

Home education has been of enormous value to me, far more than I can put into words; as has the right to learn only about specific subjects. I could never stand the noise and crowds of school, or being forced to be around others I did not fit in with. It was an ordeal that so few people could understand, and this is such a pity.

Only by growing up away from a stressful environment, and choosing to learn only about natural history, could I gain the confidence to move forward in life. Forcing people into a curriculum is not respecting the differences between individual people, or the needs of the autistic; nor does it encourage people to make their own choices in life.

Inspite of all the challenges I have faced, the right to be home educated has not cost me so many opportunities as one might think. After many years, I was willing to learn about more subjects, and eventually return to formal education. I made it into college, and then university, and expect to graduate soon with a good degree. I have had opportunities to travel, and engage in numerous activities that were of pleasure to me. Currently, I am starting on the path towards having my own job and home.

Had I stayed in school, it is likely I would have failed miserably, and lost all confidence to grow up and move out into the world. My life history has demonstrated that school is not essential for one to learn. If children lose the right to be home educated, it is for sure that some will suffer needlessly, as I would have done. I sincerely believe the world would be a much better place if it understood and respected the needs of those who are different.

Piece written by  
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