## How Can You Work With Those Kids??



How can I do this you ask-Work with these terrible, awful, difficult kids! It would be a lie to say it's easy. It isn't. But I feel lucky – I don't see these kids as crazy, mean, or out of control.

I see a child who is lost in himself. She is vulnerable, he is scared. She is desperate, he is loud in his silence. Even in a crowd, they are often alone.





I am their teacher – their guide, their advocate, their dictionary, their encyclopedia, sometimes I am their punching bag and other times, their security blanket.

Every day I pick them up, support them, offer comfort. It is my job to help them stand on their own two feet and become strong enough to walk away. I am their teacher.





Every chance I am given with a "difficult" child is a chance he is given. He needs someone to listen, to answer, to laugh, to matter, and to respect. When he has those, he gives them all back.

These kids know how important trust, loyalty, and caring are to a person. They don't give it easily, but when they do, it's for real. That is why I work with these kids.





I am lucky. I have days, months, and sometimes years to watch them grow. When they are ready to look for someone who cares, they find me. They give me more than I give them.

I have learned about pain, abuse, neglect, betrayal, poverty, prejudice, and hate. I have learned about love, fragile souls, perseverance and sharing.

Am I the teacher?





