

Melanie Gonzalez

My Parents Feed Everyone

My name is Melanie Gonzalez and I am the daughter of farmworkers. I have 2 sisters and 1 brother. I am the 3rd child. My parents work very hard in the fields. They wake up early and come home late. My siblings and I have a lot of responsibility at home and school.

My family does not move away to work, but they come home really late so that means less time with family. When they come home, we make sure dinner is all ready. Also, my siblings and I have the whole house clean for them. This way they'll have more time to go rest.

My parents wake up at 4:20am to eat and get ready. When they wake up, I wake up with them to make sure their lunch is in their bags and they have enough water to drink for the day. Today, I think they are picking cherries. When they go to work, I wonder why they work so hard on very hot days. Every day, they come home all dirty and sweaty with cuts on their arms and hands. And every day I pray to God that my parents always wake up with their eyes open, their legs, arms, and hands still working, and for them to keep breathing. I worry that they

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might faint in the hot sun or hurt their backs.

Although many people may not understand, I know how important my parent's work is to America. Americans and the world enjoy fresh fruits and vegetables because of my parents and other farmworkers who work in the fields every day. That's why I don't mind taking so much responsibility at home.

However, my responsibility doesn't end at home. When I go to school, I make sure to get good grades because that makes my parents happy. I like seeing my parents proud and happy. Another thing that motivates me is seeing them work hard at work, so then I work hard on my work from school. When we are at school, we have no one to pick us up, so we have to be responsible and walk home.

I would like to tell my parents thank you for everything you guys do for the world. You don't just feed us, but you work to feed the world. I'm so proud of you guys, and I'm also proud of being a child of hard-working farmworkers.