

Maquoketa Valley CSD  
Delhi, Iowa

Dear S.E. Hinton,

How are you? I am writing to you because your book *The Outsiders* was an inspiration to me. It taught me things about relationships that I never had because I never got along with people in my family. I got sent to a juvenile placement for sixteen months.

It was not very fun and I had to get along with my family. After I read the book *The Outsiders* I learned that family will always be there for you no matter what you do they may not appreciate all the things that you do but they still care.

The only way that you can strengthen a relationship is to help and love your family otherwise you may not have the childhood that you wanted. I got along better with my family after I read the book and I learned to keep myself out of trouble because it does not get me anywhere in life and I will not do good and play professional baseball like I have always to do.

I am going to keep my relationship good with my family because I do not want to have it ruined again because it is hard to make it right. I think that you did a good job of writing it because it will help other people that are struggling and I was one that changed because of the book and I hope that you continue to write and hope that they are as good as the first one.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and I hope that you get more letters telling you how your story has changed other people's lives.

Sincerely

Cody Becker