

MY FUTURE BUSINESS

Dreams are wonderful because they are ours, because we make them beautiful, because we believe in them and fight to fulfil them. But it is more rewarding when you fight to fulfil the dream of your dearest person, the one who told you about it and assigned it to you. My father started from nothing; he grew up in an orphanage from the age of eight. He has never complained, has never made excuses, have not given up not even for a second. He loves life, people and most of all, his family.

Our family business started twenty years ago when my elder brother was born. My parents bought two cows to have fresh milk for the baby. Dad started to give milk to his friends who also had small children. They refused it because my dad did not accept any money. My dad always says 'How can you lose your customers?... You give them free milk and they will not ask for it any more'. Well, my father realized he could make a business out of it. He took the family savings, he purchased two more cows and a car, to transport milk.

So, this is the way everything started... with a few friends who had children and children needed milk. Friends called their friends and without even knowing we benefited from a good publicity and we won new customers. Our oldest customer started to buy milk from us over eighteen years ago. Our business started to grow. We specialized in dairy products processing and even bought chickens for eggs.

Eight years ago, when mobile phones began to appear, I and my brothers saved money to buy a mobile phone for each of us. Dad told us to invest that money in something that would bring us more money. Without us knowing he was talking about investment and profit. Thus, with our parents' help we bought 10 sheep in the middle of winter. They had lambs and we started to have an occupation every day. Could we have dreamed about nicer toys? In spring, all three of us received a phone. What was more, we started to process sheep's milk. They proved very profitable.

The ten sheep became one hundred in some years and with their help we bought not only mobile phones, but also agricultural equipment. At present we have fourteen dairy cows, one hundred sheep and a bunch of chickens. My dad delivers milk throughout the whole city, the phone rings for new orders every day, we have over one hundred loyal customers and a private kindergarten where we deliver milk.

This business started with a dream, the vision of a father, who even if he had not enjoyed the love and support of his parents, he did everything. He has loved us more than anything, and using the power of personal example he has showed us that everything is possible. It is all about attitude. I am a good child today because I have a good father and a brave mother. I learn today not because my parents force me, but because I want to thank them in this way. I say "Thank you" with every ten I receive at school, with every degree and every Olympiad in which I participate.

Perhaps the most important life lesson that I learned was one day when I went with my father to deliver milk. An old woman was abandoned by the family, she had trembling hands and she could not afford any liter of milk. My dad not only brought her milk regularly but he bought her everything she needed. Since that day she became my grandmother and my father behaved to her as a mother, the mother he lacked so much.

Above all he taught me to be human. To take care to the way I speak, not to judge or make fun of anyone, and not to overlook the good that I could do.

Dad has never complained, not even after he has suffered a surgery. After a suffering he has stood up more powerful, more determined, more ambitious. My dad has a unique leadership style; when he tells us to do something he is the first to start working, he is an example for us. He has taught us to be a team, to collaborate, to speak our minds, to discuss about what bothers us.

Why do I learn? Why do I want to be a leader? Why am I fighting to change something? Because I have no excuse for not doing this. If my dad could, I should be able to do more because I have always had my parents' love and support. How can I say 'I can't.'

My dream is to help my father to develop the business. I want to open our own milk analysis laboratory, to have a milking hall, and why not, a phone app for customers to order milk and milk products from a catalogue. I will also want to build a guest-house and an equestrian center, where loyal customers spend their weekends with their family, in an exceptional natural setting. I want to expand our business in order to create jobs for the local people. I want to be in charge of the company's advertising and management activities and have a more creative and courageous approach. For me, my father is the most successful businessman, the best model in life and I think I have inherited from him the qualities that could help me to do this.

The change should start with us if we want Romania to be a better country, to have good jobs and prosperous lives. If you want to be a businessman, you have to fight, it takes sacrifice and hard work. But you have no excuse for not doing so.

If you have a dream, fight for it, work hard and never give up. An unfulfilled dream can turn into a nightmare.

The change starts with me!