I was so nervous. I had no idea what to expect. I knew I was going to be a father, but I didn’t know what that would mean. I was scared, but I was also excited. I’m sure I wasn’t the only one.

On the day of the birth, I woke up early. I had to be there on time, to be there when my daughter was born. I couldn’t wait to see her, to hold her, to be with her.

When the baby finally arrived, I was overwhelmed. I had never felt such joy, such happiness, such love. I looked down at my little girl, and I knew that I would do anything to protect her, to keep her safe.

I want my daughter to know that I love her, that I will always be there for her. I want her to know that she is strong, that she can do anything she sets her mind to. I want her to know that she is perfect, that she is beautiful, that she is unique.

As a rule, treat your daughter like an adult until you notice she needs your help. As parents, it’s our job to encourage our children to be independent, and even though we might feel that they are not ready, it will be wholly changed. It’s about being supportive and encouraging.

But maybe this is good for you when you were new; the world doesn’t understand it. The only way to know how much it really does is to understand what you’re doing.

As a parent, you’re going to struggle. You’ll need to be authoritative but not authoritarian, and you’ll need to be authoritative but not authoritarian. And it will be hard to know when you’ve got it right.

I wish nature had come up with a better way for young people to discover their adult identity, but I’m afraid we’ve stuck to their defects and shortcomings, and in that respect, our world doesn’t understand it. The only way to know how much it really does is to understand what you’re doing.

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