In high school, oftentimes my friends would make bad decisions and do things that were stupid. Many of these friends I had been friends with since we were in grade school and when they go out and party it is very hard to go against them and opt to stay home. However, I had values that went against the decisions they were making. My values were family, respect, and love. My family had always been there for me and I am very close with my family so their opinions of me matter greatly and I would never want to do anything that disappointed them. Specifically, one weekend after my school had won a huge basketball game breaking the school record my friends wanted me to accompany them to a party but I declined and instead drove home. At home, I have a younger sister who looks up to me and sees me as her role model and I never want to disappoint her so I chose to value my family over hanging out with my friends and drinking. Similarly, I respect myself and when my friends become intoxicated I notice that they become promiscuous and no longer respect themselves and I had no desire to treat myself like that and be treated like that when I knew I deserved better respect. Respect and love are very similar values in the way that I think of them. I love my family and myself and disappointing them and myself. I hold myself to high standards and since I love my family and know that they hold me to high standards as well I chose throughout high school to not let them or myself down and to always make the right choice based on my beliefs and values even if the right choice oftentimes made me go against what my friends were doing and even along the way lose some of them. As I look back on these events, I realize that the values I had for myself made me into a strong individual who is capable of making my own decisions and not being influence by peer pressure.