

Script

Little Girl:

(jumping rope or dancing or...):

“When I grow up I want to be a ballerina, dancing in front of one million people, everyone saying how beautiful I am and how lovely I dance”

“Or I could be a pilot, yes, that’s what I want to be, a pilot (looking dreamily into the sky), I will fly away to China and Japan and play with little pretty Chinese girls”

“I could also be a actress, or an astronaut, or even a mommy. Oh, I world make such a wonderful mommy. I know what, I will be all of them, yes, I will do it all...”

Young adult:

I am in my second year of college. I have to declare a major. I know what I want to do. My dream is to become an actress. People will watch me and think about their own lives. They will see themselves in my character, their own fears, pains and hopes. I want to make sad people laugh even if only for a couple of hours. I want to lift them up when they feel down, and give them courage when they feel scared. I want to reach out though the screen and inspire the audience, to ignite in them with a spark of joy, love and hope.

An actress? Are you kidding? What will people say about me if I become an actress? Oh my God, they will laugh at me. Can you even imagine what my parent will say? How they will feel? They will be so embarrassed in front of their family and friends. So many of their relatives are bragging about their sons and daughters becoming Doctors. What will my poor parents will have to say when asked what their daughter if doing for a living? An actress? No, I can’t do that to them. I can’t cause them such embarrassment. And what about getting married and having a family? Who will let their son marry an actress in our community? And I do want to get married and have children. I can’t do that to my family, to my future. No. I have to be sensible and logical. I will change my major. I will become an accountant.

Mom

I told her to stop dreaming. I told her to become a dentist or an attorney. But am I doing the right thing? I know she loves acting, and truly, she is so good at it. But what will people say about that? What will our families say? It will be such an embarrassment. They will think she is a “loose” girl, with no morals and values. What kind people will she meet in Hollywood? Surely she will be corrupted by them. Have I controlled her too much? Is she doing this to rebel?

And what about marriage? She will lose all of her chances of getting married to a good guy from a good family. No one will want an actress as a wife. Even if the guy loves her and wants to marry her, his family will not let him. She will destroy her life and her future.

Professional woman:

I love my job. Winning a case in court just makes my day. Yes, I work hard. I have to. I need to spend at least 10 hours in the office every day if I want to compete with my coworkers. This is the kind of dedication it takes to be an attorney in this well established law firm. Me, a Persian woman born in Iran. It is such a great feeling to be recognized and appreciated by my colleagues and my clients. It is so satisfying to know that I can do the job and do it well.

I am a wonderful role model for my teenage daughters, they now know they can become whoever they want to become in this life.

Have I paid too high of a price for my career success? I feel so guilty for not being there for my kids when they were growing up. Is this why my son has difficulty in school? Have I jeopardized their happiness for my own? Have I become too strong of a woman? I can't stand the guilt others give me. I despise going to social events. I feel so out of place. They look so well put together, with their matching beige shoes and bags, not to mention the perfectly manicured red nails and salon set hair dues. They talk about how they drove their kids around from soccer game to piano practice. I bet they think I am a “bad and selfish” mom. I see their judgment in the looks they give each other when I walk in. It all makes me doubt myself, have I made the right choice? Have I been selfish?
