

# Mom gets inked to save rebellious daughter

## 慈母刺青挽回逆女

A tattooed former teenage rebel has been brought back onto **the straight and narrow** thanks to an unconventional parenting strategy used by her mother. In a show of **solidarity** with her daughter, the woman went through the pain of getting a tattoo for herself, and now the daughter is beginning to turn her life around.

The daughter, identified only as "Hsiao-rou," turned 18 this year. She got her first tattoo when she was still in the sixth grade of elementary school, and was always running away from home. She ordered an assault in which the victim was seriously injured, and while other students were in class or sitting exams, Hsiao-rou was at juvenile court.

But now those dark days are all in the past, and Hsiao-rou has recently signed a letter of agreement to remove her tattoo, saying to her mother, "You are the trendiest mother I know."

Although Hsiao-rou has been a problem child, her mother never abandoned her, and instead always tried to understand what was going on inside her daughter's head. She not only accompanied Hsiao-rou to juvenile court, she also played pool and other sports with her. But the ultimate show of solidarity came two years ago, when the mother got a tattoo on her right arm to show that the two women belonged in the same camp.

Before getting the tattoo, Hsiao-rou's mother thought a tattoo was just a picture on the skin and wouldn't hurt much, but after getting it done she realized that it is a painful process and that young people get tattoos to make them feel individual and give them more confidence. Hsiao-rou is a **hereditary** diabetic. When her mom first saw the tattoo, it didn't immediately occur to her that her daughter had "become a bad girl." Instead she felt guilty and became concerned for her daughter's health.

After all she's done down the years, Hsiao-rou realizes what she has put her mother through, and has finally started to change her **rebellious** ways. She now has a hairdressing qualification and in future intends to go back to school then work as a makeup artist for brides. Hsiao-rou's mother is delighted with the change.

A few weeks ago, Hsiao-rou enrolled herself in a tattoo removal event jointly organized by Kaohsiung Juvenile Court and Kaohsiung Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, which is where her mother revealed the tear-jerking story to parents, court officials and medical staff. Once again, Hsiao-rou was moved to say, "My mom is the trendiest mom I know."

(LIBERTY TIMES, TRANSLATED BY TAIJING WU)



一名刺青的叛逆青少年終於痛改前非、回到人生正軌，而這都歸功於她母親新潮的教育態度。這位母親為了「挺」女兒，忍痛在自己身上刺青。

今年剛滿十八歲的「小柔」，小學六年級就在身上刺青，而且多次跳家，還曾教唆傷人導致被害人重傷，當一般學生忙著上下課、應付考試，小柔卻屢屢進出少年法院。

但現在，一切已成為過去。小柔日前簽下除紋同意書時對媽媽說：「妳是最新潮的歐巴桑。」

面對女兒的偏差行徑，小柔的媽媽沒有放棄她，反而努力走進女兒內心世界，除了陪女兒上法院，還跟著她打撞球，母女一起運動，兩年更在右手臂刺了一朵蓮花，藉此表明都是「同一國」的。

小柔媽媽說，原以為刺青只是在身上畫畫、一點都不痛，沒想到刺青的過程相當折騰，刺青後才深深感受到青少年只是想藉此凸顯自我、強化自信。由於女兒有遺傳性糖尿病，發現女兒刺青時，並沒想到是「變壞」，反而擔心起她的健康，內心十分愧疚。

在媽媽多年付出後，小柔充分感受到媽媽的苦心，開始自我調整，不再叛逆。現在的她擁有美容美髮丙級證照，下一步將彌補學業，未來想擔任新娘秘書；看到女兒的轉變，讓媽媽好窩心。

幾個星期前，小柔參加高雄少年法院與高雄長庚推動的除紋活動，小柔的媽媽公開這段刺青史，讓與會家長、司法與醫護人員眼眶泛紅；小柔則感動地說：「我媽是最新潮的歐巴桑。」

(自由時報記者王榮祥)

Above: Hsiao-rou, right, and her mother show off their tattoos in Kaohsiung on July 31.

Left: Hsiao-rou, left, and her mother walk hand in hand in Kaohsiung on July 31.

PHOTOS: WANG RONG-HSIANG, LIBERTY TIMES

上圖：小柔（右）與母親七月三十一日於高雄展示身上的刺青。

左圖：七月三十一日於高雄，小柔（左）與母親攜手同行。

照片：自由時報記者王榮祥攝

### TODAY'S WORDS

#### 今日單字

#### 1. **solidarity** /ˌsɒləˈdærəti/ n.

相互支持 (xiang1 hu4 zhi1 chi2) , 團結 (tuan2 jie2)

**例:** The students expressed their solidarity with the striking workers.  
(學生們表達對罷工勞工的支持。)

#### 2. **hereditary** /həˈredə,teri/ adj.

遺傳性的 (yi2 chuan2 xiang4 de5)

**例:** No one knows if the disease is hereditary or acquired.  
(沒人知道這疾病是先天遺傳還是後天感染所致。)

#### 3. **rebellious** /rɪˈbeljəs/ adj.

叛逆的 (pan4 ni4 de5)

**例:** Jerry had a rebellious streak when he was younger.  
(傑瑞較年輕時桀傲不遜。)

### LANGUAGE POINT

#### 重要片語

#### straight and narrow

##### 循規蹈矩

If somebody is on the **straight and narrow**, they conduct themselves properly and lawfully. According to the article, Hsiao-rou has got herself back on the **straight and narrow** after a rebellious childhood.

「straight and narrow」意指行為得體守法。上文中提到，年少叛逆的小柔已經痛改前非，找回生命方向。