

Dear Mom and/or Dad

**Anonymous
letters
written by
our ANC
high school
students to
their
parent(s)**

MAY 2018

ALL NATIONS CHURCH

“I Don’t Speak Korean”

At ANC, there is a vast cultural divide between our parents and our children. The barrier goes beyond just language, as traditions, attitudes, expectations, cultures, and ethics differ as well. The effects of these differences are apparent in every family. The pastors at ANC recognize that if real life change is going to happen in our students’ lives, then Jesus needs to heal and restore relationships between parent and child. This project aims to build bridges and start much needed communication by providing a platform where students can express how they truly feel and parents can hear the often misunderstood voices that are silently shouting from the other side.

Why the strange title?

We realize that today’s modern families are not what many think of as “normal.” Divorce, abandonment, and death are just a few of the ways that sin our world has caused the deterioration of our families. Many of our students live with only one parent or in situations where they cannot write “Dear Mom and Dad.” Additionally there are different problems and hurts that our students feel from different members of their family. Thankfully Jesus knows all of our conditions and loves us all the same. ANC also recognizes this, and therefore our project is “Dear Mom and/or Dad”

Anonymity

We wanted our students to be able to express themselves openly and honestly. Our desire was for the parents of our ministry to get a better understanding of how their children really feel and what they are really thinking, and therefore we offered the veil of anonymity to all contributors and also omitted or edited any identifying references. Also many of the letters were sent in anonymously and so the pastors do not know who sent them.

Opening Dialogue

This project is meant to be an ongoing communication between our parents and our children in the efforts that Jesus will be able to redeem and transform our families. Our hope is that these letters may start an honest and humble discussion between you and your children. We welcome all parents to get involved in our education and family ministries.



Dear Mom and Dad, Thank you ... thank you for being such strong workers and lovers. You never fail to show that I am loved and you never fail to support me in all I do. I know it's not easy paying for your son/daughter to go to a private art college but I'm so blessed that you push me to do something I actually enjoy and love! Thank you for being such faithful sons and daughters of Christ and I promise to love you guys always! Thank you for everything.

Thank you for being my parents. I know you care and want me to succeed, and I'm grateful for your support. I wish to create a stronger bond with you dad where we can understand each other and accept our faults. Mom I hope that we can maintain the amount of time we talk and care for each other.

It just seems so unfair

Sometimes I feel like it's my fault for something that my sibling did and it just seems so unfair. You say that he/she learned it from me which I think isn't a fair assumption. And every time I forget to do a chore or something you asked me to do most of the time you go straight into yelling at me which makes me want to do it even less. Then I feel like I'm not good enough

and there's no way I'll be good enough. And when I try to ask for something, sometimes you just ignore me, and to me it seems like you don't care or just don't want to talk about it without giving me a reason. Also I feel like sometimes you favor my sibling because when you yell at me, often you don't yell at him/her. But when you yell at them, almost always you

yell at me too, which again, I think is unreasonable. But this may just be me being a disobedient, ungrateful child so I want to say that I love you even if I don't say it much. I appreciate everything that you do even if I don't communicate it verbally. Your hard work doesn't go unnoticed and I want you to know that I try my best to keep it from going unnoticed.

Please don't give up on me just yet

For 16 years, I have been so ignorant to the fact that you care for me so much and that you would go out your way to make life so great for me. You care for me so much that you would yell, scold, and hit me.

I couldn't be more thankful.

If it weren't for your care, I wouldn't be the person I am

today. I love you and I want you to know that I appreciate you. It may not seem like it but I appreciate you so much. I know I'm far from a good son but the fact that you haven't gave up on me yet makes me so happy. I hate myself because of the way I treat you and I honestly want to leave you guys alone because I feel like I mess everything up in this

family. I'm sorry and I'll do my best to make things good until I graduate. Please don't give up on me just yet, I don't know what I would do if you did. I'm sorry for stressing you out. I don't mean it when I say such bad things to you nor do I mean it when I stress you out. Please forgive me.

I love you.

I never got to say this directly

Dear Mom and Dad, I never got to say this directly but I am extremely grateful for you caring for me even though I know that you guys have to work full time. I always asked that you guys to pick me up on time at school and that I always thought it was unfair for me because my friends always were picked up on

time at school but I had to always wait one to two hours more. I finally understand now that this is all because you love me. Even though you're not always on time, you're always put in 100% when you are with me. And I'm thankful for that. Thank you.

You have shown me what Christianity really is

Thank you for bringing me into this world, for being the best parents I can ask for. You have taught me many things about life and treated me with respect that I may sometimes not deserve. So in return I have done my best with giving you respect. Through this I had become a better person, humble and kind, understanding to others. You have taught me that life sucks and that even through unimaginable struggles, when hope is lost, you can still be fulfilled with life and be grateful to have us as a family. Even though I may have doubts about

God and my existence, you have shown me what Christianity really is; to love even when they refuse or do not care. That is what I love about you guys, and I will make sure to treat my children the way you have treated me. I can't imagine a world without you two, I want to be by your side till the end. From the bottom of my heart I cherish my time I have spending it with you, and for shaping me into the person I am today, so God help me.

Dear Mom,

Everything happens for a reason. During this difficult time of change in our lives, patience is what we need. God's miracle-working hands will bring everything back to "normal".

"The end of something is better than its beginning." (Ecclesiastes 7:8)

"You also must be patient. Keep your hopes high, for the day of the Lord's coming is near."

(James 5:8)

You are trying to shelter me

Dear Mom,

You say you're protecting me because I'm incapable and too young and that's somewhat understandable. But while I appreciate you trying to shelter me, consider this: I hang out with more friends on different occasions and I go to school dances right now and see what they're like, or I go to college and get forcefully introduced to everything you're

trying to shelter me from at once. It's just unwise to think that not letting me experience anything will help me retain a certain innocence. I need to be able to meet friends and experience things with them so I can learn from that and act more intelligently in the future. I'm not asking for you to become uninterested in me, or to stop caring at all, I'm just asking for minor opportunities for me as a high schooler to learn and have fun.

I know I don't say this enough, but thank you for all that you do. I know we have our flaws and are imperfect in our own ways, but I thank God every day for healing our conflicts and for allowing us to be a Christ-centered household. I do hope that we will continue to grow together in our faith and be more open about our feelings and opinions. Just like I will try to be a more loving and understanding daughter/son, I hope you two will approach me and my sibling with more love! I love you two infinitely!

My parents could also be vulnerable

I say this everyday, but I love you. Sometimes I wonder if those words lose their value because of how incessantly I try to say those words. Do we forget the true weight behind them? Even if we do, I want to keep saying those words. I think that even though I try to love you both on equal terms, I'm a little closer to Mom. Sorry, Dad haha. It might be because Dad is busy with work and I only get to see him during the night, when we're both

tired from our stressful days. I want to be closer with you too, Dad. I love you very much.

One time Mom asked me what I was most afraid of. She told me that her greatest fear was seeing her children in pain and not being able to do anything. That really struck me and I came to realize that I felt the same; seeing either of you cry is such a foreign, unnatural thing. The first time I saw either of you

cry I was shocked: My parents, who appeared so strong and selfless and thoughtful, could also be so pained and helpless and vulnerable. I understand that none of us are perfect and that even you two have times of weakness. I may not know what to do when these times come and I'm not confident because I am younger, but please know that I want to comfort and reassure you. Let's live happily together!

I feel like you don't really care about what I want

I love you

I just want to start by saying that even if I don't appear like it, I'm really grateful for what you do and I realize that you work so hard for us.

But sometimes I feel like you don't really care about what I want because you're so concerned about my future that you don't consider my well-being.

I wish I could tell you more about myself, but most of the time I can't bring myself to trust you. And I'm sorry about that.

I really wish that you would not be so hypocritical at times, because you always tell me you're proud of me and then you talk about what you wish could be done better and how others are doing better. Often times, you get mad at me for

raising my voice and then I hear you raising your voice without seeming to realize it.

I know that you love me but I can never bring myself to reciprocate that.

Thank you for being my parents, and for loving me even though I've been rejecting your love.

Mom, Dad, thank you for always being there for me. I know these days I get angry a lot and disrespect you guys and I'm sorry for that. I don't really want to blame it all and justify my actions by saying that it is because I am a teenager because I know a lot of kids who are teens and are still more respectful than me. I'm sorry and I know that I have to change but it's hard for me. I just wanted to say thank you for understanding me and being there. Love you guys.

We want to be the change in the world

I hope you understand that I'm not as ignorant and ungrateful as you think I am. I am truly grateful for your sacrifices for me. Coming into a foreign country and leaving behind a more stable life just for me is an opportunity I can never repay. Me being able to live in America freely, and not being stuck in a classroom mindlessly for countless hours in Korea, has given me identity and knowledge that I wouldn't have learned if you hadn't moved. Living away from your main family, and being almost loners in this expansive country must be punishing, and hopefully through ANC, you have found comfort in being around other Koreans similar to you. I am always grateful for everything you do. Sometimes, I wish you would be more understanding of me. Because of the culture

difference between American and Korean society, we tend to fight a lot. In Korea, you are taught that the only and most stable way to succeed is by doing extremely well in school and going to an extremely good college. On top of that, you are taught to major in generic subjects, so that you can transfer quickly into the workforce right after. However, America is called the land of opportunity for a reason. There is not one way to live life. Choosing a path that God chooses best for you is one that may be hard but fruit-bearing in the end. For many of us in our generation, we want to be unique and would rather be happy in what we do in the future, instead of being miserable but stable. We also want to be more civically engaged. Speaking out and

having different opinions is okay in a country such as America. We don't have to be scared and freeride off of other people's actions and confidence. We want to be the change in the world. We hope that you can support us in doing so too.

I just want you to know that I love you and I am so grateful for everything. But at times, when we fight, I hope we can be more understanding to each other. It is especially hard for a Korean-American family when we fight, because usually family is part of one culture, but we are divided in both generation and culture. It may be difficult but I know especially that we can overcome our differences and problems, because God always has a plan.

I rarely tell you this I think it's been years but I love you. We fight often but **it doesn't matter how much we fight I still love you.** Thank you mom for always being there for me even though I may not see it I know you do so much. Thank you dad for always being the one that I may go to and that comforts me. Thank you for making me laugh so much and always listening to me. I will continue to pray that our relationship may flourish. Thank you to both of you for everything. I really just want to make you proud I love you guys so much.

Dear Dad, Thank you so much for understanding me and trying to be there for me and my siblings. You are so kind that you don't want to give criticism directly to us but instead you tell everything to mom and have her break the news to us. I always see you in the perfect way and tell everyone that I have the greatest dad in the world because I truly do believe that. I **just wish that you would be more up front and honest with me in person than telling everything to mom** behind me and my siblings back because that portrays mom in a bad light because we're getting your thoughts and opinions from her. No matter what I love you so and will love you unconditionally.

I love you guys. You guys are awesome people with good intentions. Hopefully you guys micromanage less but overall it's cool.

Thank you for all the love and support you gave me for 17+ years. I don't think I will ever be able to repay you guys. I am sorry for always being a moody kid that always gave you guys a hard time when you guys just wanted the best for me. It may not seem like it, but I really do love and treasure you guys. Thank you.

엄마 아빠!!	엄마 아빠한테 제일 고	엄마 아빠 자랑스럽게
맨날 나 챙겨줘서 너무	마운것 중 하나가 나한	해줄께!! LOVE U
고마워!	테 공부 스트레스 안 주	사랑해 my people
가끔 내가 툭툭거릴때도	는거야	
있지만 그건 다 내가 사	그것 때문에 오히려 더	
랑해서 그런거야	공부에 열중할 수있는	
	거 같아	



suicidal thoughts and depression...

Dear Mom and Dad, Sorry. I hid something really big from you guys for the longest time. I had walked in a path that almost dropped me in a reality where I would exist only as a memory and nothing more. It all started when I learned that I was different from everyone else. When I say this, I mean that I am different because I see the world with different colors. When I lived with this disability, I learned what doubt is. I learned that doubts are insignificant and powerless in the beginning, however as you continue to live with them, they grow powerful

and impact you in every aspects. Some of the doubts that haunted me were, "Am I a mistake that God created," or "Am I not suppose to exist," and "Do I even have a purpose to live in this world". These doubts that I lived with slowly created a bottomless pit and also took the spark and light away from me. It lead me to the path of suicidal thoughts and depression. When I ventured in this realm, I did harmful things to myself both physically and mentally. I also wore masks to hide this burden that I lived with me internally because

people around me made the situation worse by calling me "retarded" and "weird". However, you guys were able to create a foundation which with I could lean on. With your guys help, I was able find the spark within me again and escape the pit that I used to live in. You guys allowed me to find help in retreat which lead me to where I am now. You guys helped me be able to continue writing chapters in my book of life. I will have trouble in the future, but with your support I know I would be able to overcome it. Without the foundation you guys created, I believe I wouldn't be able to write this letter. so thank you for everything and I love you...

Why do you take revenge on your own kids?

Dear Mom and Dad,

Hi, Dad. I want to start off by saying thank you. None of us would be here without you. The only reason why we are able to live so comfortably and eat so well is because you work hard at your job every single day. My desk, my clothes, my phone -- you gave me life and all my material possessions. Thank you, thank you, thank you. But I do have some things I want to say. Over the course of my lifetime, I've noticed that you struggle to be a good leader. For example, you hold grudges, you change your mind about people often, and you're intentionally hurtful. And I know you deny it, but I can tell that you're lonely and you want more friends. I know this, because I'm like you. I adopted a lot of your personality traits. Some of my biggest personal growth, actually, came from watching you. For example, I learned that I'm not the nicest person by watching you. I learned that I have insecurity issues by watching you. I learned that I can be really immature by watching you. By watching you, I was able to admit to myself that I have problems and work on them. But I think you haven't admitted to yourself that you have the same problems. And I completely understand that, it's not an easy thing to do. But you really need to, because it's getting harder for me everyday to respect you. You're dramatic, jealous, possessive, you get offended easily, and you say extremely insensitive things whenever your feelings are hurt. For example, you keep telling me and my siblings that you can't wait until we grow up and get out of your house. Why would you say that? Why do you take revenge on your own kids? When you say things like that, I don't feel sorry for you, I get pissed off. I lose my respect for you, and I almost want to laugh at you. Because when I see you act like that, it makes me realize how much I've grown compared to my own dad, who is more than three decades older than me. Also, please stop trying to force my respect. Stop trying to exert your power over me. Stop trying to prove to me that you're the "boss." If you're a good leader, then you wouldn't need to demand my respect; it would come

naturally. The bottom line is that if you want to be the leader that the Bible calls you to be, then you need to start by putting others' needs before your own, showing grace and forgiveness first, and learning to react maturely to a hurtful situation, instead of like a child.

Secondly, I wish, Dad, that you would be more grateful to Mom. Because you seem to not appreciate all that she does for us. She cooks, she cleans, she takes our verbal abuse, she does the laundry, she does EVERYTHING. Our house would literally fall apart if she was not here. Just because she doesn't make any money doesn't mean that you're more important to this family than her, because the services that she provides us everyday are priceless. You depend on each other EQUALLY, you need each other EQUALLY. You are a team, so stop competing with each other. Also, I would appreciate if you stopped being so possessive and jealous of mom every time she wants to hang out with her friends. Who says that the only person she has to hang out with is you? She may be your only friend, but you are not her only friend.

I know everything I'm saying right now seems really harsh and mean. I'm sorry. I don't want to make it seem like I don't appreciate you or that I'm not grateful for everything you've done for me. But this an extremely rare opportunity for me to be completely honest about the ways that you've hurt me, my mom, and my siblings, and I don't want to pass it up.

Lastly, mom. I want to thank you. You're always, always here for me, and you love me so much. Whenever I lose anything, you find it for me. Whenever I forget something at home, you bring it to me. Whenever I'm feeling sad, you give me the best advice. You care for me so much and I admire you. I

look up to you. I appreciate everything you do for me, and I hope to someday be as amazing of a woman as you are. But I have some things to say to you, too. I can tell that you were not originally this angry. I can tell that you were a peaceful person who did not get mad easily, who was very patient. But something changed. You're angry now. And when you are mad, you make everyone else mad. You let your bad mood spread to the entire household and it ruins the day for everyone. I wish that you would be more mature about the way you express your anger. I also wish you would not scold me on the ride to school. When I am driving to school, I'm really sleepy and all I want to do is listen to music quietly. But whenever you scold me, it starts off my day with stress. School is already so stressful and to have my own mother make it worse before it even starts is such insensitive thing to do.

And to you both. I'm sorry. I'm a really bad child. I'm mean and bratty, I don't speak nicely, and I stay in my room almost all day. I've said some really insensitive things, too. Mom, I'm sorry for making you cry. When you cry because of me, I feel like I murdered someone. And dad, I've never seen you cry but I'm sure I caused you huge pain. You both deserve a better child. This past year, I've been working hard at becoming nicer, more open, and more interactive. I don't know if you noticed any changes, but I'm trying to improve a little every day. Please understand if it takes some time, because it's hard for me. I don't say it nearly as much as I should but I love you both very much, and I am eternally grateful for you.

I hope you can tell it's me!

I'm more than excited to take a step towards my future career but I am definitely going to miss all the card games we play, the movies we watch and the songs we sing along.

I can't say that our family is perfect but our means of getting through all the struggles makes us almost perfect.

I have learned many valuable lessons such as communication that I will use with my future family and relationships.

Thank you for the constant support and love and of course I love you both.

I'm planning to buy a nice house for my lovely parents in the future so get excited!

Thank you again <3

Dear Mom and Dad,

You guys always want the best for me but at times I feel like that isn't the case. For instance, you know I worry a lot about my appearance and how I don't have a lot of self confidence and how I'm not confident with my face and body. I know I eat a lot and you know that really well too but I get a lot of stress when you ask me why I eat so much and say that I would get fat so to stop. But when I try not to eat and lose weight you say why am I even trying when I know that I'll end up failing. Like I **don't know what you want for me** when you say that and I get really confused. Also with my skin, I'm a teenager and I'm going through puberty and I have acne. it's not that I want my skin to be like this and I freak out as well about it but I get really hurt when you ask me why my face looks like this and what did I do to make my face look like this. I do my best to prevent all this stuff from happening on my face but even when I do my best it doesn't work out the way I want to. But still I know you want the best for me but I just wanted to get that out of the way. I hope you know that I'm grateful for everything you guys have done for me and I love you guys to death.

I can't explain how much love and care you express to me. Even though I don't smile when you tell me to or I don't agree with you and we fight, I will always love you.

Thank you and I love you. I know that I don't say these two phrases often enough or I only say it sometimes when you force me to, but deep in my heart I do think about you and all that you've done. I'm sorry that I don't seem to say it

aloud but I try to show my gratitude and my appreciation through my actions. I'm so grateful that you don't push me about my grades or school and leave me and trust me to do what I can do best, even when I don't even believe in myself.

Thank you for accepting me for the loud, moody teenager that I am and showing my unconditional love through your words and your actions. **You're the closest thing I have to an image of God.** thank you, and I love you.

i hate you. both of you.

Dear Mom and/or Dad,
I hate you. Both of you. Not all the time, in waves here and there. You both make everything so much more difficult than it has to be. You both break my heart every single day by saying I'm inconvenient or by telling me you hate me. All these other letters say "Thank you" and "I love

you" and "You're such good parents", but I cannot honestly say any of those things to either of you. I'm not mad, mom and dad. I never am. you make me sad, both of you. I don't feel cared for or appreciated or the things I do. You make me feel not good enough, not pretty enough, not smart enough, and so many other

things parents should never make their children feel. God is there for me, but He should not be the only representation of love in my life. I'm not mad, I don't have the energy to be anymore. It is what it is.

Your child, whom you broke

I can't take all the stress from home and school.

You guys are great people. You guys are very understanding, kind, and passionate individuals. I hope that I can return how much you have given me whether it's simple things like car rides or financial support for my school. You guys are the people that I can fully trust, and I hope that I can make you proud as I grow up. Thank you.

Hey. I know you can't understand a lot of English, but hopefully my message will get across. I'm sorry. I'm sorry you've never witnessed me working hard and I'm sorry that I stopped trying so hard in school. I'm sorry that I always talk back and say hurtful words. You guys always say that you understand but the way you talk to me hurts. Ever since I was younger, I wanted words of encouragement... and I got them.

However, as I started growing older, I feel like you guys took my grades for granted. Starting from middle school... that's when I started to get emotional scars. It's hard when four people, who have authority over you, talk to you about the same thing. And I know that you're thinking, "If there are four people telling you to change, why aren't you doing it?" It's because I don't have the motivation or incentive to do it anymore. In my mind, although I might not express it as much, your words affect me. A lot. And although you say that it's for my own good, would it be so hard to listen? Just listening and comforting me. Is that so hard?

I've followed everything you wanted me to do. When you told me to go to 학원, I did. All my summers were filled up with 학원 and summer school. Never once did I have a summer off. On top of that, you wanted me to volunteer in church so I did. But mom and dad, have you ever understood how mentally taxing it is for

me? Have you ever asked yourself, "Why has my child built up these walls?" It's because the first time I ever opened up, I got anger and frustration from you guys.

And I know most of the time I take everything for granted. Thank you for always driving me places. Thank you for raising me. Thank you for feeding me. Thank you for always giving me money when I say I'm hanging out with friends. But mom and dad, the generation has changed and your school life will never be the same as I experienced.

I was always so envious of other kids when they went on family trips. We never had that since you guys were always busy with work. But did you ever notice that me and 오빠/형 were growing further and further apart? Did you ever see how bad our relationship got? Did you ever notice him yelling at me because what I was doing didn't look right in his eyes? Have you ever noticed how sad and pained I get after he talks to me? Have you ever noticed how much I cry myself to sleep? No, you haven't. And I understand that you guys sleep early since you guys have work the next day, but mom/dad... I just want you guys to compliment me without any criticism. I'm tired of getting compared. I'm sorry for all of the disrespectful actions I take towards you. But I'm human too. I can't take all the stress from home and school. Thanks for everything and I don't say this but I really do love you. 감사해요.

Dear Mom and Dad,
 I never can seem to say the words thank you verbally. Even though I have a hard time expressing myself to you guys, you already know how I feel. When you guys fought, I never cared (as much as it's bad to say). But as I got older I realized that not only me but parents have a lot of fault as well. **It's a joint effort to cure a relationship** between us and as well as with God. I shut myself out all the time but I hope you understand it's not you but just the phases going through puberty. When you guys verbally fight with one another it makes me realize the reality of relationships and how not everyone is perfect. But I want you to know that I am in fact okay with that.

Hi Umma and Appa. Thank you for everything you have done for me. Although I have been ungrateful and often rude and unappreciative to you, **I want you to know how much I love and care about you.** You guys mean so much to me, and I will miss you very much once I go off to college. I will make every effort to stay in touch. I know that I mean the world to you guys, and just know that me wanting to go far for college is not reflective of how much I love you. No matter how I act or what I say, I love you and appreciate your presence in my life.

*Dear Mom,
 Thank you for working so hard all the time! Please know that I always try to help you out not because I feel bad or I have to, but because I like hanging out with you. If there were more hours in the day, I'd spend them with you. I love you so much!*

It's been tough this past year to receive **unconditional love from one parent and to receive complete silence and avoidance from another.** Our house no longer became home, but just a building filled with awkward silences and walking on glass to avoid explosive conflicts. I know it's both stressful at work and how this wasn't the life you studied so hard

for, but I still love you both and hope that you can support me with wherever I go. I know one parent can do that, but I'm waiting on the other one. I understand both our pride levels are high, resulting in being unable to resolve from our fight, but it's been over a year now and I don't want to continue my life excluding you out.

Hi 엄마,아빠

Thank you for always being there for me and taking care of me. I know I take everything for granted but I am really really thankful and hopefully I can pay you guys back one day. I know I can be a huge brat a lot of times as thank you guys for keeping up with that. I never show you

guys my thankfulness but I strive to.

Thank you for everything you've taught me and I will try to be the best form of myself that I can be for you guys. Thank you for raising me by doing hard work and I wish to grow up and not make you guys work anymore. Thank you. Please be healthy with me and always look after me like you guys do. I love you guys

Dear Mom and/or Dad,

It has been awhile since I wrote a letter to you guys. I know how much you guys do for me and support me. I know you guys are trying your best not to pressure me but, **I still feel very pressured.** I have the tendency to pressure myself. You guys do so much for me

but I do so little for you guys. I want to give my best to you guys and make you guys feel like you've raised me well. Thanks for never giving up on me. I've disappointed you guys so many times but you guys never doubted on me. I actually love you guys so much even though I don't show it. I'll make sure I give back all things you guys gave me.

*Dear 엄마 and 아빠,
I love you. I don't say it enough. It's kind of the Asian family dynamic that parents and their children are pretty distant. I'm so grateful that dynamic does not define our family. No, you're not perfect. Neither am I. And so the relationship between us will never be perfect. But I'm grateful for all that you've made it. Thank you. And I love you!*

A barrier in between us

Dear Mom and Dad,

You guys are two people I will always love. You guys have done a lot for me throughout my entire life. Some days, I don't always feel loved, and even feel hate, but I know deep inside, you guys love me, and I know I always will.

Mom, you are one of the most nurturing, thoughtful, yet sometimes ignorant person I can think of. From reading books over and over, to letting me buy clothes every so often. You are the reason I became so attached (good or bad, depends on the day) and also where I learned to be appreciative of what I have. Although you're koreanized (not as much as other people), I don't blame you. I'm glad you can understand and listen to my problems about my school,

church, or personal life. You frustrate me when you just don't get it or really bother to listen no matter how I explain certain things. But, lets face it, you're tired of listening to me talk all day long. There's still, and always will be, a barrier in between us, since we grew up in different areas in different times, but nothing will change the fact that you're my mom.

Dad, I don't know someone more well-rounded, quick, strong, and stubborn all at the same time. Even though you don't seem appreciated enough A LOT of the time, you are. I probably don't remember a lot of stuff you have done, since I was so little, but all of the things I remember, I remember every little detail of, even if our stories don't match up. I know your face never seems to

show it, but I know you do everything for our benefit out of love. Sometimes, it's hard to talk to you, since you think you're right and I think I'm right, and I wish you could listen to what I'm saying instead of both of us thinking we're interrupting each other and talking over one another at the same time. It's still out of wanting the best for me, so at least you care enough to yell at me.

Thank you both for all you have given me, even though our circumstances aren't always the best. Through God, and what you guys teach me, I go through life as a true follower of Christ everyday.

From, the only child who you'd expect to write this. :)