Who Am I?

 I often feel that one of the reasons I am who I am today is because I didn’t grow up in a typical suburban neighborhood. I couldn’t walk to a gas station or a friends house, or to school. I lived in a pretty secluded mountain community about an hour outside of Denver. When I was younger I always had to rely on my parents to drive me every where. This contributed to me becoming very self-sufficient. It took a lot of work for me to hang out with friends or go to the movies, instead a developed the skill to entertain myself. Granted my parents were very supportive and would’ve taken me to the movies or to hang out with my friends. I just did not have the desire to always make the plans and spend the time traveling. This is just one thing that living in the small community made me adapt to. I feel no matter what my parents would’ve always been the loving supportive parents that they are. However, if I did live somewhere, that was more socially convenient, I may not have be able to entertain myself and have to rely on others to entertain for me.

As for my development, I think that it was in chunks. I didn’t change/adapt slowly, I feel it was more a result of me facing certain situations and having to change/adapt rapidly to be able to cope with the situation. I think some things such as maturity I have developed over a longer more steady period of time. But having to cope with situations made me have to make a more sudden and quick adaptation. I have changed how I react with girls who I am in a intimate relationship with. In the last five years I went through experiences that forced me to change right away and now I use that knowledge and changed behavior to the way I act.

 As I have stated before, I feel that the culture of a small mountain community pushed me to be different and more independent than other kids who grew up in a different more common setting. In our small community there was not a lot to do so drugs and alcohol found their way into our community quicker than in suburban areas. This forced me to make a choice at a very young age as to the path I was going take in terms of living more of a partying style like a large amount of my friends or whether or not I would chase my dreams even though I didn’t grow up in the same context as others. The community was always very tightly knit. Therefore if one misbehaved or did something that could get them in trouble it was very likely that parents or the authorities would find out. This culture forced me to make yet another choice of whether I wanted to take the risk of being caught or play it safe and not risk the consequences. Through my trials and tribulations it seems to me that I have been a product of my environment. My environment showed me what I did not want to be. Thus it gave me the motivation to be who I am today.