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My Father Plays Pokémon

When I was a kid, Pokémon came out. It was the single most important thing in the world to my siblings and me. Our desire to train and battle our monsters drove us to play for hours every day. Nothing could stop us, not our parents or chores, or even illiteracy. When the Pokémon video game first came out, my little brother was very young and had not yet learned to read. He knew that his illiteracy would slow him down, so he recruited my father to help him play. My brother would sit on my father's lap and play the game while my father read all the text aloud to him. Before we knew it, my father had his own game and his own monsters. He would battle my siblings and me, and he enjoyed it. Through the years, my love for Pokémon has not faded although my passion for "being the very best" has gone away. My younger brother also quit playing, but my father did not. My father plays Pokémon. He buys the newest versions of the game and plays in his free time. My friends find it difficult to believe when I tell them about my father's desire to "catch'em all" because my father is a somewhat intimidating guy. My father is the wisest, strongest, hardest-working, most badass person I know, and he also plays Pokémon.

Some people would be embarrassed if their father played Pokémon, but I embrace it. My father can often be caught wearing his Pokémon T-shirt that my family bought him for father's day. My father's hobby has helped me to grow and understand what is important. The most important thing in the world is to do what you love. Just because you are a strong hard-working man doesn't mean you can't play Pokémon in your free time. As a child, I played baseball, basketball, and soccer. I always enjoyed these sports, but I have found that I am most passionate about table tennis. I have never had a passion for any other hobby like I do for table tennis. I have played enough of these sports to know that they are cooler than table tennis, and I understand that they are far more popular, but I don't care. I love table tennis, and doing what you love is very important. Everyone loves different things, which is what makes the world such a beautiful place. There is a reason that football and

chess exist, country music and jazz, apples and oranges, boxers and briefs, etc. Everyone is different and enjoys different things. My father is a great example of someone who does what they love, and I am happy that I have learned this lesson from him. Instead of being embarrassed by your love of Pokémon, it is best to just embrace it and enjoy yourself.