## **P8 Felicia M**

**Bookmark: Introduction and personal background**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:00:00]  
OK, And then we'll get started. Just to start off, Felicia, can you tell me a little bit about yourself, maybe where you live, what you do for fun or for work, Anything you're comfortable sharing about yourself?

**P8 Felicia** [00:00:14]  
My name is Felicia. I live in South Philadelphia. I'm 55 years old. I am 100% single mother. My son just turned 17 on August 11. So yeah, we do a lot of Grubhub. We do a lot of, you know, food delivery. He loves it.

**Bookmark: Felicia's business and family responsibilities**

**P8 Felicia** [00:00:34]  
I'm a small business owner. My company is called Philly Auto Repair. We do automotive and cosmetic repair. We do mechanical repair. And I literally, my business is three blocks away. My son is going to be a senior in high school, so it was a big year. And I also take care of my dad, who's 75. He lives right over the bridge in New Jersey. So I often like Instacart him stuff because, you know, he could build you a house, but he can't scramble an egg. So I'm all over the place.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:01:10]  
I see, when is senior year starting? It must be soon.

**P8 Felicia** [00:01:16]  
September 4th.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:01:17]  
Oh, September.

**P8 Felicia** [00:01:19]  
Yeah, coming up, they have a nice little break, so.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:01:21]  
Yeah, a couple folks I talked to said that their kids schools are starting in August. I guess it tends everywhere across America is different. Yeah, we're.

**P8 Felicia** [00:01:31]  
Fortunate I I like it.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:01:32]  
Yeah, awesome. OK, so in the house right now, just to confirm is you and your son and he's 17. He just turned 17.

**P8 Felicia** [00:01:41]  
Yes.

**Bookmark: Childcare for Felicia's 17-year-old son**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:01:42]  
OK, tell me a little bit about child care for your son now that he's 17. What does that like look like?

**P8 Felicia** [00:01:49]  
I could breathe. He he can drive independent. I would say you thank God for air fryers. You know, he could, he could do eggs, grilled cheese, you know, that sort of thing. But full blown meals, no, he, he, he'll try, he'll be a little bit adventurous, but more or less when I'm home, when I'm not, he relies on delivery service.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:02:22]  
OK, so.

**P8 Felicia** [00:02:24]  
Now, now, like I said, that he's driving, you know, if he's out and about, he'll stop and pick up and then bring it home or whatnot. So it it depends, it depends on what's going on that particular day.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:02:34]  
OK. That makes sense.

**Bookmark: Driving and phone use**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:02:37]  
I want to get into a little bit of like his phone use and driving. So we'll talk about those. OK. So with driving, where does he drive? Like what is like how does he use his car and his license?

**P8 Felicia** [00:02:50]  
Well, he's a big golfer. He's golfed year round since the age of three. He gots for the first T of Greater Philadelphia in the Junior PGA. So he uses it for, of course, his Spotify and his, you know, music. He has the auxiliary cables and whatnot. Of course, the GPS, I have the locator on him, the life touch. Just so I make sure because we're in Philadelphia back last year, he was doing public transportation. So I personally wanted to make sure that he was safe and he was getting to and from safely. Not that I wanted to be, you know, Big Brother him or, you know, smother him, but you can't be too safe with in Philadelphia. And it's nice to know when you hear that little beep, beep, beep, beep that he's at school safely and it's it's comforting.

**P8 Felicia** [00:03:44]  
How else does he use his GPS? He also, I don't know which app he uses, but he has an app that like he knows where fifty of his friends are. Not sure which one it is, but they all like know each other's whereabouts. It's crazy. I, I, I forget what it's called, but they use that a lot. He uses like his handicap for, for golf. He also mountain bikes, so the different trails and whatnot, his speeds and like, you know, downhill and his heartbeat and you know how many carbs and, and that kind of thing. Like I guess I got Fitbit but only on his phone. I think that's about it.

**Bookmark: Rules and concerns about phone use**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:04:33]  
Yeah. When did your son get his phone? Like what age did you set that up for him?

**P8 Felicia** [00:04:40]  
14 I believe and you have to now just for communication, just for safety. And like I said, I am 100% single mom, so that lifeline, I needed to have that communication. Just picking him up from like an ice skating rink, like where are you? You know, that sort of thing. Just to make things a little bit more strain of mind and convenient.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:05:10]  
Do you have any rules with the phone just in general or not so much? I did.

**P8 Felicia** [00:05:16]  
When he he first got the phone, I think I bought him an Apple Seven. Like I didn't go and get him top shelf or or whatnot. I knew he was going to drop it. I knew he was going to get familiar with it. No, actually his first phone was an Android and evidently I wasn't cool. He had to have an Apple. So yeah, it was like a whole Wawa or whatever that thing was. And yeah, then then it was the Apple Seven and he had to have it, which was, which was OK. I personally am an Android user. I like Androids. The limitations were I don't like that Snapchat, I don't like the disappearing messages. I don't like it. To me, it's just I, I, I like you're hiding something, you know what I mean? And and if you don't have anything to hide, why do you have disappearing messages? The potential, you know, him falling victim or or pray to somebody. It was a little bit scary at that time. My son is pretty mature for his age and pretty responsible and we have an thankfully open air communication where he can come if he does have a problem which is half the battle and and if there is anything problematic he feels comfortable to come to me and will help resolve it. Other than that, I do trust him and every once in a while I'll go on his, not anymore, but back in the day going on his browser history just to see. And I never had, you know, a, a red flag go up. So as time went on, I got more and more comfortable with his usage.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:07:02]  
Understood so some things with Snapchat like the disappearing messages didn't sit right with you and then as went on, you kind of like learn to trust him seems like a good mature.

**P8 Felicia** [00:07:16]  
Yeah, and then you hear the horror stories on the news about the TikTok and the bullying and influencing of, you know, people unfortunately taking their own lives or, or feeling, you know, eating tide pods. And you're just like, what is going on? You know, it it's it's scary. And then you have to sit them down and reassure them that this is not reality. Like you, you don't do that. So it's a it's a whole nother conversation. And then that's one one-on-one family values that you have to like plant your feet into and take the time and, and it's open air communication.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:07:53]  
Yeah, kind of the same question with the car and driving.

**Bookmark: Rules and concerns about driving**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:07:58]  
Any rules or things you have in place for that or not so much?

**P8 Felicia** [00:08:02]  
Absolutely. I love that life 360 because it shows me, you know, where he's going and it shows me how fast he's going when when my, my father and I were both taking turns teaching him how to drive, I took him. We have a very, very large park here in South Philly, FDR Park. So there's only one entrance in and one entrance out. So you have to do like a very slow speed limit. There's a lot of joggers and whatnot, but it's two lanes so that you could kind of just do a slow pace and get to, you know, you get familiar with the car. And we were sitting in the parking lot just getting familiar with the turn signals and the horn and all the different bells and whistles. And I said to him, I said, Max, this potentially could be, you know, a weapon. You have to take this seriously. The most important factor with driving is patience. You know it that 5 minutes, if you're going to be late for school, get written up. It's not worth your life. It's not worth someone else's life. And if you have passengers in this car, you are responsible for their souls. You have to be responsible. And don't ever feel that, you know, I, I'm going to turn against you. I don't care what time it is. If you messed up, everybody makes mistakes. You park that car, I will come get you. I installed the, you know, Uber and Lyft on his phone in case there's an emergency and he's in an unsafe situation where he doesn't feel like he could ride with somebody in the car. You know, if one of his friends he got a ride with and they're drinking, I'll either come get you or you Uber home. Yeah. So that's first and foremost safety.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:09:49]  
Yeah. Has he used any of those rideshare like taxi services?

**Bookmark: Use of rideshare services**

**P8 Felicia** [00:09:54]  
Yeah, he has. They had a a junior year big blow out it. It's like a plateau. You know, the freshman's everywhere in the plateau everywhere. Well, they do, They do. And all the kids drink in the woods. And it was about 500 kids. And the police raided it and they all dispersed and ran and they lost each other and they lost, you know, their rides. And he ubered home.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:10:21]  
And what does that look like when he wants to Uber home? Like what does that process look like between the Yeah for him?

**P8 Felicia** [00:10:28]  
Well, he has the app downloaded onto his phone, the preset with, you know, his home address. It's linked to my PayPal and my debit card. So all he has to do is hit, you know where he's wants to get picked up and then hits home or hits the location of his friend's house and redirects, you know the destination and then get in contact with me and let me know what is going on.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:10:57]  
OK. And is his account linked to your your Uber account in any way or not so much they're separate? No, he.

**P8 Felicia** [00:11:06]  
Had he has his own, but the billing is mine, so it'll come up on mine and and like I said, Philadelphia, if he goes to like a Flyers game, it's a mess. It's a mess down there and it's easier just to take an Uber out of the stadium, you know, so there's certain situations where I'm like, yeah, go ahead. It's, it's just easier for, you know, either he pays $45.00 to park or a $12.00 Uber. Or me getting there, even though I'm 4 miles away, it'll take me 45 minutes to get there. So there's certain situations it just makes sense to Uber. Like prom, they Uber to the prom, they got an Uber X, it's cheaper than a limo. It got them to and from extremely convenient and the kids were safe.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:11:59]  
When he does Uber, what kind of like how involved are you?

**Bookmark: Level of involvement in Uber situations**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:12:05]  
I guess what it when he's Ubering.

**P8 Felicia** [00:12:08]  
Well, specifically for prom, we were discussing, you know, what kind of vehicle and we pre planned it to make sure, you know, that there was availability and that it was it was locked in. And and one less thing we took off our plate because it was a very, you know, one of those days, OK, pick up the flowers. OK, make sure the shirts pressed. OK, make sure the girls going to be there, the pictures of this to that, you know, got to get the charcuterie, got to get the cake. You know, it was one of those time press days. So anything you could do in advance to take off your plate, it's a blessing. And it was just nice to know that he had a nice vehicle, a safe ride, a designated driver and it went off without a hitch. And it it was more economical, like I said, than running a limo.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:12:59]  
Yeah. So in that case, it sound like you're helping with all the other things for the day. So this is just one of the things that you guys planned out together, the Uber, Yeah.

**P8 Felicia** [00:13:09]  
Yeah.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:13:10]  
How about when he's like at the game and going to come home or these situations where there's, you know, I don't know what to call it an emergency, but you know, there's drinking. He needs Uber home. How involved are you in those cases?

**P8 Felicia** [00:13:24]  
Well, if it's a sporting event, he'll call me and say mom, the game's over, blah, blah, blah. And I'll, you know, I'll be like, OK, well, be careful crossover because it'll be easier, you know, for the Uber to get you than the congested area, that kind of thing. That'll be my input. Or are you going to such and such's house, you know, redirect him to a better point of contact with Uber, Lyft driver? If we only had that that one incident where, you know, it was an emergency situation. And he did keep me posted like every 10 minutes, like he was just as shocked as I was. And it was it was a good learning for both of us. You know, these kids think they're just indestructible and nothing's ever bad going to happen. And they got scared when the kid when the when the police raided, you know, oh, that's never going to happen. That this has been going on for years and years and years. And when those sirens and the lights, the kids, you know, got nervous. So he was like, mom, am I going to get in trouble? Am I going to get in trouble? I'm like, just get home safely. Just get home safely. We'll talk about it, just get home safely and hopefully you know, the Uber was there to get him home safely.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:14:51]  
Yeah. And how do you feel seems sounds like he was kind of keeping you posted every 10 minutes in that situation or at this point he gives you a call. How do you feel about like the level of oversight you have in those situations?

**Bookmark: Desire for additional oversight in Uber rides**

**P8 Felicia** [00:15:08]  
What do you mean by that?

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:15:10]  
Like, do you, is there some stuff that you wish you could do if he's Ubering that you can't currently do? Like things you could see or not so much.

**P8 Felicia** [00:15:20]  
Well, like I said, I have that life 360, so I could see him minute by minute chugging along. You know, the same with the Uber app. You know, you could get an ETA on the destination arrival, get an ETA on the pickup.

**P8 Felicia** [00:15:37]  
The only thing more, and I think it might I don't know if you I don't even know if I should say this or not tap into the dash Cam of the driver like that. I, I don't know, it's kind of little Big Brother ish, but depending on the situation, it, it might be a good thing and it might be a little weird, you know, but that's the only thing more Peace of Mind. I I would say other than that, I I think it's pretty thorough.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:16:11]  
Yeah. OK. That makes sense. Yeah. Like there's both sides to that. Could be helpful, could be big.

**P8 Felicia** [00:16:17]  
Breath. Yeah, like the cheating mistress might not like it, but it's it's, you know, going to the hospital with a pregnant woman, you know, that might be it. It depends on the scenario.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:16:31]  
Yeah, that makes sense. OK, Felicia, thank you for telling me a little bit about that. I want to go into like food for your family and what that looks like.

**Bookmark: Variability of family meals**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:16:40]  
So talk me through like, what does a typical week look like for food for the family?

**P8 Felicia** [00:16:47]  
Well, I have to honestly say it depends on the week. Some weeks are easier, some weeks the schedules just crazy. If it's finals week, if it's a holiday week, you know that kind of thing. Particularly I personally love to cook and I I love to cook from scratch. My biggest thing with my son is because our schedules are so crazy, phones go away and I would say five to seven nights a week, we sit down and we have dinner and we talk and we discuss, you know, our day. We discuss what's going on. We discuss politics, religion, current events, our schedules for the week, you know, whatever's happening, that sort of thing. That's our time. And it usually lasts like 45 minutes to an hour. There are some days we order pizza, you know, so it varies. And then because I have the shop, every Friday we do take out and I thank the guys for working. They work out in the elements, they work out in the rain, they work out in the snow, they work out in 100° weather in the humidity. So every Friday we'll get tacos, we'll get pizza, we'll get whatever and have it delivered just as a thank you.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:18:14]  
OK, I'm gonna dig in a little bit there.

**Bookmark: Breakfast routines**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:18:18]  
So tell me we'll kind of go 1 by 1. Tell me like what does breakfast look like for your family if there is a typical.

**P8 Felicia** [00:18:27]  
Typical breakfast for me is coffee. I don't eat breakfast. I usually get up between 5:00 and 6:00 in the morning. I won't eat until maybe like 9 or 10. I'll have like a piece of toast and egg or some fresh fruit and yogurt with a little bit of granola. My son is maybe a bagel, bagel and cream cheese guy and runs out the door. He usually has lunch in school. Yeah, they have the the lunch program and I put money on his card because he's now in senior year. Seniors are allowed to order and in the courtyard pick up their their meals. That's a little senior perk.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:19:15]  
OK.

**Bookmark: School lunch program and payment**

**P8 Felicia** [00:19:16]  
Yeah, and then like I said, dinners Sunday, because I'm Italian, we always have the the big homemade pasta dinner, meatballs, chicken cutlets, that sort of thing. Go over to my father's house or we go out to eat, you know, usually a steak dinner or we go out for a pasta dinner or take a ride down the shore and that kind of thing. But it's always a family dinner every Sunday, 4:00. I don't know why we eat at 4:00, but we eat at 4:00. And then it's football. You have to watch football. So that's, that's typically like I, I know that's going to be my Sunday. And then when I'm at the shop, you know, I'll have. Whatever delivered, or if I'm running out to get parts, or if a customer car is broken down and I need to like do an insurance estimate or whatnot, I'll either pick up something on the go or have it delivered and it's sitting on my desk waiting for me. So it really it really varies.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:20:17]  
Yeah, you mentioned that you, your son eats at school through the lunch program or he can order. You said something about putting money on his card. Tell me a little bit like what you mean by that. What type of card is this?

**P8 Felicia** [00:20:33]  
Well, it's the he goes to Saint Joe's Preparatory School here in Philadelphia, so you could put any denomination on there. I usually put 300 a month and then it's his actual Idi had the barcode on the back of it. So they'll send me a meal management program, oh not program but like an inventory every month and it'll tell me he bought a Gatorade, he bought a Wawa iced tea, he bought chicken finger and fries. And it'll give the breakdown in pricing. And when it gets to say $25 it'll say do you want to re up? And it does charge me. I want to say 495 to re up with ACH transfer and if it's a credit card transfer, I think it's like 699. It's more if you put it on the credit card and you could do it monthly, you could do it weekly, you could put it on for the whole year and then it just deducts it according to his usage. So if he wants to bring in a sandwich or a container soup or whatnot and just get a beverage or just get a pretzel, that's they only charge him for what he buys.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:21:48]  
I see. OK. You mentioned you put like $300.00 on his card. How fast does he usually go through that, would you say?

**P8 Felicia** [00:21:59]  
When he was a freshman, it lasted a little longer and now he's 62 and could eat a whole chicken. It depends. My my kid likes food, so the chicken fingers and the fries aren't really cutting it anymore. He's kind of over that whole it. It's called Sage dining. He's kind of over it senior year, it all lasting four to six weeks.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:22:29]  
OK.

**Bookmark: Reviewing breakdown of purchases**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:22:29]  
Yeah, Yeah. You mentioned that every month you get a breakdown kind of of what he bought. How much do you use that breakdown or not use it like?

**P8 Felicia** [00:22:42]  
I, I just scanned through it real quick to see they did have a price increase because of the Philly sugar beverage tax hike. So the drinks went from like a dollar to 275. So if I go to Costco and I get a case of Snapple and he just brings them in and then just applies it to whatever, you know, proteins or, or, you know, meals he wants. Why am I gonna you know that that doesn't make any sense. Just bring the beverage with you, that kind of thing. Or, you know, we have the the metal tins for the water, the, you know, the the the containers.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:23:24]  
Yeah.

**P8 Felicia** [00:23:25]  
It's right on the top of my tongue.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:23:29]  
Like the the.

**P8 Felicia** [00:23:30]  
Water bottles, Yeah, So, so it.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:23:34]  
Sounds like you're like looking through it to see the prices and like should I just buy this at home and he take it?

**P8 Felicia** [00:23:40]  
Yeah, I mean the hot meals I could see because you really I looked into those, the USB heated, did you see them that like the little plate lunch boxes?

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:23:56]  
Oh no, tell me a little bit more about that.

**P8 Felicia** [00:23:58]  
Oh, it's pretty cool. They're on Amazon. They're like $99.00 and it looks like a little plate and has like a Dome on top of it. And then you put it in the bag and you just, it takes like 15 minutes. So my son loves steak, my son loves chicken. You could put like a, you know, potatoes and a vegetable and have like a decent meal, not like a fried meal or, you know, a mystery meat kind of meal. And then I was like, well, if it's moving all around, it didn't have the compartments, it kind of would be like, you know, jumbled all up. But I did look into it 'cause it the concept was was kind of cool.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:24:37]  
Yeah.

**P8 Felicia** [00:24:39]  
I I looked looked into the prices like chicken tenders and fries at his school are 1299.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:24:49]  
Interesting.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:24:53]  
OK. OK. Yeah, I guess like a wrap up question there. Like how do you feel about him eating the lunch at school versus like this idea of like you're trying to give him lunch to take from home?

**P8 Felicia** [00:25:06]  
Oh, I am. Oh God, don't get me started.

**Bookmark: Concerns about school lunch program**

**P8 Felicia** [00:25:10]  
You got the wrong one. I think and and I might get a lot of backlash for this one. Michelle Obama ruined the school lunch program. I love the fact that when she was in, you know, her and her husband were in the White House. She had an organic garden Outback of the White House and the menu that she had for this kid, kids were atrocious. Like atrocious. And you look at European countries, you look at Asian countries, you look at Latinos, kids, lunch programs, they're phenomenal. They're balanced, They make sense. I mean, these kids, it's horrendous what they're feeding them. I, I would like to see like back in the day when I was a kid, we always had like a giant salad bar, Make your own salad bar. We always had a make your own like roasted Turkey, cheeses, this and that, lettuce, tomatoes, onions. Any kid with whatever allergies or gluten intolerance or celiac could fend for themselves with like a buffet. Now these kids have like 3 choices. They're they're like microwaved on airplane food and that's it. And Hansard, it's getting thrown out. It's disgusting. That's just my tape, but.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:26:33]  
No, that's helpful context to understand, like where your head's at with this stuff.

**P8 Felicia** [00:26:38]  
It's, it's, I actually, when my son was in 8th grade, 7th and 8th grade, he went to Catholic school here in Philadelphia, St. Monica. And it's such, they're so community oriented. I volunteered in the office and you know, they gave you the, the $0.50 pretzels, you know, you have to disperse them and, and whatnot. And as a thank you, they would always ask me like, you know, there's extra lunches with the little milks and the little like cherry flavored punches. And they're like this big and they're all sugar, they're all GMOs, artificial coloring, artificial flavoring. And then like, like the green meatballs, like when you bite into them, they're green on the inside. Like where is that meat coming from? And I, I would like respectfully decline, but I would see these kids and they would take like one bite and throw them out. And I would ask my son, like, what'd you have for lunch today? He's like, I don't know, mom. I, I honest, I don't know. I don't think it was FDA approved. And it's sad. Like, why even bother? Like kick it up a little bit and give them something decent. Like how hard is it to give them a grilled chicken breast?

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:27:49]  
Yeah, yeah, the like health aspect, like not mystery meat.

**P8 Felicia** [00:27:54]  
Right, right.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:27:56]  
You mentioned now that he's a senior he can order food to school too.

**Bookmark: Senior perk of ordering food to school**

**P8 Felicia** [00:28:00]  
Yeah, a little bit of senior perk.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:28:02]  
OK, tell me a little bit about that. How do you see your son using or not using that?

**P8 Felicia** [00:28:07]  
Perk I think it's going to be contingent upon his friends. You know, they have a quad out front, they play soccer, they play football, they have a few picnic tables. You know, when it's nice out, they're encouraged to go outside in between classes during three period and get some air or read or or whatever. You know, your time, your space. And you know, if the boys feel like pizza, I could totally see them all, you know, Venmoing each other and someone going on the app and ordering some pizzas. They might want tacos and then ordering a big box of tacos. It it would, I think it's going to be more of a group collective effort. I mean, my son might say, hey, I'm in the mood for a cheese steak. I really want a cheese steak and he's going to go out on his own and get it. But I I think 80, eighty, 85% of the time it's going to be based on a collective agreement upon his friends. All right, it's.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:29:25]  
OK.

**P8 Felicia** [00:29:28]  
Good old summer cold, yeah?

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:29:31]  
Now that that's coming up, have you guys had any discussions about like rules or anything like that for this ordering at school or not so much?

**P8 Felicia** [00:29:43]  
Oh goodness.

**Bookmark: Discussion about rules for ordering at school**

**P8 Felicia** [00:29:44]  
Well, not really, because we still have a little time. And my, to be perfectly honest, my son just got back from Chile. He was there for five weeks with the exchange program. So he just got back last week. So His Royal Highness hasn't gotten a chance to get a job. So we're talking about jobs.

**Bookmark: Encouragement to get a job**

**P8 Felicia** [00:30:11]  
So at least two days a week. I mean, he's he's 17. Get a job, pay for your basket, pay for your Grubhub, get a job. He's he's a very good student. He's a good kid and but it's time to get a job. OK, So with that, with that, with that said, if you went through my credit card, you'll see Chick-fil-A, Taco Bell, Chick-fil-A, Five Guys, Five Guys, Chick-fil-A gas station, gas station, gas station. I'm like, I do, I love you, but you got to get a job.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:30:45]  
OK.

**P8 Felicia** [00:30:46]  
So you need to tone it down. I'm gonna you, you, you want your kid to eat. You know what I mean? How you can't say don't eat. But when I have $400.00 of food sitting in my refrigerator, you know, get a banana dont order.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:31:07]  
I was going to get into this a little bit later, but I think we can just talk about it now since you're brought up the job. So since he doesn't have a job, how does he pay for things? I think you were starting to get into that a little bit.

**P8 Felicia** [00:31:19]  
He, well, excuse me, like I said, I let him do the Chilean exchange program because it was such a phenomenal experience and this was the last year he would be able to do so because senior year you're not, it's only sophomore and junior year.

**Bookmark: Son's contribution through chores**

**P8 Felicia** [00:31:38]  
With that said, if I, I need something done at the shop, like I'll order. Oh, well, I'll go to Costco and buy 15 cases of water and he'll help me carry them in if I need my, my, I have a little piece of ground here for South Philly. I actually a little piece of he cuts the lawn, he shovels the snow. Oh, hi, thank you. My mailman's here. You too. He'll wash my car. He'll do like little odd jobs. He'll help me bring up the laundry, that sort of thing. Little. And he'll help my father out too. My father just had a knee replacement, so he was kind of down and out for two months while he was recuperating. So he's got a bigger lawn in Jersey and he would help him or drive him to the store so, you know, run in and get his items, that kind of thing.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:32:35]  
Yeah, does your son?

**P8 Felicia** [00:32:38]  
He's also our our tech savvy guy. He's our IT tech.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:32:44]  
And you mentioned these like chores that he does and thinks he helps out. Is it I guess it's like does he get an allowance for doing that or is it more fluid than like you get X dollars?

**P8 Felicia** [00:32:55]  
I, I wish he got an allowance for it because it would be cheaper for me.

**Bookmark: Allowance and financial independence**

**P8 Felicia** [00:33:04]  
Like I said, he's a good kid. He's got good grades. He does service projects, he does volunteering. Does, you know, he's, I'm really fortunate that he's on the right path. So he's my only one. I kind of overindulge.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:33:23]  
It sounded like when you're saying it like on your credit card, you can see what he's charging. Tell me about that. Like, is it his own card? Is it your card? Like how does? What's the system there I guess?

**P8 Felicia** [00:33:35]  
He's well, he's linked to my PayPal and he will at times like he was into those what are the the he was messed this up those bobble head thingies.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:33:51]  
The Funko pop things.

**P8 Felicia** [00:33:52]  
Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. The bobble heads, he had them and now he's over it. So he'll put them on eBay or OfferUp or Facebook Marketplace and then he'll put that money into the PayPal and he'll actually use his own money, which is which is good, and that that'll go into the PayPal. I have a Capital One that I think four years ago I put him as an added user. So he has hit my card with his name on it to bolster his credit score, which was supposed to be for emergency use only. But evidently Chick-fil-A is emergency use. You know, 'cause he was starving.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:34:35]  
I see, so he's like a added person on your correct?

**P8 Felicia** [00:34:41]  
Yeah.

**Bookmark: Son's use of various payment tools**

**P8 Felicia** [00:34:42]  
And then, you know, the these kids have a great today. Cash App, Venmo. My goodness.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:34:50]  
Yeah, yeah, you mentioned he like Venmo's with his friends.

**P8 Felicia** [00:34:54]  
Yeah, he he, but if you look into my account and Venmo's himself money.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:35:00]  
Oh, tell me a little bit more about that.

**P8 Felicia** [00:35:03]  
Mom, I need gas money. I'm just going to Venmo myself. 50 bucks, OK? I don't want to bother you. I got it. And that's what he says to me. I'm like, OK, all right, I get spoiled. Well, not spoiled. I mean there are rappers, kids who have like, you know, $80,000 necklaces. If my kid Venmo's 50 bucks, you know?

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:35:26]  
But thinking of all these, so there seems to be like a lot of different tools he uses, cash App, Venmo, PayPal, the credit card. What kind of like oversight do you have of those?

**Bookmark: Parental oversight of spending**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:35:36]  
Like how involved are you in with managing what he's doing there?

**P8 Felicia** [00:35:42]  
He keeps me posted. He always informs me before he does it, not necessarily the purchasing of food or like small purchases. He doesn't, you know, ask ahead of time. Like yesterday he called me and said, Bob, I have a Dick's Sporting Goods, sent him a $20 birthday coupon and he said I'm going to apply and get myself a new pair of Nikes for school and he's like, I'm going to use the card. I said OK, go ahead. So that's going to be like 160 minus the 20, so go ahead. If he goes to, if he orders Domino's and orders a pizza, he doesn't ask me. He just doesn't.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:36:26]  
OK. So larger things like the shoes, there's a check in before he does it, but like small stuff doesn't need to check in. No, no. And what kind of led to you, like you mentioned, you put him on your PayPal, you gave him this app Capital One card. What kind of was the impetus for doing that? Why did you make that decision?

**Bookmark: Financial independence and teaching responsibility**

**P8 Felicia** [00:36:49]  
Financial independence, he needs to see that money in equals money out. It doesn't grow on trees. That credit is not money in, it's in fact credit and needs to be paid back. You don't oversource yourself, you don't live beyond your means. And you know every once in a while he'll get a little out of hand or it changes scene in a seasons. You know, you'll have to buy flip flops, you'll have to buy bathing suits or winter time, you have to buy a new coat. So it's or, or Christmas time, that sort of thing. So your bills are a little bit more. So I'll sit down with him and I'll be like, OK, well, this is the mortgage payment, this is the insurance payment. This is the car insurance, this is the utilities, this is this. And you know, the credit card, I paid $169 in interest. He's like for what? I'm like, just for them, them allowing me to use the card, He's like, that's crazy, blah, blah, blah. And I'm like, see, you have to make sense of what you're doing. So I'm trying to teach. They don't teach this in school.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:38:02]  
Yeah.

**P8 Felicia** [00:38:03]  
They don't teach you how to write a check. They don't teach you how to address an envelope. I mean honestly This is why they invented Velcro so these kids could tie their shoes because it's the fundamentals just aren't taught anymore. I sound so damn old. Oh my goodness, no.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:38:23]  
No, I understand what you're saying. So it sounds like it was both so he could be a little bit more independent, but then also to teach some of these more.

**P8 Felicia** [00:38:31]  
Yes, and to take responsibility for his actions and not to overextend himself and get himself into a pitfall of dangers. You know, some, some kids get their first credit card and go crazy and Max it out the first day and have no way of paying it back and then their credit takes a hit and then they can't get another card and they're stuck.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:38:56]  
Yeah, OK. We've talked about money, but I'm going to bring us back to food. So we were going to eventually get there, so that's good. But I want to bring us back. So we talked a lot about the meals, breakfast, lunch, dinner. I want to talk about food, grocery shopping.

**Bookmark: Grocery shopping habits**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:39:15]  
Tell me a little bit about what does that look like for you and your family?

**P8 Felicia** [00:39:21]  
It's different every week.

**P8 Felicia** [00:39:26]  
I go grocery shopping a lot. Like a lot because I also grocery shop for my father and he's a totally different eater than I am. You could throw a piece of sausage and pasta down for him and he's, he's happy. Do not give him a carrot. Do not give him an onion. Like he's not I, I'm more like the Mediterranean diet and that kind of thing. My son is meat and potatoes, like steak and potatoes. Like once or twice a month I'll stock up at Costco and get like the bulk items, like, you know, the laundry detergent, the toilet paper, the paper towels. Like I said this, the Snapples or the iced teas or or what have you. And then I have my specialty stores for my specialty products like Wegmans, my go to and then my local store is either Acme or Audi. And then I go to like Audi for the cheeses. I love the Audi cheeses after, well, during COVID when, when you couldn't travel and because I, I really love food, I start doing like a, a once or twice a week new recipes instead of, because you couldn't travel, I brought the food, traveling the food of the world here. So it was kind of cool. Like especially with Google Now, they're so fortunate. You could just go on it and get like an Indian recipe or a Thai recipe or or whatnot. And because I'm in Philadelphia, the ingredients are so readily available and come up with a, a new cuisine or a new cuisine for me and expand your palate and your horizon. So that's a fun thing we do quite often.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:41:17]  
Understood. You mentioned like grocery shopping, you go quite frequently because it's for you and your dad and a couple of the different stores. Are you going in person to these stores or do you shop online?

**Bookmark: Shopping in-person vs online**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:41:29]  
Like how do you shop I guess is a question.

**P8 Felicia** [00:41:33]  
It it depends on the week.

**P8 Felicia** [00:41:38]  
Better at it during the summer because it doesn't get dark until 8:30. During the winter, it's Instacart at my door or I'm going very early in the morning because when it's dark here and it's 20° at 4:00 in the afternoon, I'm in my pajamas. By 6:00 at night, I'm done. I, I, I can't, everything on my body hurts. Every joint hurts. I, I'm not going outside in that cold to go to Acme to get eggs. You know, I didn't have that years ago. So I, I take full advantage of it now, you know, So I put an order in of the basics, the bread, the eggs, the milk, da da, da, da, da da. 40 minutes later it's here and I'm so happy.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:42:25]  
When did you kind of start that You mentioned like you didn't always do this?

**P8 Felicia** [00:42:29]  
During COVID, you know, they, they told you to stay home. I couldn't stay home because technically I was an essential worker fixing people's cars and insurance claims for, you know, accidents and whatnot. But a lot of work I could have done, I did do at home on the computer and yeah, and, and my son was younger at the time, so babysitting, you know, babysitters weren't an option. So I really got into it then and I loved it. I actually was nervous at first because I'm really particular about my fruits and my vegetables and my meats. I think they went out of their way and above and beyond actually, you know, pick better quality items. I was pleasantly surprised. And then the constant communication, like if something is out of stock or if you know something needs to be substituted, the communication like this is what I have available. Or do you want me to just refund you? I was, I was pleasantly surprised. I still AM.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:43:35]  
You mentioned you shopped for your dad too, so tell me a little bit about that.

**Bookmark: Meal prepping for family members**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:43:39]  
What does that look like?

**P8 Felicia** [00:43:42]  
Well, he lives about 7 miles away from me over the bridge in Jersey, but depending on traffic it could take up to an hour. So he's he's a basic kind of guy.

**Bookmark: Food preferences and cooking habits**

**P8 Felicia** [00:43:54]  
I do a lot of meal prepping for him or a lot of like pre made foods. He recently got into the air fryer, so that's kind of cool. So I'll have like the Phillips crab cakes and then like some kind of potatoes for him. There's only certain vegetables that he'll eat. Like I said, he'll eat pastas, he'll eat sausages. He'll eat like I buy him a rotisserie chicken every week. So he could either cut it down and have a meal. We go over and have meals with him as much as possible, but there's some days we just can't because of our schedules. But he's always got eggs, he's always got milk, cereal, canned soup, frozen chili, anything that he had could have a good nutritious meal but still maintain it himself. Like nothing that he has to go crazy with multiple pans or whatnot.

**Bookmark: Challenges of ordering food for father**

**P8 Felicia** [00:44:55]  
Or he's not very tech savvy. So he'll call me and I'll say, you know, Felice, I'm in the mood for this. Can you order it for me? And then I have it delivered.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:45:06]  
OK, tell me a little bit more about how that works.

**P8 Felicia** [00:45:11]  
Well, if he's in the mood for wings and I'm like, OK, do you want them 'cause I'm trying to get him on a diet, little bit of a diet. Do you want them breaded or naked? What flavor do you want? Is there any place in particular that you, Oh, I heard this place got great reviews. Can you? And then I'll order them and, and, you know, see what else he wants, if he wants sides or whatnot. And I pay for it, of course, because it's my dad. And he'll sit in the chair and stare at the door and then, yeah, it, it's a whole thing. And then he'll give me, you know, the review whether they were good or bad. Oh, the guy was so nice.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:45:55]  
That's sweet.

**P8 Felicia** [00:45:56]  
Yeah.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:45:57]  
How often would you say that happens?

**P8 Felicia** [00:46:01]  
Probably once a week. Either that or my son will go over. They golf together on Mondays, so usually Monday after golfing they'll they'll place an order or they'll stop and pick something up and bring it home and that's their boy time.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:46:19]  
Yeah. How do you feel it works or doesn't? How do you feel it goes, I should say, when you order food for delivery for your dad?

**P8 Felicia** [00:46:31]  
For the most part, well, it, it, you know what, it depends on the establishment, how well they package things and, and the driver. You know, if the driver's nice, I like here in Philly, there's no one for just throwing food on the step and not ringing the doorbell. It it, it depends. You either have like 5 star review or one.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:46:58]  
Yeah.

**P8 Felicia** [00:46:58]  
I've I've had great experiences and I've had ice cold food that sat there and and I had no knowledge that it was even held there.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:47:06]  
Yeah. Given that when you're ordering sometimes you're not there to be with your dad, is there anything that you wish like you could do when you're ordering for him that you can't currently do or not so much?

**Bookmark: Improvements in food delivery services**

**P8 Felicia** [00:47:19]  
Oh, wow, let's see I I gonna, I think it goes back to the the restaurant like sometimes like like a chat to ask like my dad does not like onions. So say I was gonna order it, not say my dad would order this, but a burrito, like does the burrito have onions? And you won't know until you order and there's no way to find out. It doesn't say it in the in the description. Like if there was a way that like a live message, like a chat and they would be able or like a chat modification or like you know, the salsa, is it mild? Is it hot? That kind of thing. Because it's too late. Once you get it, you're stuck with it.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:48:13]  
Yeah.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:48:19]  
OK. Last question about Dad.

**Bookmark: Ordering groceries for father**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:48:22]  
So you mentioned that for yourself, you'll sometimes order through Instacart for groceries. Is that something done for your father or not so much?

**P8 Felicia** [00:48:30]  
Yes, yes, I have. And Sam's Club, I often have his water and toilet paper, you know, tide pods and everything delivered to the house. It's wonderful. I have the the premium membership.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:48:48]  
Yeah. How does that process go when you like, How does the need come to be? How do you get to know, sorry, how do you become aware that he needs an order? And then how does the rest of the process go?

**P8 Felicia** [00:49:02]  
He usually tells me and we we pretty much because of our our household sizes are roughly on the same schedule. Like I'm over his house more than he is here and my son is, so I, I could just tell. Like, you know, when I do laundry for him and you know, I bring up usually the dry storage is in the basement. So I'll bring him up like A roll, a sleeve of toilet paper, and I'll know when he's running low or whatnot and just put the order in so he doesn't run out.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:49:37]  
Great. OK.

**Bookmark: Ordering food for son**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:49:40]  
So I just want to wrap up with talking a little bit more about your son and his food delivery. So it sounds like sometimes he orders food for pick up or for delivery independently. Would you say that's there? OK, tell me a little bit about that, like how often, what types of things does he do? When does he order?

**P8 Felicia** [00:50:02]  
Well, the other night he had and he's he's big on deals.

**Bookmark: Preferences in food choices**

**P8 Felicia** [00:50:07]  
Me not so much. He had some kind of checkers, $4.00 app code and he got a 2 for one ordered at 2:00 in the morning. It was on the doorstep. He fell asleep. I left at 7:00 in the morning. I'm like what is this? So he's very influenced by the codes, the promos, the me, not so much. I, I won't order that. I won't eat that. I want what what I want to eat. He's more influenced by the specials, OK.

**Bookmark: Mother's opinion on son's food choices**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:50:52]  
Yeah. How do you feel about that? Like what are your thoughts on?

**P8 Felicia** [00:50:56]  
You couldn't pay me to eat at Checkers. I'm sorry. I hope nobody is from Checkers is behind those, you know. No, no. There's certain things that I just, I, I didn't spend 55 years on this earth to eat bad food. You know, once in a while, like I said, I'll have, you know, a bite of his. And I do like certain fast foods. I really do like, I like pizza, I like Chick-fil-A. I but there's certain fast foods I would not touch.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:51:27]  
Yeah. And this is at 2:00 AM you mentioned.

**P8 Felicia** [00:51:31]  
Yeah.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:51:32]  
Is that a typical time where he's ordering or?

**P8 Felicia** [00:51:35]  
No, that he, he got back from Chile. So he was on that 16 hour plane ride. I slept for 10 hours, I woke up, you know that kind of thing. So but.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:51:48]  
When he does.

**P8 Felicia** [00:51:49]  
Do goofy stuff like he'll wake up in the middle of the night and get on his phone. And because it's summertime and I'm a little bit more lenient with his, you know, sleep schedule or whatnot, and he'll order crazy stuff like a Slurpee from 711 who orders a Slurpee from 7:11 at midnight.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:52:11]  
I see.

**P8 Felicia** [00:52:13]  
Well mom, I got a 62 ounce and it was only $1.99 because I had a promo and a code and a.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:52:23]  
He's really into the codes. It's at like the promos and deals. Yeah, OK.

**Bookmark: Son's transition to independent ordering**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:52:30]  
When did he start ordering food delivery on his own? Like what age was he if you remember I guess.

**P8 Felicia** [00:52:38]  
When he got, excuse me, the first phone and you know, and if him and I were ordering, he would help me or I would help him like I would, we would sit down together and do our order. And then he figured out like for example, if he downloaded the Wah Wah app, he would get the rewards. If we downloaded the the Chick-fil-A app or we were ordering from Chick-fil-A, he would get the rewards. So he took over once he figured out that by him placing the order, he gets all the perks I pay, he gets the perks I.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:53:24]  
See, it's a good system for him.

**P8 Felicia** [00:53:27]  
It's a win, win.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:53:30]  
And have you seen like since he started like at 14, you mentioned to now, have you seen how his ordering has gone from then to now? Like any changes, anything stayed the same.

**P8 Felicia** [00:53:48]  
Like I said, he's more influenced by those codes, those promos. Before it was more what he was in the mood for or what he wanted or because he was younger, like, OK, you want to work with fast food tonight. So it was like a, an agreement, him and I now with his own decision making and sometimes with his own money, he's a little bit more frugal and, or, or just like out of the blue, like he'll order like a rack of ribs from Chile Chili's, you know, that like that kind of thing. Like I was just really in the mood for ribs. Oh, like it's 1:00 in the morning. Who eats ribs at 1:00 in the morning? So it's really bizarre, but I think it's that 17 year old behavior. I'm just happy he's eating and I'm happy he's enjoying himself and I listen. He could be doing worse.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:54:49]  
Yeah. And you mentioned sometimes it's his money, sometimes it's yours. So how does that work?

**P8 Felicia** [00:54:55]  
Well, I told you, he sells sells those bobble heads or, you know, used sports equipment. You know that I buy that, he sells that he takes the money. You know, like if he outgrows a bike and he sells the bike to one of his friends and he puts it in his bank account, that kind of thing. These kids are, they think they're entrepreneurs.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:55:19]  
I'm just looking.

**Bookmark: Managing son's independent ordering**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:55:21]  
I mean like how, if at all, do you manage his ordering, his independent ordering? Is there anything you do there?

**P8 Felicia** [00:55:33]  
Well, I usually don't say it unless I said, like I said, I walked out to go to work and I saw the the boxes that were left outside or whatever leftovers are in my refrigerator or my credit card receipts. Or occasionally, occasionally he'll come down and say, you know, Mom, I'm going to order. You want anything like that kind of thing. Other than that, like I said, when he's golfing and he's like, you know, mom, don't have to worry about dinner tonight, I'm just going to pick up Chick-fil-A. Do you want anything? That's our kind of communication.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:56:13]  
Yeah, Yeah, that makes sense. Thinking about like thinking retroactively or in the past when he started ordering, how did you kind of think it would go like and how did you think like you would be involved with it or manage it when he first started?

**P8 Felicia** [00:56:36]  
I thought, and I guess I'm an idiot, I thought it was going to be for our meal planning.

**P8 Felicia** [00:56:47]  
Like, all right, what are we having for lunch? Or, you know, we were out and about, What are we having for snack? Or, you know, do you want to stop at Starbucks? I could really go for a Frappuccino, like a togetherness kind of thing. Yeah. No.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:57:04]  
Oh, and then just like a tactical question, do you guys have the same accounts for like food delivery and stuff or does he have separate ones? How does that work?

**P8 Felicia** [00:57:13]  
He has.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:57:13]  
Separate, Separate. OK, Yeah.

**P8 Felicia** [00:57:16]  
I told you he wants all the perks.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:57:19]  
And do you have access to his separate accounts or no?

**P8 Felicia** [00:57:22]  
No, the only access that I have are my credit card statements.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:57:30]  
And how do you feel about that the way that it's currently set up?

**P8 Felicia** [00:57:36]  
I don't know anything otherwise. So unless a better system was implemented and I could see it right now, it is what it is.

**Bookmark: Desire for a streamlined food delivery system**

**P8 Felicia** [00:57:48]  
It, it's just, you know, there's DoorDash, Grubhub, this one, that one seamless slice, all different platforms, all different pricing, all different forms. Like you, it kills me that you go on Grubhub and the same slice of pizza is $3 and you go on slice and it's 450 and then you get a service fee and then you get a delivery fee and then you get a policy fee. And then like it's crazy. And then this one has a 50% off and this one has, you know, a membership and then this one has, I don't know. So it would be nice if it was all streamlined, but you know, everybody's got to eat well, you know what I mean? Like the companies, not well, the people too, but you know what I mean.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:58:35]  
Yeah.

**Bookmark: Ideal system for managing food orders**

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:58:36]  
My last question here, Felicia, before I let you go. So you mentioned like he has his separate console, all you've ever known. In an ideal world, how would you like want it to work? Is there anything you would want to be able to see that you currently can't?

**Bookmark: Prepaid food card or dedicated account**

**P8 Felicia** [00:58:56]  
I don't know, I, I, I guess maybe for a, a teen or a tween, if you were able to like purchase a, a prepaid food card and then load it on and then that way you were itemized that way. That's the only thing I could personally think of. Or if you had a dedicated account solely for food, which is not very practical, But other than that I have no idea.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:59:25]  
Yeah, yeah. OK. So sometimes like this idea of like a prepaid card.

**P8 Felicia** [00:59:32]  
For yeah, it would just be like, say you put $500 on there like the his lunch spending card. It was just deducted, you know.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:59:41]  
OK. Thank you so much, Alicia, for your time. I appreciate it. I appreciate you going into detail and all these things I'm gonna knock off in these or interviews that you showed up or a great participant. If there's any questions I can answer, I'm happy to answer them. But if not, I'm also happy to let you go.

**P8 Felicia** [00:59:56]  
OK. Well, thank you very much. It was fun. Have a great day.

**Evelyn Boodaghians** [00:59:59]  
You too. Bye bye.

## **Notes**