

I grew up without my father. I knew who he was, but I didn't know him. I can only remember him in fragments, like a kaleidoscope of memories. A swift memory of him on a couch, I think it was pink. The smell of cupcakes from a doll, a leather jacket and a purple stuffed caterpillar. He stopped being in contact when I was 6. I saw him again when I was 14, 19 and 26 and 31. You can say that growing up, I had a father, but not a dad.

My childhood household consisted of me, my foster brother and my mother as a single parent. In many ways I am like her. I have inherited her sense of justice, religious views, her not always calm temper and stubbornness. And while the philosopher and physician John Locke would argue that all of these traits come from nurture and upbringing, René Descartes argued that we all, as individual human beings, possess certain in-born ideas that underpin our approach to the world.

My father has only been there in fragments, and I have always wondered what my life would have been like if he had been there as more than a gallion figure. If he had raised me on an everyday basis.

Would I have had different interests?

Would I have had a different career?

Would I have been religious?

How much do our parents' interests, religion and career affect the choices we make in our life. Are we born as «finished product» or are we a product of our environment?

I can not answer who I would have been if my father had been there, but I wanted to explore it. Doing this project I have gotten to know men who age-wise could have been my father. I have searched for them online, through friends, and found them on the streets. After finding the fathers I have gotten to know them and their interests. When possible, I have talked to their families and friends. Then I have dressed up as their daughter and taken a photo with them. Most experts on the field of Nature vs. Nurture today recognize that both factors play a critical role in the shaping of a human being, so I have tried to keep a part of who I am today in the pictures. Cause even though having a different father would have altered parts of my life, the core would probably still be me.