

The Tuskegee Airmen

Have you heard the story of the Tuskegee Airmen? If not, it's an inspiring tale of the first black and African-American men to serve as pilots in the U.S Army. What's responsible for the airman's achievements are their 'Six Guiding Principles'. The principles include; **Aim High, Believe in Yourself, Use Your Brain, Be Ready to Go, Never Quit, and Expect to Win.** What the principles mean to me will be shared throughout this paper.

A long-term goal that the Six Principles could help guide me to achieve is being the best mother possible. I am aware *Aiming High* is a tricky thing to do while "managing" another person's life. If I focus on making sure my child makes it into the WNBA/NBA I could easily lose sight of what my child wants and what's best for them. But if I don't constantly encourage them to get the best grades possible, they could fail, which wouldn't be best for them.

Believing in yourself is a very important thing to keep in mind no matter your situation or goal. Believing in yourself while parenting is just as crucial as doing so under any other condition. Parents and children, especially teenagers, get

into a lot of arguments and not having confidence in all decisions you may make for your kid could make or break a person.

Like the previous principle this one is a no brainer, it's necessary in every situation but maybe it's more complex than it seems. If you didn't get the pun this principle is *Use your Brain*. This could help me be an adequate mother by reminding me to put myself in my child's shoes before I make the decisions like I spoke about before. And this is something everyone should take into consideration, not just parents.

The next principle that could lead me to becoming the best Mom possible would be *Being Ready to Go*. This principle can be interpreted in many different ways but my initial thought from it went straight to my Mom having a not-so-great management style. As a child I think that respecting your child is just as important as them respecting you if not more because it teaches them to respect others. With that being said a lot of kids get rides to school from their parents and a lot of them tend to be tardy and I find it hard to believe that the child is responsible for that in every situation. So, for all the parents out there, give value to your kid's time schedules.

Never quitting and expecting to win go hand and hand with each other and I think they can relate to good parenting because when disagreements get heated with your kid, knowing that you're the adult and even though you think of your

child as equal what you decide is technically final. You should expect that they'll eventually fold and go with what you want whether they agree or not. These are the ways the same 'Six Guiding Principles' that encouraged the honorable Tuskegee Airmen to accomplish their goal will help accomplish mine one day.