

“Life as a Military Child”

Life as a military child can be difficult. You will probably have to live in a lot of different places, get stationed in different countries, and your parents might even have to live overseas or get sent out to war. But no matter what happens, you have to stay strong and determined. This might seem easy, but it can be tough getting stationed somewhere or leaving a great place you've lived. But, there are advantages. In this essay, I will be talking about the advantages of something unpredictable that can happen.

First, let's talk about moving and getting stationed. Picture this: It's a beautiful, sunny day in Vermont and you decide to take a bike around your neighborhood. You see all your neighbors outside enjoying the sun too. They wave to you and make friendly gestures. They are so kind and welcoming, especially when you first got there. When you decide you've had enough, you plop down on the couch after returning home and turn on the TV. Your mom comes in and says, “Honey, I got a fun surprise!” You ask, “What is it?” She replies, “We're moving to Alabama!” You have a million questions racing through your head at once: We are moving to a different state? We have to kiss our house goodbye? And all of our friendly neighbors and my school with my friends? That is what I felt like.

When I heard I was moving to Alabama, I was terrified of leaving my house and friends. But as it turned out, it was very interesting. I got to meet lots of new friends and learned just how awesome my DODEA school was. I've been attending this school since second grade. Now, I'm in middle school, and I am still learning about Montgomery. This past week, we had a Project Based Learning field trip of giving the seventh and eighth graders a tour of Montgomery. During research and talking to my teachers, I learned a lot of information about Montgomery in the 19th and 20th century. Did you know the fountain that is in downtown Montgomery was a place to sell slaves? Or maybe that Montgomery was the starting point of the Civil War? See, being a military child is great. If my mom wasn't in the Air Force, I would've been stuck in Vermont, not knowing a single thing about Montgomery or its history. I also would've gotten to meet some friends that I'm still friends with today. And if you move to a different country, that's even better. You have time to learn and appreciate their language, art, religions, and celebrations.

But there is one very important thing that I have learned from living in what used to be a racist Alabama: We are all the same. It doesn't matter if you have white skin, black skin, green eyes, blue eyes, blonde hair, dark hair, or are male or female. We all bleed the same and are as equal as we can be.

Now, onto the second category. Having a parent getting shipped off to war can be very frustrating and scary. You don't know whether they are coming back as a hero or coming back being *remembered* as a hero. Just remember, always try to stay positive. Put him or her in your prayers every night and pray nothing happens to him or her.

Well, I've stated that being a military child is awesome. You can learn about other places outside of your old home and meet new people you might want to be friends with. I hoped you enjoyed this essay and learned something about military children. Remember, it takes courage, bravery, and determination. If you have all of that, you will go far.

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