

I come from a family that beat the odds: my mother's family had no formal education beyond elementary school and she became a successful bilingual secretary and is now an artist. My father's family had to find refuge in Mexico when he was a kid. He is a now an accomplished researcher.

Among many things my grandparents did, my paternal grandmother had to dress as a man to study and was one of 5 women in a class of 200 to become an MD in Guatemala. She also studied at Institut Pasteur as a single mother of 3 teens and later started her own business in Mexico.

