

at a shelter for displaced disabled adults. After Ferguson, she became involved in the Black Lives Matter protests and before that she was involved in the Occupy Wall Street movement in New York City. When the shooting in the gay nightclub in Orlando happened it was a terrifying reminder that there are individuals out there that hate my daughter so much they are willing to shoot them like fish in a rain barrel. Shaken but not defeated, she continues to work for equality and justice for those whose voices are often forgotten.

It is still hard sometimes to have Brittany live so far away. She has overcome so much, but sometimes still struggles with navigating the world she lives in. I am so proud of who she has become and how brave she is in the face of discrimination, hostility and sometimes just ignorance. More than once she has called and said she is ready to give up and leave New York City. She has booked last minute flights to come home where there is fresh air, open spaces, and quiet. Being surrounded by people who love her, she is rejuvenated and returns to New York to "fight the good fight." I believe what most parents want, to paraphrase Martin Luther King Jr., is for the day when their child will be judged by who they are and what they have accomplished not by a label that the world has stuck on them.

Works Cited

Anderson, Brittany. Personal interview. 1 October 2016.